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NEW PRICE \$1,999,000



Enjoy your privacy on this 3 Acre Estate in an excellent location. This home boasts stunning views from every window towards private treed ravines that lead down to the 17th hole of Georgian Bay Golf Club.

SWISS MEADOWS \$489,000



6 Bedroom 2.5 Bath STA town approved income property. Located on top of Blue Mountain this Chalet is clean and well maintained with lots of recent renovations. Call today for more information.

INCOME PROPERTY AT \$799,000



This chalet features 8 well sized bedrooms and two large living rooms Kitchen with granite counters and stainless appliances. Walking distance to the Village and Blue Mountain ski hills. Excellent rental history.

133 SLEEPY HOLLOW



Private treed lot is a beautiful setting for this lovely hand troweled stucco chalet, minutes to Craigleith & Alpine Ski Clubs. 4 bedroom Chalet with open concept kitchen/dining/family.

VALLEYRIDGE \$1,899,000



RARE 96 acre private equestrian center minutes from the Village at Blue! 5000 sq ft., 6 bedroom, 5 bath, large master bedroom. Custom kitchen with a fireplace, spa room, hot tub, infrared sauna, pool and SO MUCH MORE!

POSITIVE CASH FLOW



Bright and sunny ground floor location in this recently renovated two bedroom with lock off. This means you can use part of the condo while locking off the other half to rent. Complete with outdoor pool and mountain view.

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**Our Feature Listing – \$849,000**

Several exclusive lots available but we are featuring this Luxury Chalet Location with Georgian Bay Views from this Slopeside property. Located on the north runs, this chalet is ready to occupy this ski season. Happy Valley is quickly becoming the place to build your dream as it's one of the few streets with panoramic views to the bay as well as ski-in ability. New ecoflow septic system is in place and ready for new build and/or additions. Lot is on a unique slope to allow chalet to be built down the hill as well as up to two and a half stories above the median of the road! This very unique and deep lot would provide the perfect setting for an infinity pool overlooking the bay. Use this chalet now and plan to build your dream chalet in this prime location. Call today for more information or to book your private showing.

**THINKING ABOUT SELLING?**  
Local Sales are on the rise and we **NEED** properties to sell now!

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**Thornbury Waterfront** \$2,850,000  
Magnificently designed waterfront, with 160' of shoreline. 4 bed/4.5 bath with craftsmanship detail throughout.



**Minutes to Creemore** \$1,150,000  
Opportunity to own two properties with approximately 8 acres surrounded by 192 acres of Nature Conservancy.



**Lake Eugenia** \$1,150,000  
Almost an acre & 233' of private lake front. Exquisitely landscaped with updated bungalow with fully finished walkout lower level.



**Meaford Waterfront** \$995,000  
Stunning 5900 sq.ft. bungalow set on almost 3 acres of Georgian Bay, 4 bdrm, 3½ bath, oak, granite, slate, media rm, double garage.



**Creemore Hills** \$849,000  
Fabulously decorated TURN KEY home, set on 3+ acres with approximately 3800 sq.ft. of finished space. Numerous upgrades!



**Minutes to Blue** \$699,000  
Situated at the end of a Cul de Sac with a fantastic view of the ski hill. Open spacious principal rooms with bedrooms galore.



**Beech St Collingwood** \$389,000  
Century home, great layout with loads of charm, many of the original features still intact. 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath, attached garage.



**FarHills - LAST UNIT** \$349,000  
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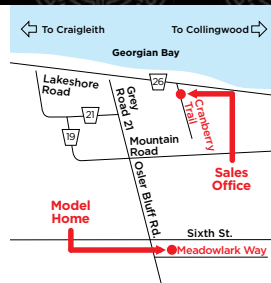
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**\$729,000**

**589214 Grey Road 19**  
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3 beds 2/1 baths 3,464 Total FT<sup>2</sup>

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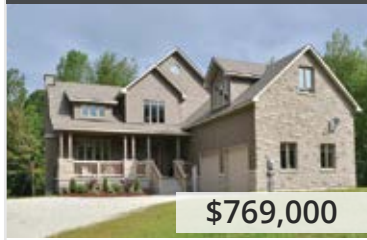


**\$1,649,000**

**3672 124 County Road**  
Clearview

5 beds 4/1 baths 4,542 Total FT<sup>2</sup>

## NEW PRICE



**\$769,000**

**15 Lindsay Lane**  
Collingwood

3 beds 2/1 baths 3,126 Total FT<sup>2</sup>

## GEORGIAN WOODLANDS



**\$749,000**

**127 Kitzbuhl Crescent**  
Blue Mountains

6 beds 3/1 baths 4,000 Total FT<sup>2</sup>

## 11+ ACRE COUNTRY ESTATE



**\$1,449,000**

**627492 119 Grey Road**  
Blue Mountains

4 beds 4/1 baths 6,483 Total FT<sup>2</sup>

## NEW PRICE



**\$399,000**

**104 Kinsey Place**  
Blue Mountains

2 beds 2/1 baths 2,091 Total FT<sup>2</sup>

## GEORGIAN BAY CLUB

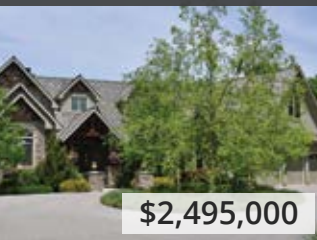


**\$1,695,000**

**5-516689 7th Line**  
Blue Mountains

6 beds 4/1 baths 3,340 Total FT<sup>2</sup>

## GEORGIAN BAY CLUB



**\$2,495,000**

**147 Stone Zack Lane**  
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7 beds 4/1 baths 6,462 Total FT<sup>2</sup>

## 6.7, 8.4 AND 16.3 ACRE LOTS



**\$189,000 to \$199,000**

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3 building lots available

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**\$2,700,000**

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7 beds 6/1 baths 5,275 Total FT<sup>2</sup>

## COLLINGWOOD BUNGALOW



**\$389,000**

**1 Bryan Drive**  
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2/1 beds 2 baths 2,150 Total FT<sup>2</sup>

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**\$875,000**

**216 Snowbridge Way**  
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3/1 beds 3/1 baths 3,194 Total FT<sup>2</sup>

## NEW PRICE

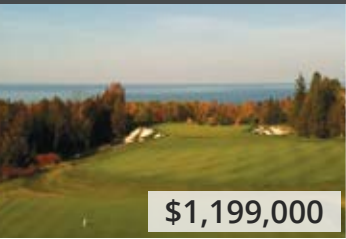


**\$1,395,000**

**146 Blueski George Cres.**  
Blue Mountains

5 beds 3/1 baths 5,000 Total FT<sup>2</sup>

## GEORGIAN BAY CLUB



**\$1,199,000**

**148 Stone Zack Lane**  
Blue Mountains

Magnificent, large lot w/ views of Georgian Bay

## UNOBSTRUCTED WATER VIEW



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**36 Waterfront Circle**  
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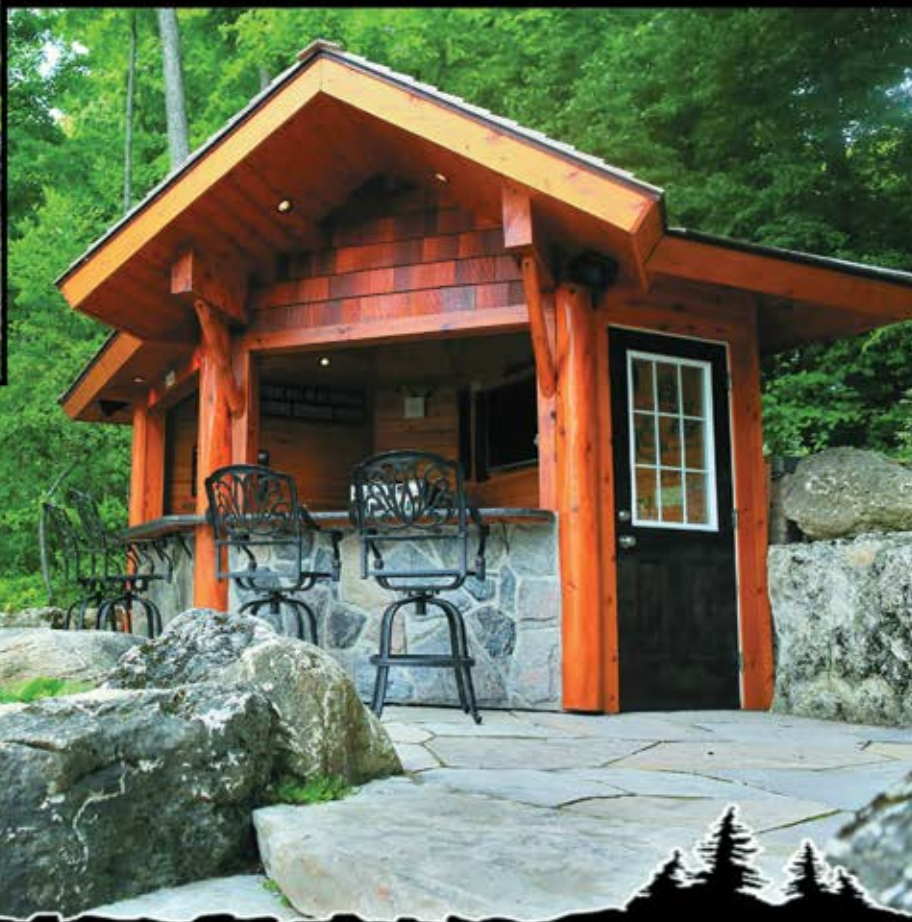
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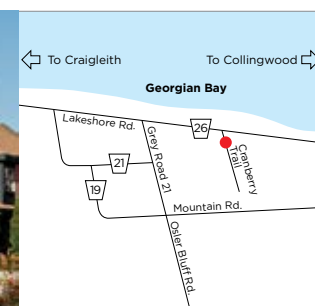
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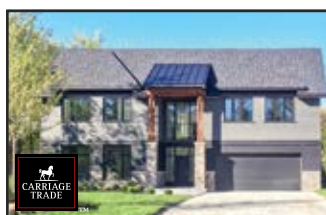
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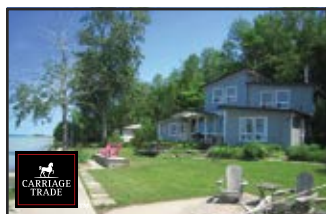
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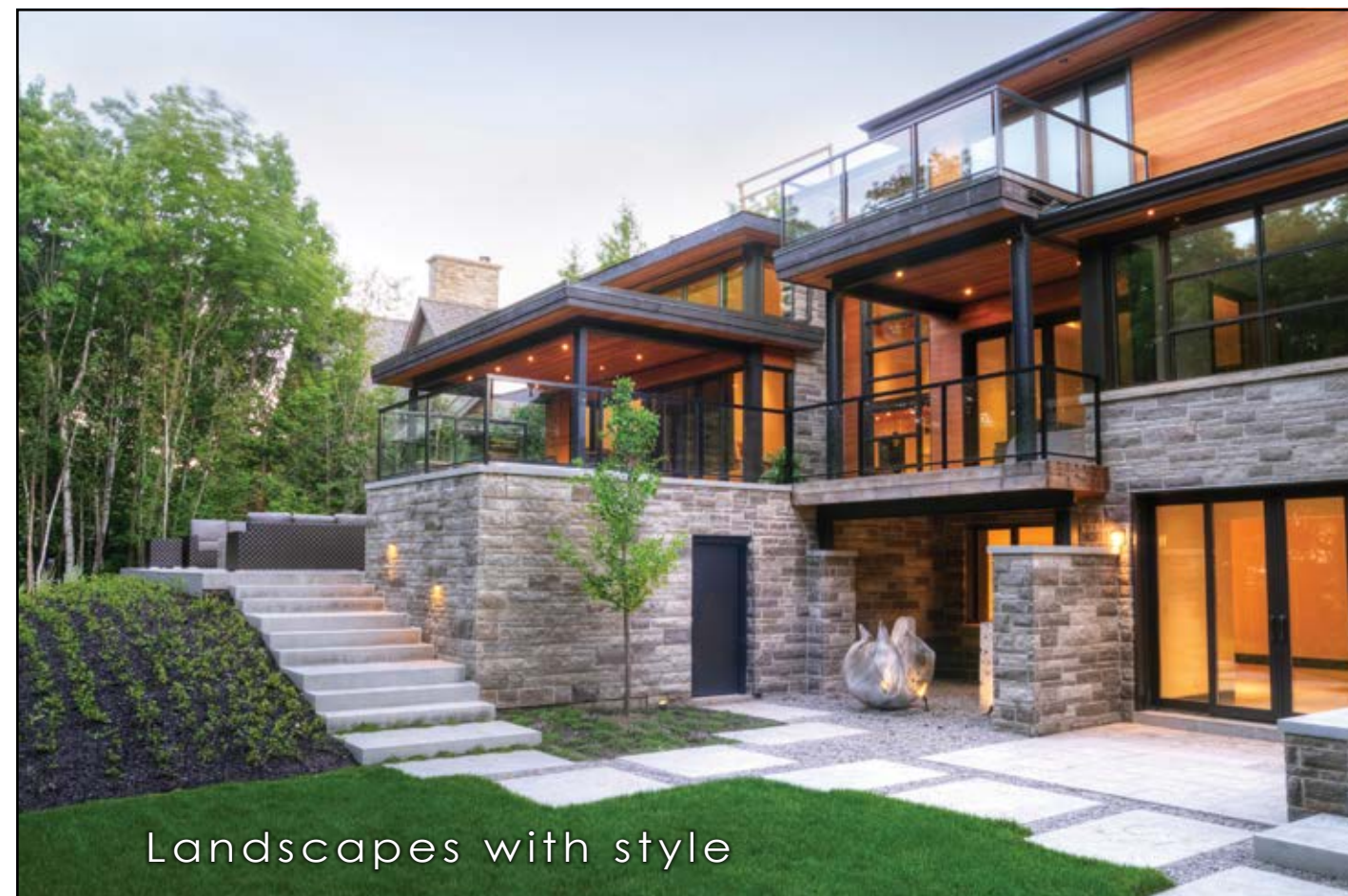
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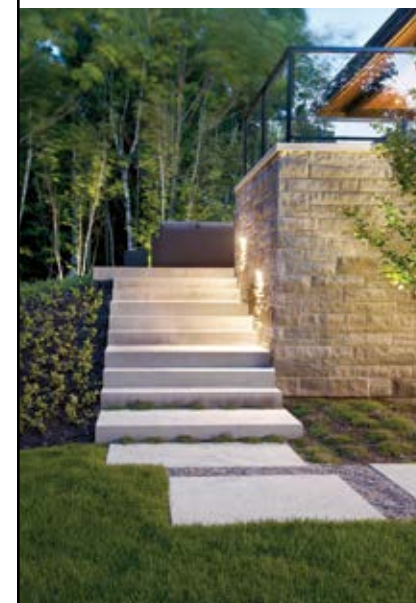
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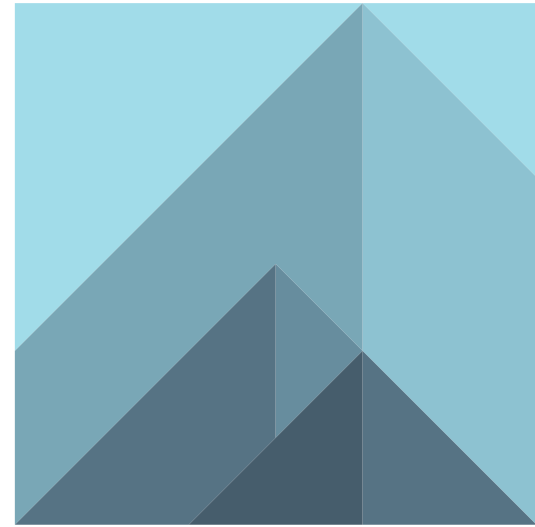
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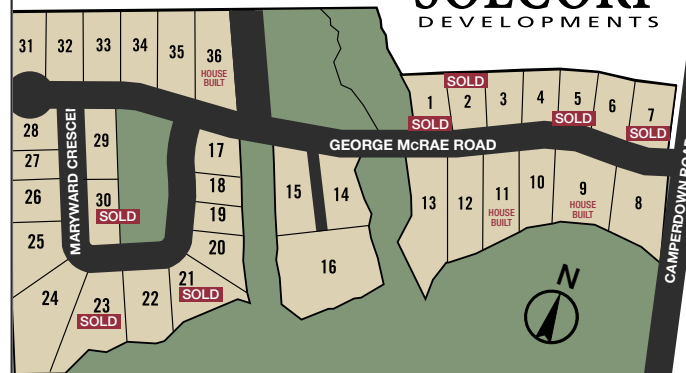
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**WE ADOPTED A PIANO.** An upright Mason & Risch circa 1904. A weekender on my local social media feed was giving it away, so I did a mental configuration of the furniture in my living room – one of the rooms that doubled in space when we moved a few years ago but still hasn't doubled in furniture. There was room.

