

MID SUMMER 2010

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ourhomes

S O U T H E R N G E O R G I A N B A Y

LIVING IN
LORA BAY

2 fresh looks

pg 82 & 106

*Summer
Style*



LUXE COTTAGE
WHEN ONLY THE
best WILL DO

pg 46

plus

pg 126 CEDAR PLANK SALMON

pg 122 DECORATING BY NUMBERS

pg 36 DISORGANIZED? THERE'S HELP FOR YOU

Featured Property



MONTERRA ESTATES

Beautiful custom home on the 7th fairway!
Outstanding open concept living/dining/kitchen on main flr with maple hardwood flrs and soaring vaulted ceiling. Kitchen includes a large island with sink, bar and custom cabinetry. Wonderful gas f/place with stone hearth. Sunroom, 4 bdrms and 2 ½ baths, incl 5 piece ensuite, 2600 sq ft

20102801 Contact Chris for more details \$699,000

24 Hr OPEN HOUSE for each of these properties!
Walk through these homes online by visiting www.chriskeleher.ca
and clicking on the link to view the **unique** video walkthroughs!

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ADMIRALS GATE

Luxury waterfront condo, garage, 1922sq ft
3 bdrms, 3 ensuites, 2 waterfront decks.

Contact Chris for more details
20100855 \$539,000



HIDDEN LAKE

Near The Peaks Ski Club, 1400 sq ft,
3 bdrms, large deck, garage, fully renoed.

Contact Chris for more details
20103534 \$409,000



VILLAGE OF FEVERSHAM

Hand crafted dove tail log home. 3 bdrms,
3 baths, 2400sq ft, on Beaver Creek.

Contact Chris for more details
20095200 \$529,000



RUSTIC LUXURY

Hand crafted Scandinavian Full Scribe log
home, 5 bdrms, 4 bath, 4500sq ft of luxury

Contact Chris for more details
20102988 \$895,000



GREY HIGHLANDS

Picturesque 5.2 acres property, pond,
1700sq ft outbuilding, 2800 sq ft home.

Contact Chris for more details
20103427 \$428,000



HISTORIC SNOWBRIDGE

Custom bilt home, 24 ft cathedral ceiling,
5 bdrms, 4 baths, backs onto 16th fairway.

Contact Chris for more details
20100443 \$834,900

Chris Keleher
Sales Representative
Direct 705-888-4624
chriskeleher@me.com
www.chriskeleher.ca

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Chateau Ridge - 2 Units

Ground floor or second available. Two bedroom units with extensive exterior upgrades completed. Both these units have great potential for family fun and investment opportunities.



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Mountain Springs Unit

Enjoy all four seasons at an affordable price! Investment potential property. Studio loft, short walk to chair lift.

Call Kevin 705.888.1219



Only \$174,900

5 Harbour Street

Fabulous Location. Nice walk into town from this bright 3 bdrm, 3 bathrm condo. Well managed condo group, only 40 units. Easy to rent.

Call Kevin 705.888.1219



Only \$219,000

Sideroad 25 Heathcote

This 3 bedroom home sits on a large 1.69 acre lot with a stunning view over the Beaver Valley.

Call Kevin 705.888.1219



Only \$429,000

Wasaga Sands Drive

This custom home features a large lot with landscaped gardens that backs onto the 5th fairway of Wasaga Sands golf course.

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Additional listings available! Visit www.kevinwoolham.com

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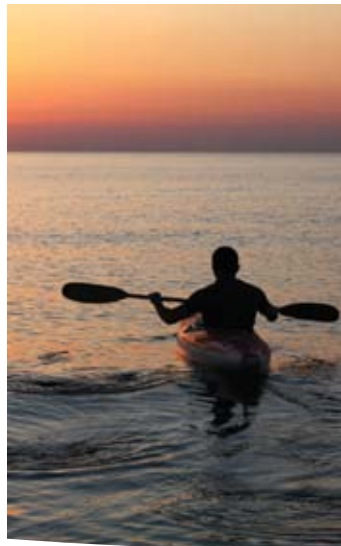
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ELEGANT COUNTRY ESTATE