Music is a big part of what makes a home for me. Song and music set the mood. A piano would encourage my kids to connect with music, I reasoned. After all, hadn't I benefited from lessons as a child, practiced on the beautifully carved upright my mother had inherited from her parents? That piano remains in B.C., too distant to consider moving.

I optimistically asked my better half to pick it up. The piano is now in a central spot in our house – adding interactivity to a corner of the living room that had previously been too far from the sofa to place a chair, and too close to the window to fit a television. I am still hunting for a tall houseplant or decorative lamp to stand at one end of it, and more sheet music, but it has quickly become part of my family's daily dabbings – kids bang on the keys after breakfast or on weekend afternoons. Lessons for them will come, in time.

Lucky that the festive season is upon us and I can enthusiastically practice my renditions of Winter Wonderland and Frosty the Snowman. Because, so far, my own playing is like speaking in a language I haven't used for 25 years. My fingers are rusty and my repertoire consists mostly of scales, nursery rhymes and holiday songs. By December, I picture the kids gathered in singalong, cheering with mugs of steaming cider.

We've been poring over the photo spreads starting on page 80 from the Collingwood and Creemore holiday house tours, looking for inspiration to decorate this holiday season. My family loves a live tree (handy reference page 32) and we'll go for live greenery this year, too – with a centerpiece atop the piano, of course.

Put on some music while you read, and here's wishing you find some inspiration for your own home in these pages as well.

See you next year!



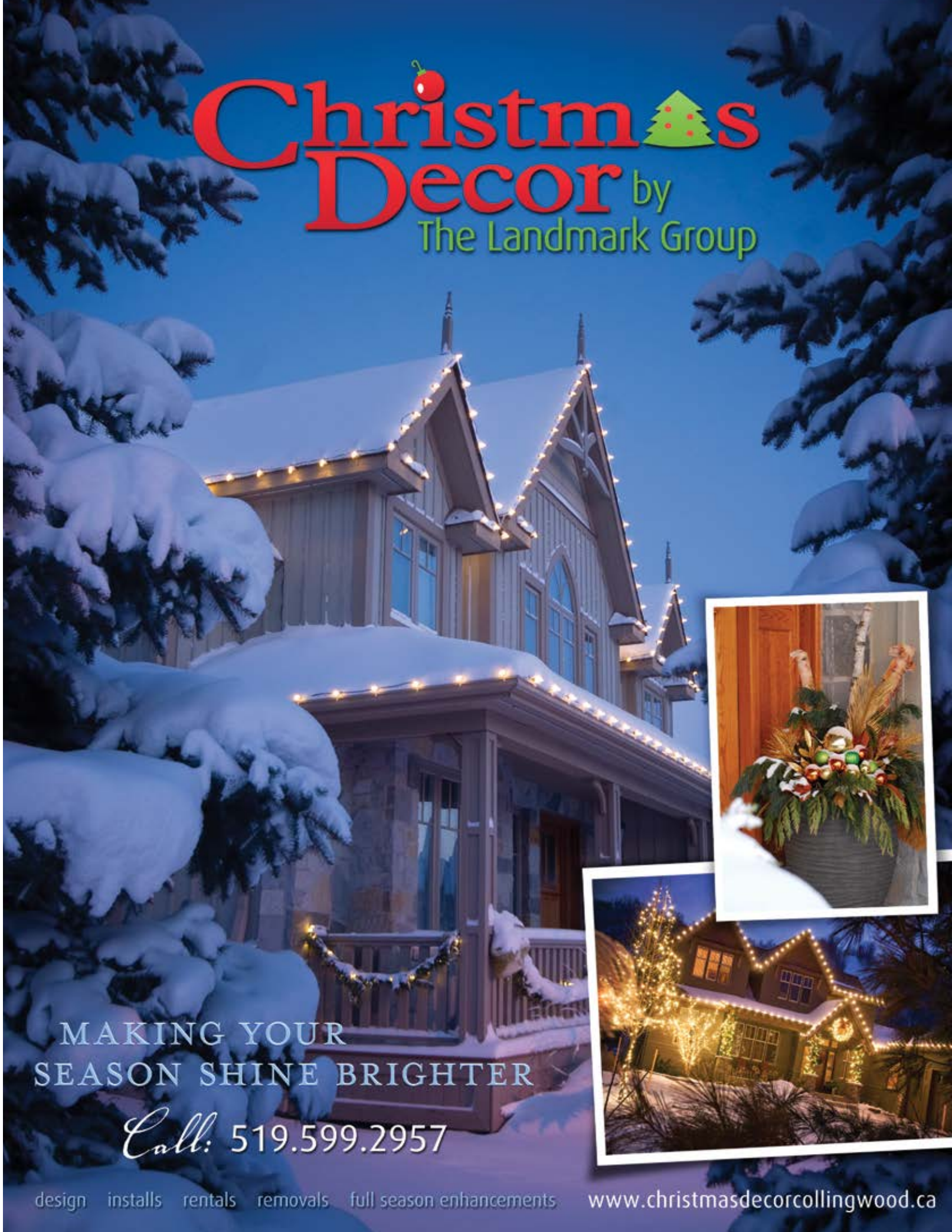
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# contents

## *fall/holiday*

28



### ON THE COVER

Festive Inspiration.  
Story, page 80.  
Photography by  
Sandy MacKay.



58

### departments

- 18 EDITOR'S NOTE
- 24 PUBLISHER'S NOTE
- 26 ADVICE  
Kids' Rooms
- 28 STYLE PICKS  
Culinary Inspired  
IDEAS
- 32 Christmas Trees
- 36 DIY Ornaments
- 40 Chalkboard Walls
- 58 COMFORT ZONE  
Collingwood Home Hardware
- 62 PEOPLE  
Kitchen Connections
- 112 HOME RESOURCE DIRECTORY
- 118 FINISHING TOUCH  
Pick Your Style

### features

- 44 HOME & BUILDER  
Modern Panoramic
- 80 HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR  
Creemore & Collingwood
- 92 IN THE KITCHEN  
Stoves & Ovens
- 94 DESIGN IDEAS  
Powder Rooms
- 98 HOME & BUILDER  
A New Century
- 110 GOOD TASTE  
The Caesar
- 116 COOKING AT HOME  
Cauliflower Chowder



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## publisher's note



### THE PLACE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE "MOUNTAIN"

where I grew up always inspires at this time of year. When the weather turns, I dig out my ski poles and start my regular hikes up. At the top, I look out over grey skies and Georgian Bay. I then head into the woods to look

for branches, boughs, pinecones and berries to decorate my doorstep and holiday table.

If you're in need of holiday inspiration (without ski poles) grab a friend or family member for a fun day at this year's Holiday House Tour. In its fourth year, OUR HOMES is proud to continue sponsorship of this amazing event. It's presented this year by Royal LePage Locations North with proceeds to the Canadian Shelter Foundation/My Friend's House. You can find details about the tour on pages 31 & 96.

The incredible homes in this issue include a spacious, comfortable golf club beauty built by Collingwood's Patrick Coulter. The family's darling dog Goo stole the show at the photo shoot. You'll love the downtown Collingwood home by Porter Skelton that looks like it's been there forever, but is newly built to capture the essence of the neighbourhood's century homes. You'll also enjoy a close up of the fan favourites from last year's Holiday House Tour in Collingwood and Creemore.

Comfort Zone, our retail feature, visits the Collingwood Home Hardware, where locals Brian and Tracey Caron provide small town service at one of the largest Home Hardware stores in Canada. Who knew? Check out all they have to offer on page 58.

Kitchen experts fill our People pages and our Style Picks uncover gadgets and gifts for the holidays. So dig out your skis, snowshoes and shovels and enjoy the winter wonderland ahead.

From all of us at OUR HOMES we would like to thank our readers and advertisers and wish everyone happy holidays and a great start to 2016.

When we return in January we promise to have an exciting issue to celebrate our 10th Anniversary!

Until then,  
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Simone

Simone Sterio-Risk, Associate Publisher  
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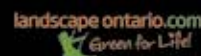




Landscape  
me Autumn.



Martin Zeng 705.466.5734 / zenglandscaping.com



advice

# KIDS' BEDROOMS

STORY **STEPHANIE REDMOND**

Kids' bedrooms can be a challenge. The characters, favourite colours and toys can all create a bit of a circus effect. Kids like bold, they like pattern, and they don't always see what matches with the same level of maturity as you do. Not to mention, you're trying to please what will likely be your toughest client!

A bedroom or playroom does not have to be decorated with the same level of sophistication as the rest of your home, but it should certainly flow. Show a bit of restraint so the space doesn't look too wild. After all, we are trying to create a restful space (for the bedroom anyhow), not a party zone.

## Kids are busy!

Their needs are more than just a bed and a dresser. They require a space to sit and play, a place to read, and storage for stuffies and toys. It should be soft and inviting but also stain resistant and easily maintained. I don't believe they always intend on making a mess, but they certainly have a knack for it. So instead of choosing perishable fabrics, make sure everything is washable so it lasts.

## Remember that younger kids are short!

They can't reach anything set at adult height and it causes frustration. Set hooks low so they can easily hang up a sweater or backpack and make sure there is a stool on hand for high light

1. **Bed Frame:** landofnod.com
2. **Knit Blanket and Pillow:** Restoration Hardware
3. **Smoke Alarm:** Nest
4. **Cubebot:** areaware.com
5. **Drop Pouf Chair:** camillahounsellhalvorsen.com
6. **Teepee:** parkdaleteepee.com
7. **Petit Pehr Pillow:** Pehr Designs Inc.
8. **Storage Bins:** fluf.ca
9. **Cork Side Table:** jaspermorrison.com



Designer Stephanie Redmond shares her ideas.



switches. You can ask kids to clean up, but you have to have a system in place to allow them to do it.

If you let your child choose a paint colour, I guarantee they will choose something bold. Instead of fighting a losing battle, use their choice as an accent colour on one wall or on a piece of furniture. Don't overdo it. The same applies for wall coverings. A whole bedroom in pattern can be busy and leaves no space for trophy shelves or artwork.

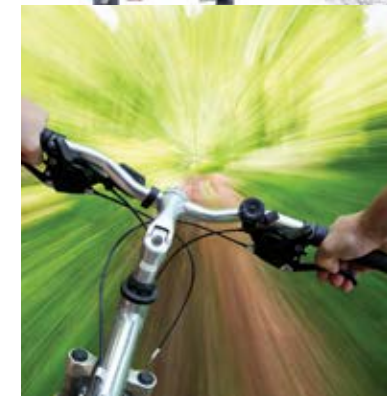
## Lighting

Lighting is always important and you should have at least two options: One to light the space when it's playtime and one to read by in bed. If you have a desk in the room, don't forget a small desk lamp. Children like to be masters of their domains, so give them the right tools for a little independence.

It's easy to get caught up in the here and now with a child's room, especially with the younger set. But beware of the age trap. In one or two years, they will outgrow it. Think ahead! **OH**



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# WINE AND DINE

Whether you're serving your guests or yourself, these culinary-inspired finds will help you and your dining room shine.

PHOTOGRAPHY **BONNIE FOX**



1



2



3



4



5



6

**1 BAYWOOD DESIGNS**

**Acrylic Dining Chair**  
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43 Bruce St. S., Thornbury  
519.599.5444 | baywooddesigns.com

**2 THE LIVELY OLIVE**

**Foodie Sets**  
Mix and match gourmet oil and vinegar blends and pick up an artful tasting dish or creuset to appetize your guests (or hosts). The Lively Olive carries cookbooks and supplies for all local foodies.

21 Hurontario St., Collingwood  
705.443.8919 | livelyolivecollingwood.com

**3 GEORGIAN DESIGN CENTRE**

**Dining Chandelier**  
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84 High St., Collingwood  
705.444.2100 | georgiandesigncentre.ca

**4 TIMBERWIND RUSTIC INTERIORS**

**Art Mugs**  
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796466 Grey Rd. 19, Blue Mountains  
705.441.2727 | timberwind.ca

**5 FARROW ARCARO DESIGN (FAD)**

**Bella Cuccina**  
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51 Hurontario St., Collingwood  
705.444.8330 | farrowarcarodesign.ca

**6 VAN ALLAN DESIGN CENTRE**

**Crocks**  
Embossed with Rue de la Couronne, (Crown Street), these vivid blue crocks are available in eight-inch or 12-inch measures. The aged appearance looks like you've had them in the family since Louis XIV sat on the throne.

150 First St., Collingwood  
705.293.4663 | vanallandesign.com

*Continued on page 30*



7



8



9

#### 7 LËUK

##### Candlesticks & Vases

Slender ceramic vases do double time as candlestick holders for a festive table. Chunky pottery vases with a high-glaze finish have been carefully sourced at Lëuk to offer a handmade texture to your setting.

124-126 Hurontario St., Collingwood  
705.445.4694 | leukbijhermas.ca

#### 8 CLERKSON'S HOME STORE

##### Tree of Enchantment

Hang in your dining room window or give the gift of inspiration with a unique glass ornament. Like trees in a forest, no two are alike. Made in Fergus, ornaments come in two-inch, six-inch or 10-inch sizes. Discover a selection hanging in Clarkson's front window.

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#### 9 JASPER LIFE

##### Wine Rack

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20 Balsam St., Suite 14, Collingwood  
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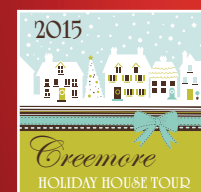
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# *O* Christmas TREE

Choosing a live Christmas tree is a time-honoured tradition that comes but once a year. Knowing what to look for, what variety to choose and how to keep it fresh and fragrant after decking your halls can be a challenge for many a yuletide enthusiast.

STORY **MELANIE REKOLA**

Heed these words of choosing well to keep your Tannenbaum from turning into a Charlie Brown special before Christmas day. And maybe, just maybe, it will last into the New Year's festivities!

### PLAN AND PREPARE

Firstly, choose and clear the space where you'll be standing your Christmas tree. Measure the area, including ceiling height, but remember to subtract the height of your stand and the angel or star you'll be placing at the top. Note the size of your stand. Will your tree's trunk fit? You must be sure, as trees whose bark is stripped to fit will surely die a fast death. Are there nearby electrical outlets that are free to service the lighting? And how will you get it home? As the old adage says, if you fail to plan, you plan to fail. *Continued on page 34*

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CHRISTMAS TREE TYPES

Choosing an Ontario-grown tree is the best choice not only for the freshest and longest-lasting tree, but for the environment and local economy as well. Most of these evergreens are actually cut three to four weeks before they are available for sale to avoid messy sap production. You may recognize some of these specimens growing in local forests or even in your own backyard.

- 1 **White Pine:** Graceful branching and soft needles make this tree a bit hard to decorate, but it can be worth it for the sheer ornamental value alone. It sports nice greenish-grey foliage too.
- 2 **White Spruce:** Strong slender twigs and dark-green foliage hold ornaments well. This spruce is a moisture sucker and requires frequent watering to prevent needle drop.
- 3 **Scots Pine:** A very thick, hearty, green tree that holds needles well. This is the most popular Christmas tree available.
- 4 **Balsam and Fraser Fir:** Similar to white spruce in branching and shape but with softer needles. Great needle retention, and colours vary from bright green to blue green.
- 5 **Blue Spruce:** Stout silvery blue or blue-grey branches with sharp, dense needles and strong branches that hold heavy ornaments with ease.

SELECTING THE FRESHEST TREE

Choosing a Grade A tree is similar to choosing the best produce at the grocery store.

- After you find the ideal-looking tree, lift it a few inches off the ground and let it drop. If needles shed from the exterior branches, this tree is far from ideal. Note that needle drop from interior branches is completely normal.
- Now it's time to give a branch a gentle squeeze. Are you left with a bunch of needles in your hand? If so, move on.
- The last test is to crush a few needles in your hand. Does it have a fresh tree scent?

That's a good sign as evergreens with little fragrance are often past their prime.

- Now have your chosen tree wrapped in netting for easy transport.

BACK AT HOME

Before bringing your new tree inside, you must make a fresh cut to its trunk. This is how the tree uptakes water, making this an absolutely essential step if you want it to last. While you're at it, remove some of the lower branches to leave room for the gifts. Once standing, be sure to give your evergreen plenty of fresh, clean water as soon as possible. This new *Arbre de Noël* is going to suck up at least a gallon of water over the next few days and needs constant top-ups. Keep at it until the uptake subsides a bit and keep water at a constant level from then on. Finally it's time to trim your tree, crank the Christmas tunes and be merry.

How lovely are thy branches! **OH**

*Melanie is a certified horticulturalist and landscape designer.*



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STORY AND PHOTOS **TARA CHATTELL**

# LIGHTBULB ORNAMENTS

Don't toss your burnt-out light bulbs – re-use them to create adorable decorations for the holidays. They make a unique, handmade gift. Fill them, wrap them or paint them!

**FILL:** When your bulbs are empty, fill them with anything you like. We've used crystals, pearls, lace, paper confetti and curled paper. To make the paper confetti, simply use a hole-punch and some pretty, decorative papers. For curled paper, cut the paper into thin strips and curl with scissors. You'll need to wind your strips tightly around a pen or wood skewer to get them through the neck of the bulb. *Continued on page 38*






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**WRAP:** Wrapping your bulbs is quite simple and they don't have to be empty. We've chosen to wrap ours with twine and yarn. Start with a dab of hot glue at the base of the metal neck and attach one end of your twine or yarn. Continue wrapping and gluing until the entire bulb is covered.

**PAINT:** For the painted bulb you'll need some multi-surface or glass paint in the colours of your choice. Once your bulb has been emptied, squeeze in some paint, cover the opening with your finger and shake the bulb until the paint has coated the entire inside. Hold the bulb upside-down over a paper towel and tap out any excess paint. Leave to dry overnight.

**online** Visit our [ourhomes.ca/mag/orns](http://ourhomes.ca/mag/orns) for a link to a great video tutorial that will guide you through the steps of emptying a light bulb.

To finish off your ornaments, attach a hanger. We've chosen wire and twine. You can also paint any exposed metal necks that have not been wrapped with twine. For your filled ornaments, you'll need to close off the tops to prevent the filling from spilling out. Wrap the twine around the top, attaching with some hot glue as you go along.

Display your creations for all to enjoy this holiday season. **OH**



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STORY JENNIFER SCHLEICH

# DRAWING ON THE WALLS

The centuries-old blackboard is making a resurgence into the modern home in the form of a fun statement wall, which can be utilized in almost any room.

With the increasing availability of specialty paint, the blackboard has become a versatile home décor tool, transforming empty walls that have proven difficult to decorate. Both whimsical and practical, a blackboard can improve family organization or provide a place for displaying inspirational quotes and original art.



PHOTO COURTESY OF RUST-OLEUM

The kitchen is one of the most popular spots to paint a blackboard. For the aspiring chef or dinner hostess, blackboards make functional menus. They're also great places to jot down the ever-evolving grocery list. If you don't have wall space in your kitchen, the end of a cabinet or the fridge are alternative spaces to paint. Transforming a traditional backsplash into a blackboard is also a unique option.

In the front entrance, a blackboard makes a convenient message centre, and a home-office wall can always benefit from a calendar. Children will love having an expansive blackboard to create a mural in a bedroom or a playroom. Add one to the craft or laundry area, two possible locations where a blackboard can be functional and decorative.

### Break Away From Black

Companies such as Benjamin Moore and Rust-Oleum offer blackboard paint in a spectrum of colours, while Krylon has a spray paint in basic black and vintage green. An off-white blackboard, styled with colourful sidewalk chalk, will set you apart from the crowd while blending seamlessly with your décor. Experiment with the subtle and varied tones of grey to give your blackboard a softer appearance, or forget subtle and get wild with a bold blue or tangerine hue.

If the right shade or tone remains elusive, mixing up custom blackboard paint is a surprisingly simple process.

### Make Your Own Paint

- You will need 2 Tbsp. unsanded tile grout per 1 cup matte latex paint.
- Mix the paint and grout in one-to-two cup increments.
- Use a grout mixer to combine the paint and grout. (Paint

Continued on page 42



PHOTO COURTESY OF RUST-OLEUM



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- mixer attachments are available for drills, which will make the task easier.)
- Properly prime your wall and then roll on your homemade blackboard paint. Once the paint has cured, it will need to be lightly sanded with 150-grit sandpaper and wiped clean.

Regardless of the paint you choose to use, season your new blackboard surface before you start practising any fancy typography. Take the broad side of a piece of white chalk and rub down the entire area, then rub it clean with a dry cloth. Don't neglect seasoning the surface or a ghost of your first design will permanently remain.

Mastering Chalk

Deciding what to draw or write on a new blackboard is only half the battle. As a décor centrepiece, the content should look attractive, and mastering the chalk may take a bit of practise. Here are a few tips that will help transform even the most novice chalk artist.

- Lightly sketch out the design a few times
- Use a level and a ruler to keep things straight and symmetrical

- A wet Q-tip is the perfect tool for cleaning up lines
- To generate a paint-like effect, keep the chalk wet
- Sharpen the chalk
- Give chalk markers a try

Alternative Surfaces

If you're a commitment-phobe, painting a wall may seem daunting. Think about using blackboard paint in your home décor accents instead.

- A painted playroom table can become an instant checkerboard, game of tic-tac-toe or artist's easel
- Create an erasable pantry system by painting labels on jars
- Coat a serving tray for easy identification of appetizers
- Customizable placemats make a unique adornment to the dinner table
- Update a filing cabinet by turning it into a blackboard surface

Just have fun and remember – you can always erase and start fresh. **OH**



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# TRANSITION TO MODERN

STORY **LAUREL FORTIN** | PHOTOGRAPHY **SANDY MACKAY** | STYLING **SARA MARTIN**



The Landmark Group maintains the gardens and nurtures its new growth. "Our trust in Landmark goes back over a decade to the landscaping they created and maintained at our former property in the area," says the owner.

In the Georgian Bay Club estates, builder **Patrick B. Coulter & Associates** has given a youthful retired couple a spacious, modern-transitional home.



It's the second home Coulter has built for the owners. Fifteen years ago, Coulter & Associates put up a ski chalet for them in Castle Glen. It was a time when the owners' children were avid skiers and the family spent winter weekends away from their home base in Cambridge to relax together away from school and work. A decade-and-a-half later, the kids have left the nest and the recently-retired couple felt more ties to the Blue Mountains region than any other. They were ready to make it their permanent home. But not in a ski chalet.

"There was no question we were going to ask Patrick to build us another house," says the owner. They knew the kind of quality he had put into their chalet – beautiful finishes and a solid building envelope. Surely, with another 15 years of experience in a region where Coulter has put up over 1,400 residences – custom homes and developments – it would be a fine home with the latest building technology. Coulter delivered. *Continued on page 48*

**LEFT:** A golf-cart-sized door opens out of the back of the garage with its own lane, allowing easy access to the nearby Georgian Bay Club. **OPPOSITE:** It's hard to find a neighbourhood untouched by Patrick Coulter in the Blue Mountains.



A tongue-in-groove ash ceiling warms the look of the grey cabinets in the modern kitchen. A glass-tile backsplash and marble countertops bring the look together with brushed nickel hardware. An inset television lets the owners catch the evening news while preparing dinner. A wine and a beer fridge flank the counter that transitions to the dining area. Arrangement by Paperwhite Flowers.



“We had a lot of fun the second time around,” Coulter says. “The owners were decisive and knew that they wanted energy management on both levels of the home, and a master suite where they could access their own private garden. The view off the deck in their suite is incredibly relaxing.”

The owners have had homes in a few different cities over the years. “But both our families have been coming to ski in the Blue Mountains since 1968. It’s been the one constant place for children and extended family members to gather,” says the owner.

Coulter has been building homes in Southern Georgian Bay for clients like them since 1981. In communities as close-knit as Thornbury and Collingwood, it didn’t take long for Coulter’s work to be noticed and in demand. The real estate market has stayed strong in luxury homes in Southern Georgian Bay – Coulter says a number of his newest builds are going up for clients from across Canada and around the world who have identified this region as a prime destination not only for its proximity to Toronto but because it offers four-season amenities and activity. *Continued on page 50*



Dormers punch out of the slope of the great room roof as a way to extend the window height and add variation to the interior ceiling and exterior roofline. Twelve-seat dining table by C&G Solid Wood Furniture.

**OPPOSITE, TOP:** In the comfortable sunroom, the owners have the option of opening or closing the wall to the kitchen. The owner uses the space to design and create artwork quilts. **MIDDLE LEFT:** The stainless steel range and hood blend with the brushed nickel kitchen finishes and pot lights. Tray courtesy of C&G Solid Wood Furniture; pears and cabbage available at Goldsmith’s Orchard Market. **BOTTOM LEFT:** Goo, the resident eight-year-old pug, howls from his perch in front of the fireplace. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Stone from B.C. clads the fireplace. Arrangement by Paperwhite Flowers.



It was the prime amenity of the Georgian Bay Club golf course that drew the homeowners to choose a lot in a premier development on a mountain ridge, near the green of the 11th hole of the course. It's a private, yet very social community.

The dramatic setting lends itself to the modern style of the build. Coulter prepared a nearly 40-page brief to get the design project started. Wanting to soften the stark lines of the home, the homeowners asked to add transitional dormer windows. They coupled deep-brown exterior cladding with steel-framed windows and a black metal roof. Inside, the couple worked with Coulter on the transitional aspects of the home – a tongue-in-groove ash ceiling that runs the length of the great room and the master suite are stained to match the hickory hardwood floors. The result is a modern element of understated elegance that provides a more intimate and warmer feel than it might if they

had followed a strict modern aesthetic.

The couple wanted to achieve the feeling of living in the outdoors with nearly panoramic views of the natural elements surrounding them. With the walls of the home's width mostly glass, they opted to use bronze-tinted windows to provide privacy and reduce the amount of ultraviolet light inside. Dormers punch out of either side of the great room's peaked roof, adding variation to the window heights and architectural interest to the rooflines. The home is equipped with a Crestron wireless system that fully automates window coverings as well as the heating and cooling systems and the LED lighting, installed by Coulter's sub trades.

The owners worked with Coulter to choose stone accents on the exterior, and brought the same B.C.-sourced grey, black and buff granite inside to the floor-to-ceiling masonry of the wood-burning fireplace and a wall in the front foyer. *Continued on page 52*



**TOP LEFT:** The owners enjoy the large windows and two covered decks off the master bedroom. **TOP RIGHT & ABOVE:** His and hers vanities on either side of a frosted glass shower give the owners a spa-like space in their en suite. They are also able to walk out to their own private, covered garden.

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**LEFT:** The main floor powder room makes a statement with dramatic wallpaper and a beautiful vessel sink. **FAR LEFT:** Even the laundry room has some flair with a red wall in the bright space. **BELOW:** Glass panels on the stair railings bring light into the lower level.



The inside layout allows for main-floor living with a central great room and two wings of living space. One wing sees the entry foyer, garage, stairway to the lower level, laundry room and powder room. The kitchen adjoins the dining and living areas under the great room. And the owners' master bedroom and en suite complete the far wing.

The couple often travel to Florida in winter, which is where they visited many homes that had wide window expanses that neatly folded back to transform a full room into an outdoor patio space. Coulter knew he could integrate the concept off their kitchen in their Georgian Bay Club home. The screened-in terrace is open on three sides overlooking the landscaped backyard, a room created to resemble their favourite space at the family cottage. *Continued on page 54*



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The owners worked with interior designer **Jo Redman** of **Redman Watson** to select finishes and décor. Lighting was particularly difficult to settle on, as the couple didn't want modern, nor did they want a traditional look. They settled on an iron fixture atop their long, 12-seat dining table (custom built at **C&G Solid Wood Furniture** for their

prior home). And other fixtures coordinate throughout the home. The couple enjoy entertaining with friends and family in their comfortable home. They still enjoy getting together with Coulter, but whether they will meet at yet another building site remains to be seen. "We couldn't be happier with the home he built just for us," the owner says. **OH**

**ABOVE LEFT:** With the property backing onto a ravine, the owners were able to create a bright lower level with a gorgeous walk out to the fire pit and backyard. This level has the recreation space with billiards table and 10-foot theatre screen as well as the couple's office space, two bedrooms and a home gym. **ABOVE:** The bar on the lower level displays a collection of hockey memorabilia.