\$1,395,000 Gorgeous home, over 4500 sq ft, abundant with country elegance. Proudly sits on 44 acres. Incredible views, in-ground pool, trails, woods, pond, stream and barn. Diana Lea Berdini/John M. Kacmar** 705.444.4968



DARE TO COMPARE THE BEACH

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



A WATERFRONT GEM

\$1,295,000 Delightful 3 bdrm waterfront home. Mediterranean & log inspired architecture. Fantastic lot, 117 ft., water frontage. Channel for docking/swimming. Diana Lea Berdini/John M. Kacmar** 705.444.4968



A LOG HOME CLASSIC

\$1,200,000 Custom Log Home on sensational 55-acre property overlooking Beaver Valley & Georgian Bay, 4 bed/2 bath, in an enclave of exceptional properties, 2-bed loft suite. Anthea White** 705.446.8520



SIMPLY MAGICAL

\$1,200,000 Wonderful character home. Square log design, 7 bdrms & 5 baths inc. master w/ensuite. Slate & wood floors, huge principal rooms. 3/4 acre estate lot 5 mins to the Peaks & Georgian Bay Club. Bill Muns** 705.443.1121 <http://myhomes.360photo.ca/5879>



QUALITY AND LUXURY

\$1,195,000 Magnificent new custom home at Lora Bay, nestled in privacy. Premium ridge location overlooking the Bay. 4 bedrooms/4 baths, main floor master. Builder will finish basement to your needs. Shelly Paul** 705.888.0225



WWW.THEMOVIEGALS.COM

\$999,999 Gracious riverfront bungalow offering 5 bdrm/3 baths & 5900 sq ft. Exquisite features, spacious wrap around deck w/four season sunroom enveloped by gardens. Cascading waterfall, ponds & several patios. Anita Lauer*/Barb Thompson* 705.446.6446



EQUESTRIAN CENTRE

\$999,000 135 ac. located near Thornbury Horse Park. 14-stall barn, hay barn, round pen, 7 watered paddocks, Mega Dome riding arena, modern bungalow. Great view of The Bay. Ideal for small scale boarding, lessons or personal hobby farm. Bill Muns** 705.443.1121



AN IDYLIC SETTING

\$995,000 Charming Century Home w/extensive custom renovations on sensational 46 acres w/exceptional bay & Escarpment views, 4 beds/4 baths, 1-acre, 22 ft deep pond, loft guest suite. Anthea White** 705.446.8520



PRETTY RIVER GEM

\$949,000 Bask in the pool and reflection of hills & views. 5 bedrooms, 3.5 baths. NEC approval for barn & indoor arena construction. Nearby parkland grandfathered for equestrian trails. Shelly Paul** 705.888.0225/Sue Mallett** 705.444.7181



360 DEGREE VISTAS

\$895,000 Perched above Thornbury on a quiet no exit road, w/panoramic views of Beaver Valley and Georgian Bay, 2+ acres, 4 beds + den/3 baths, terraced gardens, tennis court, exercise room & hot tub, 2-car garage. Anthea White** 705.446.8520



SUMMIT VIEW ESTATES

\$849,000 Stunning 4 bdrm home on private lot. Bright open concept living, dining, kitchen area. Main floor master w/spa ensuite featuring steam shower, private W/C & natural stone. Paige Young* 705.241.2433 <http://myhomes.thevirtualtourcompany.ca/5699>



SPECTACULAR ACREAGE

\$799,000 A very special acreage with views of the Bay, rolling land, the Pretty River on the South side of property. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths renovated bungalow. Close to Osler Brook Golf and Osler Bluff ski club. Judy Crompton** 705.444.9312