The landscape plan designed by Fran Moore of Vogel Landscape Design and Consulting reflects the owners' modern tastes yet integrates traditional plantings. Hydrangeas, lilacs, rose of Sharon and perennials cover the berm along the driveway. Three maple trees balance the design.

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# HOME GROWN

STORY **LAUREL FORTIN**  
PHOTOGRAPHY **BONNIE FOX**

**THE PLACE:** Yes, you will find hardware and lumber and, if you have a leaky faucet, a red-shirted expert is there to help you. But if you’ve walked inside **Collingwood Home Hardware Building Centre**, there’s an ambience that evokes the “home” in Home Hardware. Although one of the largest locations in Canada, you can reach the top shelf in this pet-friendly store, help yourself to a bag of freshly popped popcorn or ask for a demo at the Nespresso coffee station. Then, meander through the beautiful displays in the Home Expressions department, or get inspired in the Kitchen and Bath Centre.

**THE STORY:** “The best place to buy is at Sixth and High,” says Dealer-Owner Brian Caron, who has been in the lumber business for 35 years, and started with Home at the former Havens Home Building Centre in 1999. He and wife Tracey purchased the business from Brian’s mentor Ken Havens in 2009, when Tracey started in the paint department. They jumped at the opportunity to move to their High Street location in November 2014. “This store has been Brian’s dream, and we wanted to expand the store and services we offered to be a one-stop shop,” says Tracey.



**THE SERVICES:** “In our Kitchen and Bath Centre we have two fully trained interior designers to work with you from start to finish, through the Home Installs program,” says Tracey. Home Hardware offers specialized training to all employees, and staff are encouraged to grow their expertise. As well as contractor services and materials estimating, you’ll find flooring, windows and doors, lighting, paint and outdoor living products. Many couples are interested in the wedding registry. Look for free delivery and free gift wrapping service as well.

**THE STYLE:** They have the buying power and support of Home Hardware, but what makes the store unique is that they’re able to source products outside of Home,

such as Le Creuset chef-quality cookware, Farrow and Ball paint and wallpaper, Hunter Douglas window coverings, Lug bags and even splashy, fun socks. Says Tracey, “We’re here to help you improve your home, whether it’s to repair your roof, paint your walls or trim your tree. We really are homeowners helping homeowners!”

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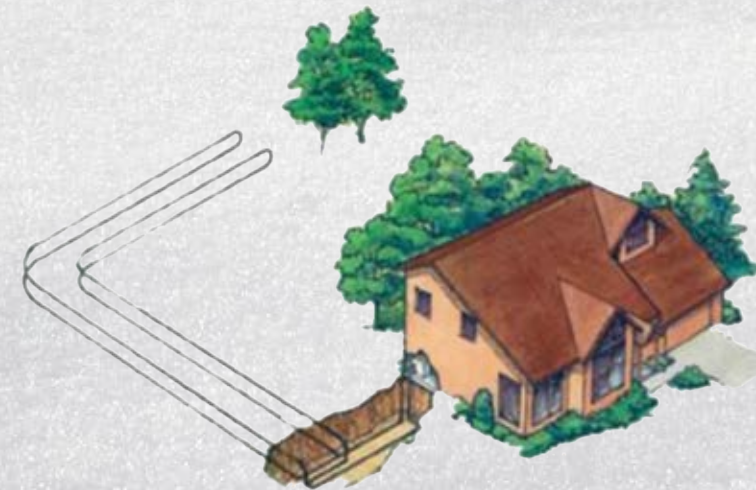


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# SOMEONE'S IN THE KITCHEN

PHOTOGRAPHY **BONNIE FOX**

Get a taste of Collingwood, Clarksburg and Thornbury's finest cabinetmakers, tabletop crafters, kitchen designers, installers and renovators. We ask 10 local businesses what sets them apart.



## **PAUL CURRIE**, *Owner* *Corinthian Kitchen and Bath Studio*

**What sets your business apart?** Our level of customer service. We spend time with our clients making sure they have the best possible design for their needs. Our whole team plays a role in ensuring clients are completely satisfied.

**What kind of challenges do you face?** On more than one occasion, we have removed an old kitchen only to find rotten floor joists, mould and levels so far off that a total renovation was necessary. Fortunately with over 30 years of custom building experience we are prepared to meet these challenges.

**Who are your customers?** Our reputation speaks for itself so most of our business comes from referrals. We are proud of our work and our clients do the best job selling our service.

**Where were you photographed?** In a home near the base of Blue Mountain that we renovated. It was a large project that encompassed just about every inch of the house.

**Oddest item in your kitchen junk drawer?** A double, hand-operated egg beater that belonged to my mother.

**Favourite recipe:** One of my favourites is grilled, stuffed pork tenderloin. It contains many finely chopped veggies and herbs. Served with simple sides of grilled zucchini and roasted baby potatoes and paired with a glass of wine, your guests will hum their way through dinner.



## **JEFF DYCK & TIFFANY DYCK** *Owners, Sterling Custom Kitchens*

**What is your specialty?** Fine custom cabinetry for the whole home, which generally starts with the kitchen, then leads to vanities, mudrooms and walk-in closets, entertainment units and wine bars, etc.

**Why do you like building kitchens?** Getting to know clients and finding out what they are about – the kitchen is often the heart and soul of the home – then building a space that is a reflection of their lifestyle and personality and helps to organize and simplify their life. That is truly satisfying.

**Where were you photographed?** A client's custom-designed modern kitchen that used a low-VOC finish.

**What does the future hold for Sterling Custom Kitchens?** Lots of exciting things are on the near horizon, such as a new, larger shop with new technology and a fantastic, growing, staff team, stay tuned!

**Describe the most elaborate meal you have prepared:** During the holidays, the whole extended family gets together to create a cornucopia of deliciousness. Jeff is Mennonite and Tiffany is Italian, so the food is fantastic and ranges from antipasto platters and pastas, to great local meats and fresh salads, to home-baked pies... and always includes fine wine and good music.

*Continued on page 64*



**AJ CARTER**  
*Certified Cabinetmaker*  
**JASON HOLMAN**  
*Owner/Operator*  
*JTI Design Inc.*

**What is your specialty?** We produce customs cabinets and furniture from raw materials here in our Clarksburg shop. The entire process is done in-house from building the cabinets to finishing and installing.

**Where were you photographed?** AJ is running the table saw in our workshop.

**Tell us about a recent project:** We just completed a modern job with all-white Italian laminates with walnut accents – it required very accurate and specific details.

**Oddest item in your kitchen junk drawer?** There’s an old iPod in there that hasn’t worked in 10 years, I can’t just throw it out...

**Describe the most elaborate meal you have prepared:** I leave the elaborate meal preparations to the professionals at the restaurants here in town.

*Continued on page 66*




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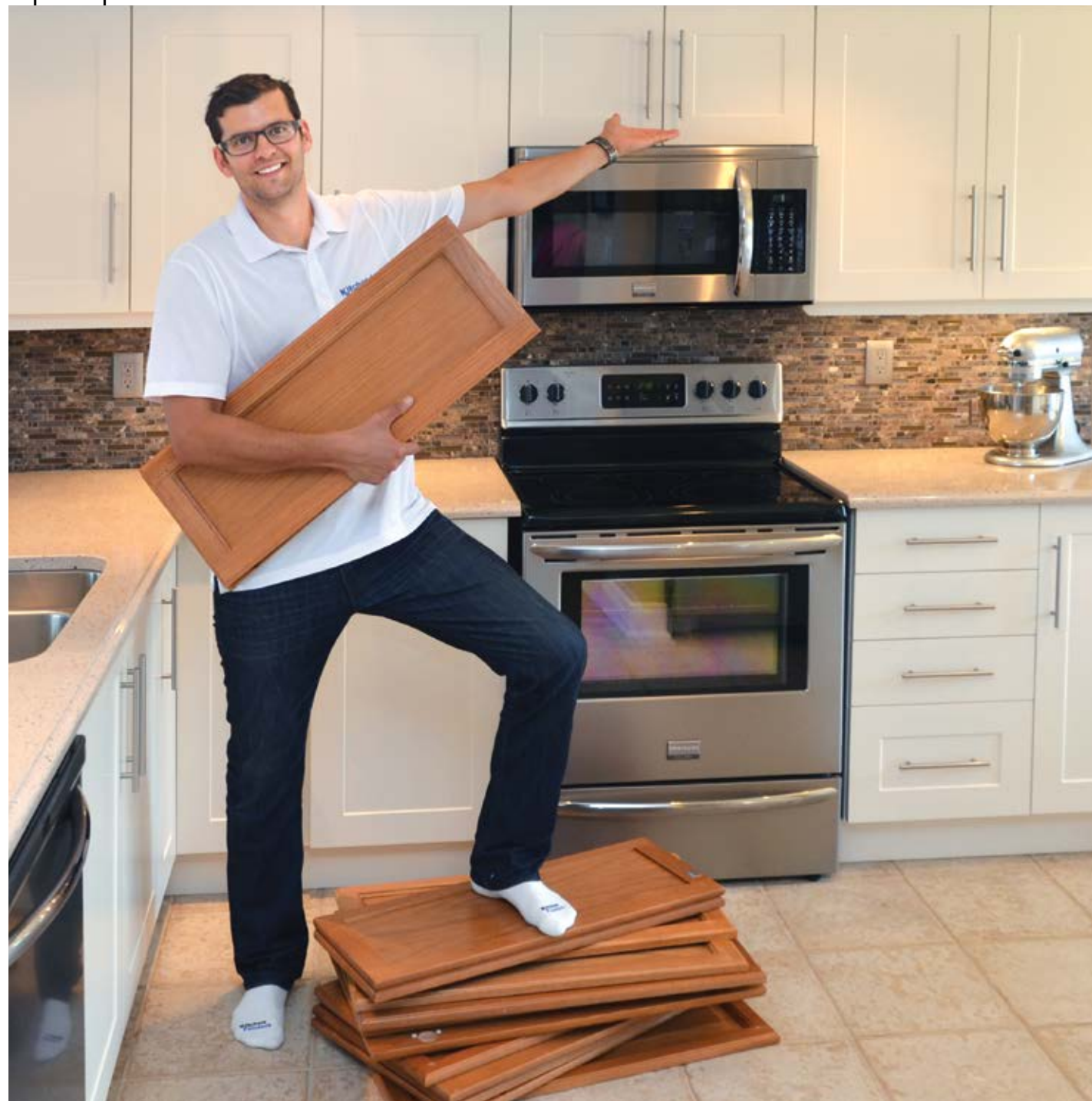
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## DEVIN PEARSON

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**What is your specialty?** We truly have mastered redesigning existing kitchen cabinetry – like adding pot drawers and pantries or modifying cabinetry to allow a new, taller or wider fridge to be installed. We oversee all aspects of kitchen renovation – electricians, plumbers, stone countertop suppliers, the list goes on.

**Where were you photographed?** I'm holding the old, oak, cabinet doors that we refaced in this kitchen. A lot of our clients are not only looking to brighten up their kitchen, but they want to change the style and profile of their cabinet doors. We can transform your kitchen from a 90s feel to a 2016 feel simply by changing the door style and colour. I'm also wearing Kitchen Painters socks – we spend a lot of time inside our clients' homes, so we outfit all our crew with fresh, white socks.

**What is the most difficult design decision your clients make?** The backsplash! It ties everything together. We help our clients by providing advice and photos and supplying samples.

**Describe the most elaborate meal you have prepared:** We are on the topic of kitchens here... but I would have to say my finest work is prepared outside on the barbecue. And, come to think of it, they are not that elaborate at all. *Continued on page 68*



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## HARVEY PARKES

*Co-Owner*

*Meaford Carpets and Interiors*

**What is new at Meaford Carpets and Interiors?** Bathroom and kitchen makeovers. Freshening up a kitchen can be as simple as a new counter, flooring or window coverings, or it can be as extensive as starting over with new cabinets and appliances.

**How long have you been in business?** I've been in business in Meaford for 20 years – we've helped hundreds of families finish or update their homes.

**What sets you apart?** We have a shop-at-home service, extensive samples and our cabinetry is made in Canada. We offer installation services if our customers need it.

**Where were you photographed?** The shot was taken in our showroom kitchen with a set of beautiful Mexican pottery that I picked up on a trip many years ago.

**What is your favourite holiday recipe?** My wife and I make my mother and grandmother's Christmas cake recipe every fall. I've loved it since I was a kid. We dip it in brandy or rum and wrap it up – the cake and fruit get better when it's aged. *Continued on page 70*

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**DEREK MACH**  
*Craftsman, Sticks and Stones Design*

**What is your specialty?** Furniture-wise, my passion is live edge. I really like to make features out of what most would consider flaws. Live edge lends itself to that. At Sticks and Stones, we install flooring, build cabinets, install granite and even tile the backsplash. I think offering that range of services is somewhat unique.

**Where was your photograph taken?** With my hand sander in my Clarksburg workshop. There's a split maple slab behind me that I've

stapled with purple-stained wood so that the interesting piece of wood can still be used and hold its integrity.

**What kind of challenges do you tackle?** Every project has its challenges. But I think sometimes the biggest thing can be timing and deadlines. The only way to deal with that is energy drinks and some long hours.

**Oddest item in your kitchen junk drawer?** I have these tongs from the 80s. They are the best! They don't make them like that anymore. I use them to make pretty much everything.

*Continued on page 72*





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**Where were you photographed?** My crew installed a red, glass backsplash and renovated the kitchen in this Thornbury home.

**What do you like about your job?** One of the best things about my work is that each project is totally different and we love the new challenges each job brings. No two days are the same.

**If you were stuck at home in a blizzard with only one kitchen gadget, what would it be?** The kettle. Being English I like a nice cup of tea!

**Oddest item in your kitchen junk drawer?** A bent con rod from a defunct motorcycle engine. My hobby is vintage road racing.

*Continued on page 74*

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**JAMES WOODCOCK**  
*Owner, TDI Construction*

**What is your specialty?** The kitchen is the central spot in my own home and I love helping others realize the potential of their own kitchens.

**Where were you photographed?** My wife and I renovated our own century home in Thornbury. To be both client and builder was an interesting experience. Pairing two sets of vastly different ideas into one kitchen was a challenge but we are really pleased with the outcome.

**Oddest item in your kitchen junk drawer?**  
A wine stopper. It's been in there for years but I'm not sure we have ever needed to use it!

**Describe the most elaborate dessert you have prepared:** I was a pastry chef for many years, which has helped me to understand how to make a kitchen very functional. I prepared these petit fours, but I would say I go over the top for any of my daughters' birthday cakes.

*Continued on page 76*

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**Where was your photograph taken?** On a pile of new cabinets in my workshop on the Beaver River in Thornbury.

**How do you overcome challenges?** Good communication. Every project offers its own unique challenges, whether it's a tight schedule, design difficulties or keeping up with new trends. I have found these challenges can be overcome with good communication with my clients.

**If you were stuck at home in a blizzard with only one kitchen gadget, what would it be?** A corkscrew. No explanation required.

**Describe the most elaborate meal you have helped prepare:** I like to keep it simple: steak, baked potatoes and a salad.

*Continued on page 78*

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*Sales & Installs Manager  
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**What kinds of design challenges do you tackle?** Often there are many great features a client would love to include in their kitchen but there's just not enough space. So I sit down with them to see how they work in the space and we come up with some great compromises. Renovations also generally have restrictions to work around – it is important to me to spend the extra time to make sure the design will flow.

**Where were you photographed?** This was a galley kitchen in a lovely, small cottage where we worked closely with the owners after they had a flood.

**If you were stuck at home in a blizzard with only one kitchen gadget, what would it be?** Although I love to design kitchens, I am not very handy in them so I would depend on the good old microwave. **OH**

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# ANTIQUE & UNIQUE *Christmas*

STORY **ANNE TAIT** | PHOTOGRAPHY **SANDY MACKAY**

Honouring family tradition, the dining room table is set with unique tree ornaments used as napkin rings that represented each person in the extended family. It's that kind of personal touch that lets guests know they are in the midst of a joyful family home – that of Diane McQuaig and Bob Armstrong.

**Marcy Stewart**, owner of **Flowers by Ms. Design** in Creemore, worked with the homeowners to transform this already stunning home into a glamorous holiday space. It was the fan-favourite home on last year's Creemore Holiday House Tour, organized by **Deborah Lalande** of **Bleu Venue Events**. *Continued on page 82*



Wicker chairs offer cosy seating below a loose wreath that lets light filter through the window. Pinecones gathered before the snowfall fill an old crate on the floor and fresh cedar sprigs on the table add aroma to the room. **OPPOSITE, TOP LEFT:** Black chairs contrast against a rustic white farm table and sprays of greenery soften the pendant lighting. **TOP RIGHT:** Tree ornaments double as napkin rings that the owners invite guests to keep. **BOTTOM:** The light from white candles in multiple sizes doubles in front of the mirror on the dining sideboard, draped with greenery.

# holiday house tour

**RIGHT:** Burlap, pine branches and pinecones dress a large planter hung with large ornaments. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Wreaths circle lanterns beside the patio window. Snowshoes and dogwood add height to full, white planters. **BELOW:** Another pair of snowshoes criss-cross over a window.



The exterior holiday design, inviting and festive, is the work of **Lucia Crupi** of **Lucia Crupi Designs**. Dramatic urns with holiday greens, branches and berries add warmth to the main entrance, windows and patio doors, while swags and wreaths hug the many light sconces. Overhead, garlands twinkle with white lights, while silver lanterns, ornaments and snowshoes add new interest to the magical feel.

McQuaig and Armstrong enjoy every minute at their rural retreat, lovingly referred to as Cloud Nine. Nestled in the Creemore hills, Diane bought the home in 1991. She and Armstrong have each added their personal touches. “I love interior design and Bob has a passion for the outdoors,” she says. McQuaig is the founder of **The Creemore General Store**, a unique shop and art gallery that opened in 2014.



Graced with the owners’ antiques and unique finds from all over the world, Stewart quickly recognized they were working in a one-of-a-kind home.

“Marcy was able to use much of our holiday décor but added her own creative touches to transform our home into a winter wonderland,” recalls McQuaig. With young grandchildren visiting over the holidays, the team knew they “must be smart about decorating with little trinkets.” Added décor was sourced by Stewart and provided by **Georgian Christmas** of The Village at Blue Mountain and **Victorian Values** of Creemore. Five decorated trees adorn the home, including one fresh evergreen supplied by **Dean Prezzo** of Collingwood. During the tour, visitors sampled treats from **Pizza Perfect Wings & Good Things** of Creemore. *Continued on page 84*

**LEFT:** Vintage skates, an old sled and a small tree are treasures tucked under the stairway adorned with beautiful garland. **MIDDLE LEFT:** A small vignette of joy and greens in the kitchen. **BOTTOM LEFT:** In the front room, a wreath of holly encircles a silver stag atop the mantel, flanked by a rabbit and bird nestled among dramatically red-lit berries and faux ferns. **BELOW:** Jen Eccles, Lori Judzinski and Marcy Stewart of Flowers by Ms. Designs show off their beautiful décor work.



holiday house tour



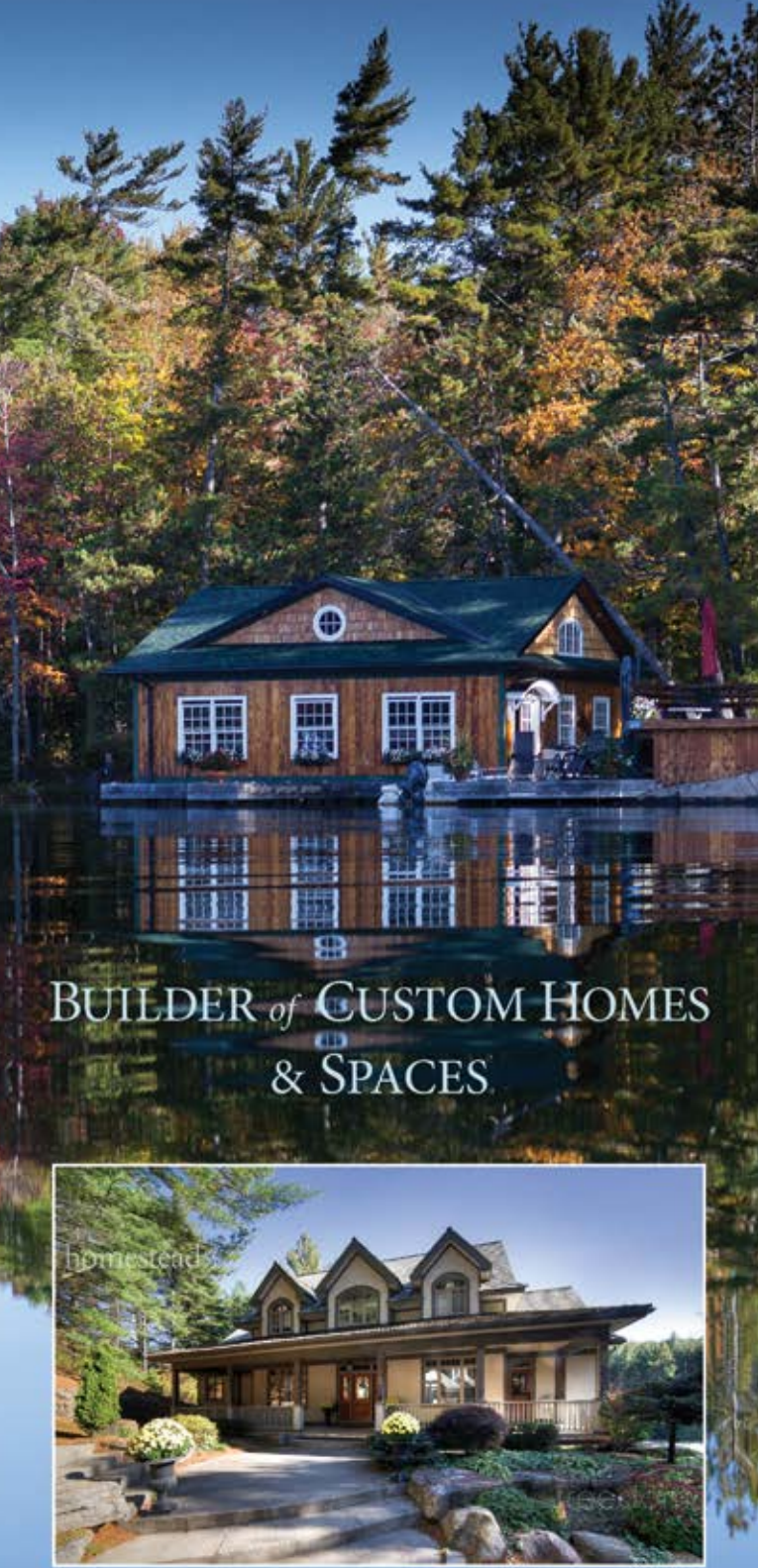
**LEFT:** Silver snow globes, greens and white Christmas balls fill a tray on top of the living room sofa table, while stacks of red and green books stand behind silver doves and boxwoods underneath. **BOTTOM LEFT:** Generous sprays of cedar with tinker lights and bronze leaves top the mantel. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** A white lantern and red-wrapped present sit atop a sled on the stairs. **BELOW:** In the powder room, a bodice is dressed in pearls and burlap with a skirt of fir and cedar.



Stewart thinks in terms of vignettes when planning a holiday house. Fresh and faux greenery, candlelight (the quintessential ingredient of the season), white tinker lights, gold and silver baubles and special decorations are tucked into corners around the home, all adding to the feeling of glam. “Greens are such an important element,” adds Stewart, including broad leaf salal, huckleberry, evergreens, juniper, orogenia and adding incense cedar in the mix.

A whimsical touch in the powder room: a vintage bodice adorned with burlap skirt and greens.

“In our transformed holiday space, we planned a cocktail party for friends, complete with musicians and a sing-along,” says McQuaig. “Our large family enjoyed a week of holiday fun amidst the sparkling trees and memorabilia from Christmases gone by.” **OH**



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**THIS PAGE:** Snow-covered outdoor décor was creatively installed by Lucia Crupi Designs with bountiful sprays of cedar and fir hanging from the porch lights at front and back of the home. **OPPOSITE, TOP LEFT:** Décor helper Jen Eccles, Lucia Crupi of Lucia Crupi Designs, décor helper Lori Judzinski, homeowner Ian Whitton and Marcy Stewart of Flowers by Ms. Design, with the resident dog Mel.



# nature's PALETTE

STORY **ANNE TAIT** | PHOTOGRAPHY **SANDY MACKAY**

“Bring the outdoors in,” was homeowner Ian Whitton’s direction to Marcy Stewart of Flowers by Ms. Design. Whitton’s rural home outside Nottawa, designed by J.H. Rust Architect and built in 2004 by **Porter Skelton & Associates Ltd.**, was voted the fan favourite on last year’s Collingwood Holiday Home tour – a nature-inspired retreat.

Stewart and her design team embraced the challenge. “I like to create a magical feel without losing the character that makes it so special – this home allowed that to happen,” says Stewart.

Nature’s palette lent itself to the desired outdoor feel in this home – wood accents, berry reds and fresh greens. “We had trees, animals and deer – lots of deer,” laughs Whitton. Tartan was added throughout, a nod to Whitton’s part Scottish heritage. *Continued on page 88*

holiday house tour



**LEFT:** Oversize jingle bells were strung over the kitchen window seat, and a tartan thermos and cookie tin hinted of a cosy winter tea time. **RIGHT:** Leslie Price and Steve Holmes from the Dornoch Tap & Grill catered the event. **BOTTOM:** There was joy in the kitchen with wreaths in the windows and greenery tucked in above the kitchen cabinets and around the pendant lights.

Approaching the house, visitors are drawn into the holiday spirit amid hints of an old-fashioned Christmas, a welcoming oasis created by Lucia Crupi Designs. With calming symmetry, gracious urns filled with fresh greens, winterberries, twigs and pinecones flank the door. Welcoming lanterns, swags, wreaths and twinkling garlands add to the ambience. On the property, a wood burning fireplace supplied by Iron Butterfly Blacksmithing Inc. of Lisle and outdoor seating create a welcoming outdoor living space.



Inside, seasonal décor was provided by Flowers by Ms. Design and **Thornbury Home Hardware Building Centre**. In the living room, a fresh evergreen provided by **Dean Prezio** of Collingwood displays treasured family ornaments, along with others on loan from Georgian Christmas of The Village at Blue Mountain. On house tour day, visitors were treated to hors d'oeuvres and homemade soup from the **Dornoch Tap & Grill** in Nottawa. Deborah Lalande of Bleu Venue Events organized the tour of six homes in the Collingwood area. *Continued on page 90*



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holiday house tour



A pair of narrow trees were selected to match the height of the china cabinet in the dining room. The table was set using a tartan blanket as tablecloth, and end-cut stumps as plate chargers. Bench seat courtesy of Iron Butterfly Blacksmithing.



Simple greenery – some fresh, some faux – adorns the fireplace mantels, light fixtures, chair backs, stair banister and cabinet tops, often aglow with tinker lights. Unique wood accents add to the country feel: birch logs, end-cut stump plate chargers, candle stands and a variety of wooden ornaments. A custom plank log bench from Iron Butterfly Blacksmithing provides additional dining room seating. Adding a fun element and a splash of colour, Stewart incorporated a variety of plaid accessories – a tartan kilt in place of a tree skirt, tartan scarves on the dining room table and bench seating, tartan plates – even a vintage tartan thermos and biscuit tin in the kitchen. Whitton received many compliments on his décor over the holidays, and his entire family enjoyed the setting. **OH**



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# THE BOLD AND THE BEAUTIFUL

STORY **YANIC SIMARD**



PHOTO: BRANDON BARRE

Searching for a little more drama in your décor? The powder room is the ultimate place to play with bold looks you would never dare apply in the rest of your home – you can enjoy it a little bit every day, without feeling overwhelmed by overexposure. Here are eight of my favourite ideas for getting a big look in this small space, and satisfy your craving for design excitement.

## Playful Pendants

In a primary washroom, balanced lighting is especially important. In a powder room, however, consider choosing a pendant light that casts beautiful shadows across the room. One small hanging fixture will feel like a grand chandelier here, and the ambience it creates will be a magical moment for guests.



grahambrown.com:  
Honolulu Palm Green  
by Julien MacDonald

Cole & Son:  
Feather Fan 89/4014

## Powerful Patterns

Wallpaper is back in a big way, and the powder room is a great space to switch-up from paint. In a typical small bath, a large amount of wall surface is taken up by the door, the mirror, a window and the white fixtures, all of which break up even the boldest print – so you're free to run with your wildest passions. Try nature-inspired materials here, such as quartzite and exotic patterns like floral or tropical birds to give the bathroom a sense of warmth and luxury.



WAC Lighting:  
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PHOTO: BRANDON BARRE

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## Magnificent Marble

Marble counters may seem too high maintenance (or too budget-busting) for a larger space such as the kitchen, but in a powder room, it only takes a small slab to create a vanity top, which will likely see gentle use. Indulge your taste for marble here, and you can enjoy it every day without the worry.

**TIP:** Ask a stone supplier what they have available in off-cuts, and you may be able to find a suitable (and beautiful) mini-slab for a bargain price.



PHOTO: GILLIAN JACKSON

## Deliciously Dark

Love the sophistication of a deep, dark colour, but worry about feeling like you live in a cave? A powder room is the perfect place to take a walk on the dark side without getting tired of it – plus, it's a small space to repaint later when tastes change, so there's no need to worry about playing it safe.

Benjamin Moore  
2121-10 Gray

## Solid Stone

Floor-to-ceiling stone is the ultimate luxe look for a bathroom, and in a powder room this can be achieved on a reasonable budget, as the walls are typically smaller. Splurge on a favourite tile, and break up the effect with a large inset mirror panel.

## Disappearing Mirror

Have a beautiful wall treatment to show off? Skip the mirror over the vanity, for a rule-busting look that will surprise guests. You can always add a mirror to the back of the door if you don't quite feel bold enough to go without one completely.

## Colour Overhead

Powder rooms tend to be tall compared to their narrow width, so a painted ceiling helps visually lower the room to create both drama and balance. Try Benjamin Moore's 2062-60 Blue Hydrangea and feel like you have a brand new skylight overhead. Blue hues especially will make white surfaces look even whiter for a fresh, clean atmosphere.

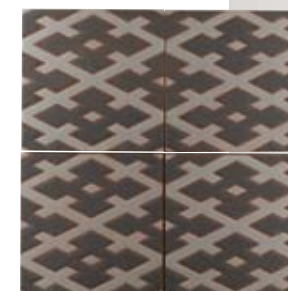
Benjamin Moore:  
2062-60  
Blue Hydrangea

## Look Out Below

Drama doesn't have to come from the walls or even the ceiling! Unadorned walls in a demure paint treatment (like Benjamin Moore's OC-23 Classic Gray – one of my signatures) paired with an eye-catching floor creates an unexpected, European flair that puts all the emphasis underfoot. **OH**

Benjamin Moore:  
OC-23 Classic Gray

## Add drama underfoot



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PHOTO: GILLIAN JACKSON

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## COLLINGWOOD HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR

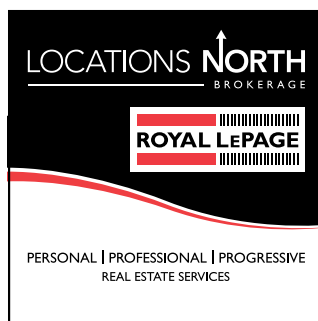
With Thanksgiving over for another year our thoughts start moving towards Christmas and all that goes with it, and this year Royal LePage Locations North, with Bleu Venue Events, is delighted to present the 4th annual Collingwood Holiday House Tour on Saturday, November 14, and the 2nd year for the Tour, in Creemore, on Saturday, November 28.

There will be 6 fabulous homes, of various styles and sizes, on each tour, all of which will be professionally and beautifully decorated for the Holiday season to delight our visitors once again. These fund-raising events are always well attended, and with proceeds from the ticket sales and silent auction going to support the Royal LePage Shelter Foundation, which locally is My Friend's House, it's a lovely event in which to be involved.

Some of the wonderful design companies taking part this year include Dovetail Interiors, Habitat Interiors, Lucia Crupi, MS Design & Flowers, Seasons, Set the Occasion, Shan Home & Gift, Timberwind, Van Allan Design and Victorian Values. Without the generous support of our homeowners and designers these events would not be possible, thank you!

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*(Please see ad on pg 31)*



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The Wasaga office, located centrally on Mosley St., gives the brokerage a strong presence not only in the Beach, but also in Tiny township, Elmvale and even into Barrie, particularly given the joining of the high-profile Signature Sold Team. The Creemore office, which is shared with Royal LePage RCR Realty, gives Locations North the perfect location for serving the vibrant town of Creemore and Clearwater generally.

"With the addition of the Wasaga and Creemore offices, we now provide complete coverage from Tiny township through the Beach, Collingwood, The Blue Mountains, Meaford and beyond, as well as south throughout Clearwater and Grey Highlands", says Broker of Record, Des Von Teichman. "But it's not just the coverage. With our 'personal, professional and progressive' approach and stellar team members, we aim to provide service that includes elements which area home buyers and sellers can't find elsewhere".

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*(Please see ads on pg 4, 14)*



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Nestled in beautiful downtown Thornbury, Baywood Designs is one of a select few retailers to carry Annie Sloan and teaches workshops on a weekly basis so that you can decorate like the pros! Annie Sloan, a very popular brand of furniture paint, only supplies small businesses with her paint so you won't find it at a big box retailer. She was the original inventor of Chalk Paint™ and at Baywood Designs, we are honoured to carry it. We are a full service Design Centre helping people to repurpose many things such as furniture paint, slip-covers and upholstery and custom painting furniture and kitchen cabinetry for the clients who just don't have time to do it themselves. When designer Lindsay Herbert and artisan Lisa Proctor came together as a team, they were able to offer a very unique approach to decorating.

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*(Please see ad on pg 75)*



## UNITED LUMBER HOME HARDWARE BUILDING CENTRE

Founded in 1974, United Lumber is a second generation family business that is as committed as ever to uphold and improve upon our focus of providing top level customer service while leveraging our expertise to help make our customers' dreams a reality.

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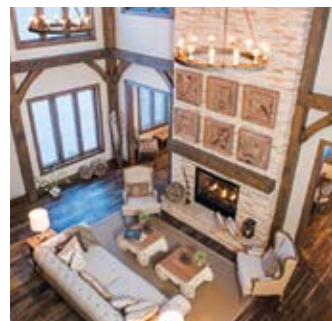


## NOTTAWASAGA MECHANICAL

We are happy to announce that Hospice Georgian Triangle was the winner of our 5th Nottawasaga Mechanical Gives Back campaign. From July to October 2015 Hospice Georgian Triangle accumulated over 1500 votes on our online voting page. That was enough votes to edge out Blue Mountain Foundation of the Arts, The Door Youth Centre, The Collingwood G&M Hospital Foundation and Wasaga Beach Cat Rescue. Congratulations to Hospice Georgian Triangle! We hope the \$1000 cheque will help with your efforts in our community. From left of picture Rommel Santiago (PSW), Lorraine Champion (Volunteer), Lorraine Garland (RN) and presenting the cheque Jacob Carr (Operations Manager Nottawasaga Mechanical). There will be 5 charities involved in the next round of voting. Voting will start October 8/15. Please cast your votes at our website.

**Read more:**  
**nottawasagamechanical.com**

*(Please see ad on pg 60-61)*



## MACPHERSON AT WINDROSE ESTATES: SITUATED IN THE HEART OF OUTDOOR EXCITEMENT

With the fall leaves and crisp air upon us, golf enthusiasts are thinking about that magical time of year to play before the season winds down. It's also a time for ski swaps and gearing up for the long awaited downhill and cross country seasons. Whatever your passion, if you're an outdoor enthusiast, then there's no better place to be than here in Collingwood. And no better place to live than MacPherson at Windrose Estates.

Situated at the base of the Escarpment and Osler Bluff Ski Club, Windrose is just a two-iron drive from the Osler Brook Golf Club and a short walk, run or bike ride away from the Bruce Trail.

Attracting the attention of the media and buyers alike, the spectacular model home was recently featured in the *National Post* as home of the week, and yet another chalet in this growing community, The Majestic, is nearing completion and looking equally spectacular.

**To tour the model home and learn more about this exceptional place to call home, visit the MacPherson Builders' Sales Centre in Collingwood on Hwy. #26 at Cranberry Trail East. Hours are Wed-Sun noon to 5 p.m. Or call 705.293.2201 or go to windroseestates.com**

*(Please see ad on pg 9)*



## BATHWORKS

All Bathworks showrooms feature the most recognizable and sought after kitchen and bathroom brands available, as well as many products that won't be found anywhere else. Our Bathworks showroom located at 516 Bryne Dr. in Barrie, stocks a large selection of products from well known Brand names like Moen, Delta, Toto and American Standard. In addition we are proud to offer a wide selection of luxury products like DXV from American Standard, Brizo, Hansgrohe and Villeroy and Boch. Bathworks Barrie showroom also features high quality, made in Canada vanities from Vanico Maronyx. Customizable shower enclosures offered by Fluorco and Kalia deliver style and design with uncompromising function. Exciting product additions include a modular bath and shower system from Maax as well as their revolutionary new easy to install wall system, UTILE.

In addition to offering exceptional product, every Bathworks location has a knowledgeable team of consultants who can provide ideas and offer friendly, helpful advice. It's our great pleasure to help our customers create the bathroom and/or kitchen of their dreams.

At Bathworks, we're fond of saying, "if it's in your imagination, it's probably in our showroom".

Please visit any of the Bathworks showrooms to see for yourself. "Love Your Space"

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*(Please see ad on pg 51)*



## KEVIN LEONARD CELEBRATES 25 YEARS

Kevin Leonard, President & CEO of Huronia Alarm & Fire Security Inc. holds a photo of his former-self receiving his CANASA alarm technician certificate. Pictured are Don Bryant on the left, founder and former manager of Huronia Alarms, and Mike Waddell in the middle.

In 1990, when Kevin was hired as a technician, security systems required a massive amount of installation work. "I grew up working in our successful family business so when I was appointed President of Huronia in 2005, my goal was to create the same kind of family run business culture."

"It's a simple thing that makes a small business successful – going the extra mile – so you become known for outstanding customer service, top-of-the-line products and a really knowledgeable team who care about our customers."

Huronia has also added an Audio Video division that designs and builds award winning home entertainment centres. And recently, Huronia purchased a lock, key and safe company.

Huronia Alarm & Fire Security Inc. has been in business for over 40 years and is Central Ontario's leading provider of home and business security and monitoring services, CCTV, fire and safety, lock, key and safe products and services, home theatre, audio and video consultation and entertainment room design, as well as cabling and smart home wiring for today's home automation requirements.

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# THIS not so old HOUSE

STORY **SARAH ISBISTER** | PHOTOGRAPHY **SANDY MACKAY**



Wide width bead board in the foyer lends to the heritage feel of the home. **ABOVE:** Owner Del Weale and builder Chris Skelton enjoy hot apple cider on the porch. **OPPOSITE:** The façade of the Victorian-style brick home shows the level of attention given to the symmetrical windows and brickwork.

Del Weale and Leo Longo hunted up and down the streets of downtown Collingwood, waiting for one of the town's distinctive red brick century homes to go up on the real estate market.

When a year or more had passed without a promising lead, the couple purchased a lot on Beech Street and enlisted **Porter Skelton and Associates Ltd.** to build them their own. The resulting reproduction of a Collingwood red brick Victorian home is a magnificent addition to the street – one of which most passersby assume to be a renovation.

“During the build, people stopped to ask us who did the work to clean the bricks,” says **Chris Skelton**, who oversaw the project. “They thought we had sandblasted and re-mortared the brick of an older home.” He takes it as a compliment following the extensive research Weale did to get the details just right.

The exterior was carefully reproduced. The owners collaborated with **Ron Martin**, at the time from the Town of Collingwood's heritage committee, on the initial house design, incorporating the exterior heritage concepts. Working and permit drawings were provided by Porter Skelton. Framing was the responsibility of **Jorgenson Construction**. The red clay bricks, supplied by Simcoe Masonry Supplies, are a smaller size, authentic to the Ontario homes of the period. The coursing around the upper storey of the house and the eyebrows over the windows, in the contrasting buff yellow brick, are not just reminiscent of the other older homes in the area, but are a genuine reproduction of turn-of-the-century brickwork. Masonry work was skillfully undertaken by **Rossco Stone Design**.

A wide front porch and flagstone path welcome visitors into this attractive house. Landscaping at the front is reminiscent of the century style and was designed and implemented by **Heartwood Landscapes & Gardens**.

*Continued on page 100*

home & builder

The interior is just as detailed. Designed by Weale and completed by Porter Skelton, it beautifully suits the Victorian style, as well as the tastes and requirements of the owners.

Throughout the house, simplicity and elegance are complementary to the many modern conveniences within. The heated floors in the entrance are one-and-a-half-inch thick flagstone and the hall walls, painted by **J. Ferraro Co. Ltd.**, are 10-inch poplar bead board. Weale designed the interior trim and woodwork, which was expertly installed by **Cameron Carpentry** and Porter Skelton site supervisor **Ian Law**.

A number of years prior, Weale had been fortunate to obtain solid mahogany interior doors and had kept them with the thought to use them in her own home some day. There were enough to outfit the entire interior (aside from a guest bedroom) and they are wide enough to allow for future wheelchair access. Their rich colour contrasts with the lighter colours of the walls. During her 30-year career, Weale has enjoyed finding many unique antique and reproduction pieces that function effectively and aesthetically throughout the house. Such items include an



The bold red head and footboard of the bed in the master suite is softened with a pink, angora throw. Arrangement courtesy of Paperwhite Flowers.



**RIGHT:** The main floor master bedroom is painted a soft grey. The upholstered sofa coordinates with the drapery and window shades. Built-ins provide ample storage. **ABOVE:** An open shower stall and LED lighting in the bathtub create a serene space in the master en suite.



Del cleverly designed the main floor laundry room with in-floor heating. Cabinets with mesh bottoms allow the heat to rise and dry hanging garments

An insulated cabinet opens to access the interior of the mailbox hung outside the home.

Mesh drawers dry and organize footwear.

elegant front entrance armoire and a sideboard in the great room from the recently closed Sutton Place Hotel.

The main floor master bedroom has a sitting area with built-ins by Southgate Cabinets Inc. and a spacious, wheelchair-accessible en suite bathroom, with a shower base that is flush to the mosaic-tiled floor and open to the tub deck. The fixtures are from **Nepsco Electrical & Plumbing Supply**; installation by **Baymount Plumbing Inc.**

The owners were particular about details in the house. Del designed the electrical plan to allow convenient light switches, power outlets and timers such as on the porch light. She avoided some wall clutter by recessing the **Huron Alarms** keypads behind small hinged paintings.

The main-floor laundry room is a masterpiece with heated flagstone floors, extra storage and wine and beer fridges. Also included are drying cupboards with open floor grates that allow the in-floor heat to circulate for faster drying. The sun-filled room displays artwork and sports convenient access to the home's mailbox contents. *Continued on page 104*

A dark table and hutch create a dramatic dining area. Six-inch bead board on the ceiling creates a casual feel to the formal room.  
**OPPOSITE:** The creamy cabinets offer soft-closing doors and drawers, and the fridge integrates with the cabinetry. Arrangement by Paperwhite Flowers.





The alarm panel is recessed behind a small painting to reduce clutter on the walls.



The couple have collected art from many local artists to add colour and often an eclectic focal point in the rooms. In the powder room, framed postcards show historic scenes of downtown Collingwood, allowing for an interesting read to pass the time. A claw-footed magnifying glass is offered on the vanity for guests to read the handwriting.

The great room houses the living room, dining room and kitchen under a vaulted ceiling at the back of the house. The perfection of Porter Skelton's execution of the design is evident, as is the passion of the owners. Two dormer windows above allow light into the room. The space is warmed by a wood-burning Rumford fireplace with surrounding masonry done by Rossco Stone Design.

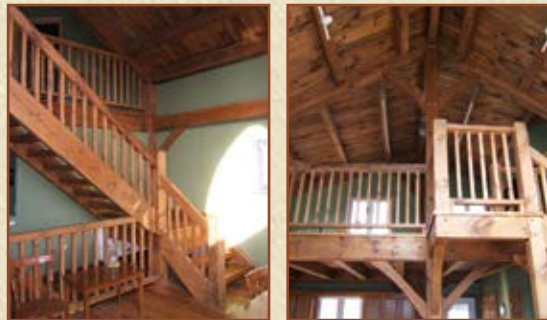
The kitchen is a chef's delight, featuring an island with granite countertop fabricated by **Di Pietra Design**. Weale designed the plentiful cabinetry and had it built by Shelburne Kitchens. The surrounding tile backsplash was installed by **Gervase Custom Ceramics**. Lighting is both modern and traditional and creatively installed by **Rigney Electric** to align with the owners' specifications.

*Continued on page 108*

**TOP LEFT:** A Rumford wood-burning fireplace and built-ins fill one wall of the great room. Arrangement by Paperwhite Flowers. **FAR LEFT:** Several historic postcards featuring Collingwood sights of the early 1900s hang in the main-floor powder room. **LEFT:** A magnifying glass is on hand in the powder room to read the inscriptions and messages on the postcards.



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A guest bedroom upstairs is decorated in greys and soft greens. The owner had lampshades made to coordinate with the window coverings.



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**FAR LEFT & LEFT:** The lovely metal frame on this guest bedroom contrasts with the patterned wallpaper and orange accents. The mahogany doors throughout the home are rich in colour.  
**BELOW:** Family photos reach across generations on both sides of the family.  
**BOTTOM:** The upstairs landing continues the bead board on its walls. Bookshelves were built into the space left by the dormers of the great room ceiling behind it.




On the second storey of the house, three guest bedrooms and two bathrooms provide ample space for guests and family. Each has a unique colour and design. This level is reached by stairs designed by Porter Skelton and fabricated and installed by the **Georgian Stair Company Inc.** The hardwood flooring throughout the house is oiled white oak from **Northland Custom Flooring Inc.** Centre hall built-ins keep linens organized for each of the bedrooms and bathrooms. The dormer wall was filled with a bookcase and storage below.

The wonderful design details that the owners envisioned in a Collingwood century home have come to life in this reproduction by the excellent workmanship of Porter Skelton – built to withstand the century ahead. **OH**

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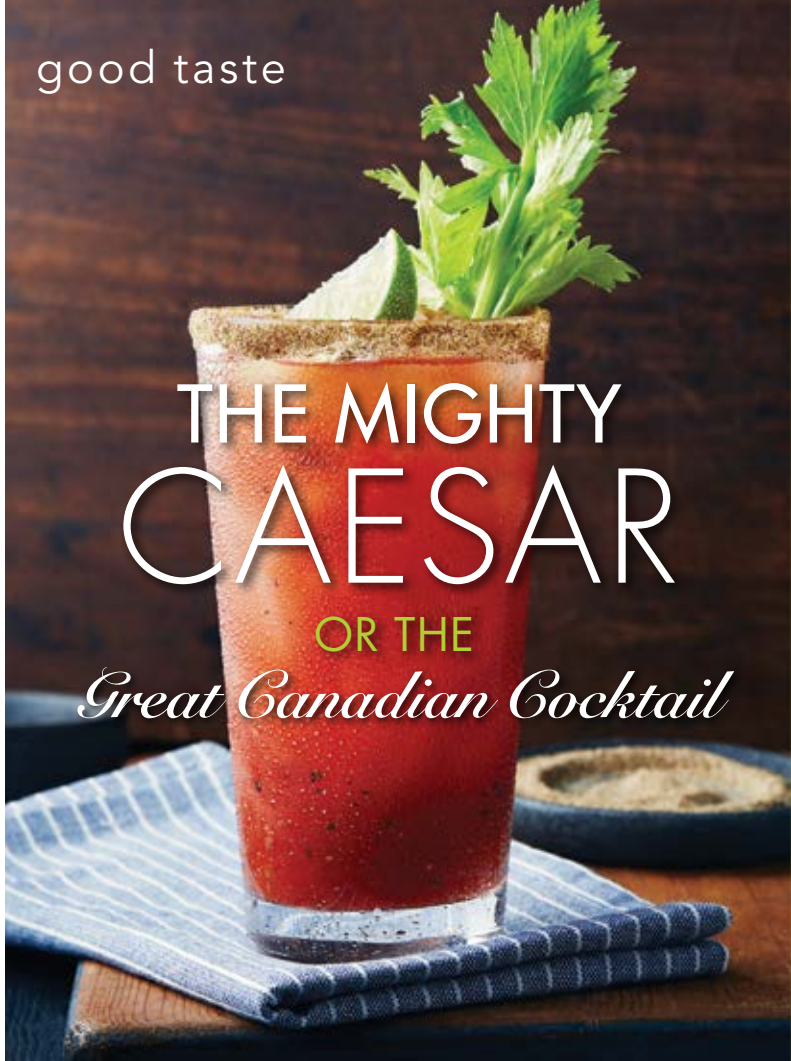
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If you've ever tried ordering a Caesar outside the country, you were likely met with a confused expression or offered a Bloody Mary in its place, and then disappointed to learn that the latter tastes nothing like its much-loved Canadian sister.

Many people wouldn't guess, with a name like Caesar, that the drink is a Canadian creation, but it was actually invented in Calgary in 1969 by restaurateur Walter Chell to celebrate the opening of a new Italian restaurant at the Calgary Inn (now Westin Calgary). It's now estimated that more than 350 million Caesars are consumed each year in Canada!

With such a following, it's surprising that the Caesar's origin hasn't been touted more in national ad campaigns, like the infamous poutine has been.

Clamato juice is a proprietary blend of tomato juice and clam broth made by Mott's – created very soon after the success of Chell's drink invention. Although several brands offer similar tomato and clam blends, the Caesar has really become synonymous with Mott's.

Clint Pattemore, Mott's Clamato Caesar Mixing Officer, says, "With over 350 million Caesars enjoyed in Canada each year, it is clear that the Caesar is something special. The flavour is unlike that of any other cocktail and the unlimited possibilities are what make the Caesar so unique and enjoyable."

There are countless variations to try. In fact, Mott's holds an annual "Best Caesar in Town" competition as part of the Prince Edward Island International Shellfish Festival with a \$1,000 grand prize.

STORY **SHELBY HILSON**

Common variations include the addition of horseradish, using barbecue sauce instead of Tabasco, replacing vodka with gin, whiskey or tequila, and getting creative with different garnishes, like orange wheels, spicy pickled green beans and olives. However, there are some incredibly unique and mouthwatering recipes worth trying that you won't likely find in restaurants.

A classic Caesar is served with ice in a tall glass rimmed with celery salt and contains:

#### CLASSIC CAESAR

- 1 oz vodka
- 2 dashes Tabasco sauce
- 3 dashes salt and pepper
- 4 dashes Worcestershire sauce
- 5 oz Clamato juice
- 1 celery stick and a lime wedge for garnish

Warm up this fall and treat your guests to something new with this tasty Gin & Ginger Caesar recipe, courtesy of Pattemore's book, *Caesars: The Essential Guide to Your Favourite Cocktail*, which includes more than 50 unique Caesar recipes categorized by season.

#### GIN & GINGER CAESAR

Rim: Fresh cracked salt and black pepper

- 1 oz ginger-infused gin\*
- 2 dashes hot sauce
- 2 dashes Worcestershire sauce
- 2 oz ginger beer
- 2 oz Mott's Clamato Cocktail

Garnish: Ginger prawn on a skewer (or candied ginger for ease)

- Rim a highball glass with citrus and rimmer. Fill the glass to the top with ice. Add the ingredients in the order listed. Stir well to mix the cocktail, and garnish.
- \*Ginger-infused gin:** Chop or grate two "thumbs" of peeled ginger and add to a 750ml bottle of gin for two to three days, tasting regularly until desired ginger flavour is achieved. Strain out ginger using a cheesecloth or coffee filter. **OH**

Share your own delicious Caesar recipe with us on Facebook or Twitter.

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## ARCHITECTURAL TECHNOLOGISTS

Pam Farrow Architectural Technologist, 75

## AUDIO VIDEO/HOME AUTOMATION

Red Brick Group, 69

## BBOs

Collingwood Home Hardware Building Centre, 39

## BUILDERS

A.M. Contracting, 109  
Absolute Craftsmen Ltd., 53  
Alair Homes, 77  
Black Tusk Development Group, 65  
Bob Armstrong Construction, 43  
Carter Allen, 117  
Caswell Contracting, 56  
Evolution Custom Building, 75  
L. Patten & Sons Ltd., 20  
Legendary Group, 93  
MacPherson Builders, 9, 13, 97  
Paragon Carpentry, 37  
Patrick B. Coulter & Associates Inc, 33  
Porter Skelton & Associates Ltd., 79  
Renovate Inc., 91  
Solcorp Developments, 27  
Stone Custom Homes, 31  
United Lumber Home Hardware Building Centres, 89, 96  
Upstream Construction, 85  
Valleyview Construction, 71  
Village Builders, 89

## BUILDING/LANDSCAPE SUPPLIES

Collingwood Home Hardware Building Centre, 39  
Knights' Home Building Centre, 117  
Moggie Valley Timber Inc., 105

## CABINETS & MILLWORK/CUSTOM FURNITURE/WOODWORKING

Riverside Custom Cabinets Ltd, 109  
Sticks 'N Stones, 105

## CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS

My Friend's House, 113

## CLEANING

AM Morris Janitorial Service, 113  
Molly Maid, 111  
The Caretakers Housekeeping Services, 115

## COMPUTER/IT SUPPORT

Total E Works, 73

## CONCRETE/MASONRY/STONEWORK

Cement Headz, 91  
Sticks 'N Stones, 105

## COUNTERTOPS/GRANITE & STONE

Di Pietra Design, 43  
Riverside Custom Cabinets Ltd, 109

## DESIGNERS & HOME STAGING

Abbott Design Ltd., 69  
Baywood Designs, 75, 96  
Black Tusk Development Group, 65  
FAD Farrow Arcaro Design, 71  
Jasper Life, 51

## ELECTRICAL

Bear Electric, 111  
Clarksburg Contractors, 109

## EXCAVATING/SITE PREP/SEPTIC

Ardiel Septic Services, 56

## FABRIC/BEDDING/UPHOLSTERY

Fresh Design, 79

## FINANCIAL/INSURANCE/MORTGAGE

Financial Strategies, 57

## FIREPLACES & STOVES

Chantico Fireplace Gallery, 17  
Clarksburg Contractors, 109

## FLOORING, STAIRS & TRIM

Barrie Trim & Mouldings, 7  
Dean's Carpet One Floor & Home, 56  
Floorcrafters Finishing Touch Centre, 77  
Knights' Home Building Centre, 117  
Meaford Carpets & Interiors, 105  
Moggie Valley Timber Inc., 105  
Northland Custom Flooring, 107  
PR Antique Flooring, 117  
Stairhaus, 55

## FOOD/DRINK/CATERING

The Lively Olive, 67

## FURNITURE & APPLIANCES

Home Furniture & Appliances, 57  
Macdonalds Brandsource Furniture & Appliances, 41

## GARDEN CENTRES/GREENHOUSES/FLORISTS

Paperwhite Flowers, 93  
Riverside Greenhouses, 105

## GEOTHERMAL

Clarksburg Contractors, 109  
Nottawasaga Mechanical, 60-61, 97  
Sandy Hamilton Plumbing & Heating Inc., 111

## GOLF & COUNTRY CLUBS

OslerBrook Golf & Country Club, 8

## HEALTH & BEAUTY/WELLNESS

The Body Bar by Kalola Botanicals, 119

## HEATING & COOLING

Clarksburg Contractors, 109  
Nottawasaga Mechanical, 60-61, 97  
Sandy Hamilton Plumbing & Heating Inc., 111

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HOME DÉCOR & FURNITURE

Baywood Designs, 75, 96  
C & G Solid Wood Furniture, 73  
Clerkson’s Home Store, 37  
Collingwood Home Hardware Building Centre, 39  
Corinthian Kitchen & Bath Studio, 93  
FAD Farrow Arcaro Design, 71  
Georgian Bay Living, Fine Furniture, 67  
Home Furniture & Appliances, 57  
Jasper Life, 51  
Kaon Furniture, 109  
Leon’s, 5  
Lëuk Bij Hermas Interiors, 77  
Macdonalds Brandsource Furniture & Appliances, 41  
Riverside Custom Cabinets Ltd, 109  
The Rusty Star, 93  
Timberwind Rustic Interiors, 65  
Tyme Home Custom Interiors & Outdoor Patio, 85  
Van Allan Design Centre, 20

HOME IMPROVEMENTS/RENOVATIONS

Knights’ Home Building Centre, 117  
Renovate Inc., 91  
Top Drawer Interiors, 107  
United Lumber Home Hardware Building Centres, 89, 96

KITCHEN & BATH

Bathworks, 51, 97  
Collingwood Home Hardware Building Centre, 39  
Corinthian Kitchen & Bath Studio, 93  
Kitchen Painters, 55  
Knights’ Home Building Centre, 117  
Meaford Carpets & Interiors, 105  
Riverside Custom Cabinets Ltd, 109  
Sterling Custom Kitchens, 53

LANDSCAPING/LAWN & GARDEN

Cement Headz, 91  
Gardens of Prestige, 24  
Hackstone Landscapes, 39  
Heartwood Landscapes & Gardens, 79  
Natural Stonescapes, 107

Retreat Landscape Design, 73  
Rocksolid Landscapes, 12  
The Landmark Group, 19  
Tyler Speirs Design, 15  
Willowstone, 75  
Zeng Landscaping, 26

LIGHTING

Van Allan Design Centre, 20

MOVING & STORAGE

John Thompson Movers, 111

NEW HOME COMMUNITIES

Blue Fairway – MacPherson Builders, 13  
Blue Horizon, 23  
Georgian Bay Estates Limited Partnership, 120  
Grandview Homes, 3  
MacPherson at Windrose Estates, 9, 97

PAINTING & DECORATING

Knights’ Home Building Centre, 117

PEST CONTROL

Environmental Pest Control, 111

PLANNING AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Kristine Loft / Loft Planning Inc., 79

PLUMBING

Bathworks, 51, 97  
Clarksburg Contractors, 109  
Sandy Hamilton Plumbing & Heating Inc., 111

POOLS, SPAS, HOT TUBS & SAUNAS

Thornbury Clear Choice, 41

PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS

The Last Radicals, 73

REAL ESTATE

Century 21 Millennium Inc. – Kevin Woolham, 2  
Chestnut Park, 21  
Chestnut Park – The Movie Gals, 6  
Chestnut Park – The Picot Team, 107  
Clairwood Real Estate – Emma Baker, 35  
Clairwood Real Estate – Sherry Rioux, 35  
Engel & Völkers, 33  
RE/MAX Four Seasons Realty Limited – Doug Gillis, 10, 16  
RE/MAX Four Seasons Realty Limited – Mark Veer, Mary Riopelle, 25  
Re/Max Grey Bruce Realty – Shelley McMillan, 91  
Royal LePage Locations North Realty, 4, 14, 96

REBATE CONSULTANT

HST Home Rebate Pro – Michael Solway, 111

RESTORATION SPECIALISTS

Service One, 111

SPECIAL ASSOCIATIONS

Southern Georgian Bay Association of Realtors, 113

SPECIAL EVENTS

Holiday House Tour, 31, 96

WATER TREATMENT

The Water Store, 111

WINDOW FASHIONS

Ashton’s Blind.Draperies.Shutters, 77  
Baywood Designs, 75, 96  
Dean’s Carpet One Floor & Home, 56  
Fresh Design, 79  
Meaford Carpets & Interiors, 105

WINDOWS & DOORS

Barrie Trim & Mouldings, 7  
Cedarport Window & Door Centre Inc., 11  
Knights’ Home Building Centre, 117

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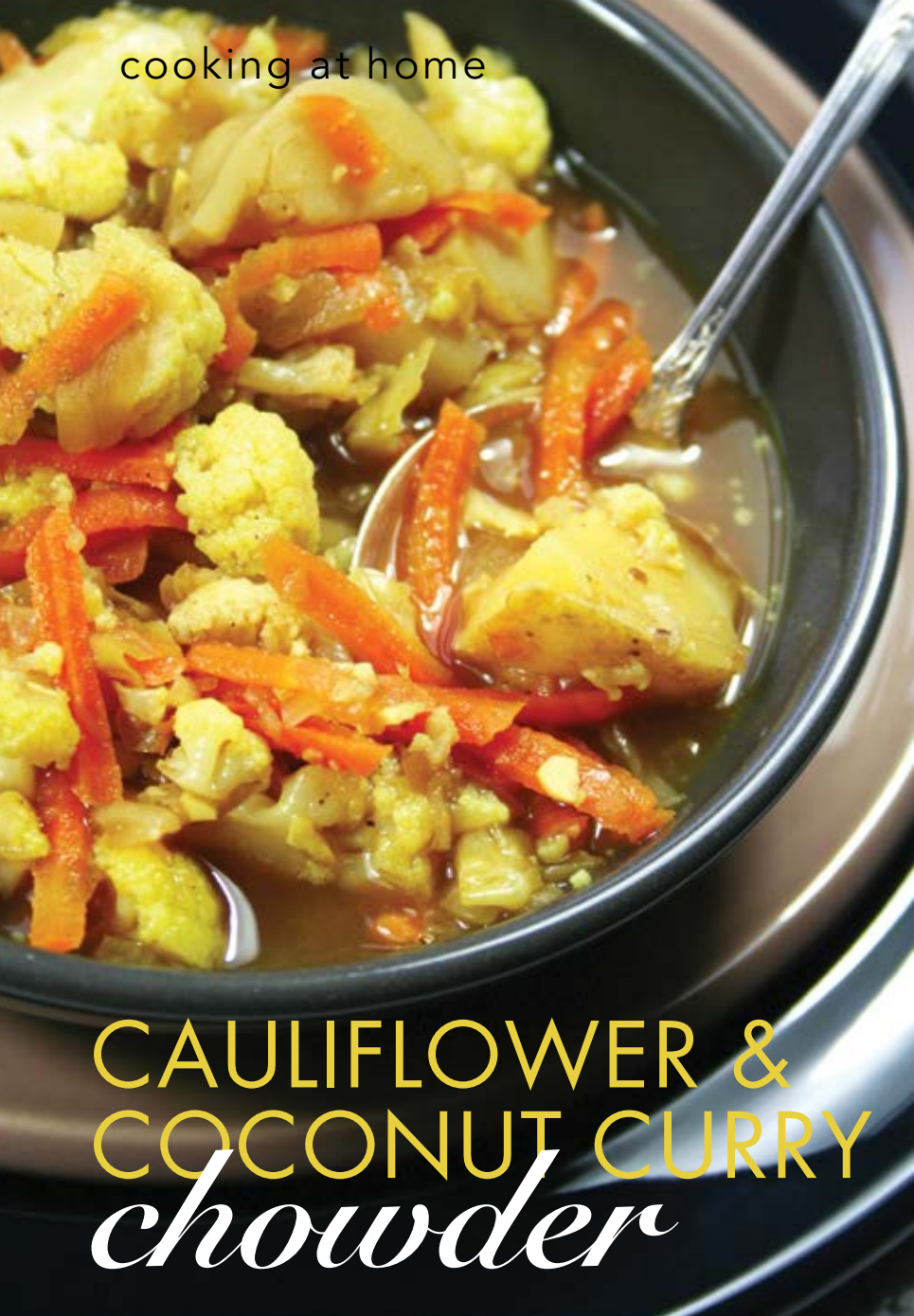
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cooking at home



# CAULIFLOWER & COCONUT CURRY chowder



## Recipe Note

Pure coconut water is the clear liquid found inside young, green coconuts. It's delicious on its own and has a wide range of uses in recipes. As a refreshing drink, it tastes nutty-sweet with a hint of toasted coconut. With 730 mg potassium, 32 mg calcium and 18 mg magnesium, it's a very good substitute for water in recipes. I use it in stir-fry dishes and to cook rice for savoury or dessert dishes.

Look for pure, plain coconut water (the ingredient on the label should read: coconut water) and avoid brands with added juice or sugar or flavourings, which make them virtually the same as soda or other sugary beverages.

STORY AND PHOTOS **PAT CROCKER**

A good curry paste or powder is essential for this dish – you can make your own from fresh, whole spices or find excellent quality spice blends at whole/health stores and gourmet food shops. We used coconut water as the liquid, but you can use coconut milk for a thicker soup. You can customize this soup according to the season: potatoes and carrots in winter, asparagus and peas in spring.

## Makes 4 servings

3 Tbsp (45 mL) extra virgin coconut or olive oil, divided

6 oz (175 g) white fish or cod fish fillet

1 onion, chopped

1 Tbsp (15 mL) curry powder or paste

2 cups (500 mL) coconut water (see Recipe Note)

1 cup (250 mL) vegetable broth or water

½ cauliflower, divided into flowerettes

1 potato, diced

2 carrots, shredded

- In a soup pot or large saucepan, heat 2 Tbsp (30 mL) oil over medium-high heat. Sauté fish for 3 to 5 minutes on each side (10 minutes total per inch of thickness) or until fish turns opaque and flakes easily with a fork. Using a slotted spoon or lifter, transfer to a plate and set aside.
- Add remaining oil to the pan and sauté onion for 4 minutes. Add curry powder and cook, stirring constantly, for 1 minute. Add coconut water and vegetable broth and bring to a boil. Add cauliflower, potato and carrots. Reduce heat to medium and simmer for 15 to 17 minutes or until vegetables are crisp-tender. Add fish to the chowder, break into large chunks with a spoon, and heat through. **OH**

*Pat Crocker is a Culinary Herbalist. She is the author of 18 cookbooks.*

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## UP-COUNTRY

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Handmade, Weathered, Classic,  
Comfortable, Simple



1. HINKLEY: Middlefield Chandelier 2. HOOKER FURNITURE: Sanctuary Spindle Back Arm Chair 3. KINCAID FURNITURE: Weatherford Canterbury Table - Heather 4. UTMOST: Agustin Mirror 5. ELK LIGHTING: Farmhouse One-Light Adjustable Floor Lamp in Antique Brass 6. HOOKER FURNITURE: Solana Bunching Bookcase with Mirrored Back Panel 7. POTTERY BARN: Comfort Roll Arm Slipcovered Sofa 8. WILLIAMS-SONOMA HOME: Cashmere Pillow Cover, Navy 9. WILLIAMS-SONOMA HOME: Linen Border Pillow Cover, Navy 10. REJUVENATION: Abaca Rope Basket 11. CURREY & COMPANY: Pinkney Table

## INDUSTRIAL

Industrial Objects, Raw,  
Rough, Metal, Wood, Time Worn,  
Salvaged, Recycled



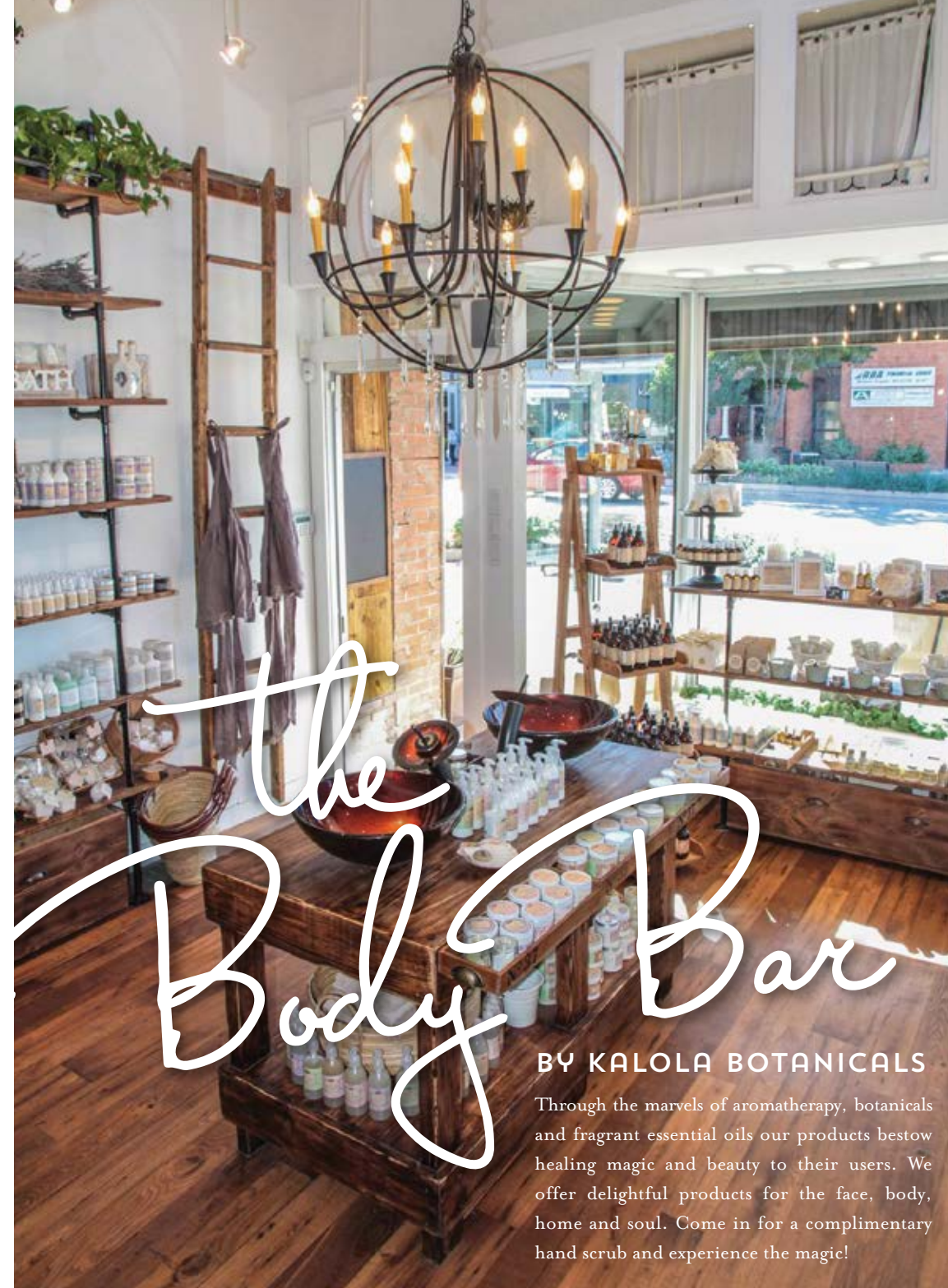
1. ZUO: Maldonite Ceiling Lamp 2. CDI FURNITURE: Chair with Raw Metal Finish 3. WEST BROS. FURNITURE: Fulton Rectangle Dining Table 4. DIMOND TABLE & FLOOR LAMPS: Restoration Fan Floor Lamp 5. REJUVENATION: Hexagonal Mirror 6. MAGNUSSEN HOME: Karlin Dining Cart 7. REJUVENATION: Belmont Tuxedo Sofa 8. ELTE: You Are My Sunshine Pillow 9. ELTE: Navy Union Jack Pillow 10. PLAIDFOX: Hitchcock Basket 11. CDI FURNITURE: Industrial Crank Table

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The Body Bar

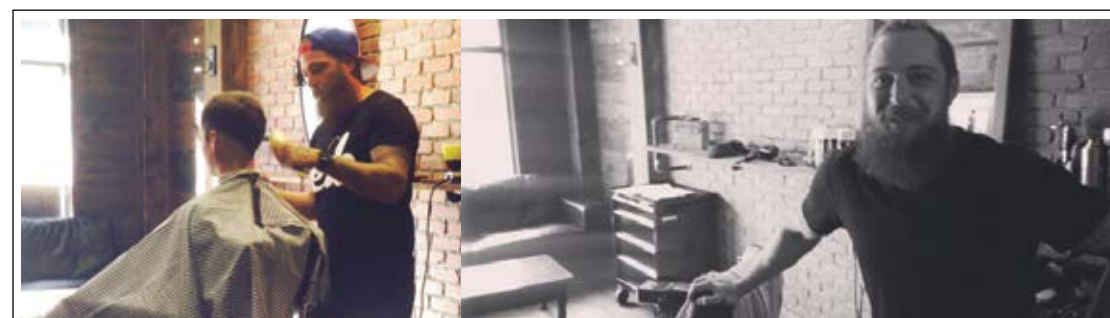
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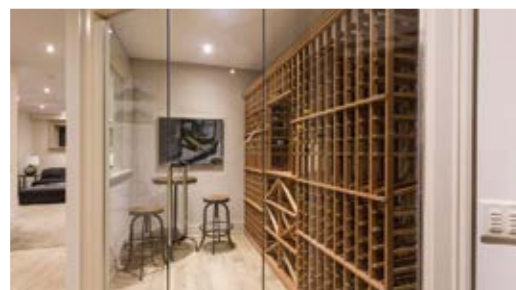
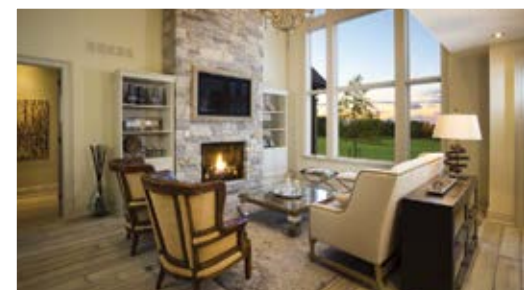
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