WATERFRONT PENTHOUSE

\$795,000 Immaculate 2800 sq ft w/views over the Bay in Central C'wood. 4 bdrm, 3.5 bath, southern exposure, spacious private deck, new kitchen & flooring, 10 ft. ceilings. Security building with concierge, pool, heated parking. Paige Young* 705.241.2433



COLLINGWOOD WATERFRONT

\$795,000 Have it all in this 4 bdrm, 2-1/2 bath, open concept home with magnificent water views in a resort lifestyle w/boat slips, tennis & year round swimming. Sue Mallett** Direct 705.444.7181 <http://myhomes.360photo.ca/5224/>



DEVIL'S GLEN - BEAVER VALLEY

\$775,000 Attention Skiers! 3200 sq ft built with 150 yr old reclaimed BC timber near Maxwell. 5 bdrms, 3.5 baths, outdoor pool, hot tub, geothermal heating/cooling, trails. Barb Picot* 705.444.3452/ Paige Young* 705.241.2433



EXCEPTIONAL SANDY BEACH

\$749,000 Magnificent views of Georgian Bay. 110 ft wide private landscaped property offers lots of open space, natural rock & sea wall. Well-appointed cottage/home suitable for year-round use has lgv area upstairs, fam rm & dble garage down. Bill Muns** 705.443.1121



LIVE AND PLAY AT LORA BAY

\$699,000 A must see at this price! Exceptional interior finishes including a gourmet kitchen. Appliances fit for a chef! 3 bdrm plus den, full basement, dbl car garage. Diana Lea Berdini/John M. Kacmar** 705.444.4968



A BIRD'S EYE VIEW

\$695,000 Luxurious 3 bdrm, 3 bath suite at Lighthouse Point. Incredible views, elevator, large deck, oversize garage, 30 ft boat slip, Recreational facilities, Marina. Diana Lea Berdini/John M. Kacmar** 705.444.4968



STATELY HOME W/URBAN CHIC INTERIOR

\$688,000 The perfect executive family home, reno'd and redesigned. All new everything, close to schools and downtown Collingwood. Fenced yard, Tandem garage. Diana Lea Berdini/John M. Kacmar** 705.444.4968



IN THE HEART OF THORNBURY

\$685,000 Stately, Century Home meticulously fully restored & transformed into a charming & elegant 3 bed residence. An exceptionally private property on a triple lot. Anthea White** 705.446.8520



COLLINGWOOD'S SHIPYARDS

\$679,000 Walk to shops & restaurants from your 2229 sq ft attractively appointed waterfront condo w/panoramic water views, ground flr master suite & second level guest suite. Sue Mallett** 705.444.7181 <http://myhomes.360photo.ca/5224/>



THE PERFECT VACATION CHALET

\$639,000 You won't get any closer! Classic 3 bdrm, ski chalet with sunken lvrn, located at the foot of Graduate. Gorgeous 80 ft x 188 ft lot surrounded by cedars. Diana Lea Berdini/John M. Kacmar** 705.444.4968



GEORGIAN BAY SUNSET DINNERS

\$585,000 One floor living directly on the water in this upgraded luxury condo with 9' ceilings and Swedish hardwood floors. Elevator, indoor, outdoor pools, tennis & marina at your door. Sue Mallett** 705.444.7181 <http://myhomes.360photo.ca/4830>

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25 ACRES NEAR MEAFORD

\$519,000 Bi-level with large principal rooms, 2 fireplaces, pastoral views and artistic rock formations. Spring fed pond invites many species and offers bird watcher paradise. Sue Mallett** 705.444.7181 <http://myhomes.360photo.ca/5665/>



MAPLE STREET - COLLINGWOOD

\$489,000 Beautiful home, 9 ft ceilings, separate dining room, hardwood floors, lge kitchen opens to family room, 2 gas fireplaces, double car garage. Spacious master with spa-like bath plus 2 more good size bedrooms. Laurie Westlake* 705.446.7747



PARK LIKE SETTING

\$469,000 Lovely 4 bdrm home on 10.67 acres just waiting for a new family to come & enjoy! Set back from road w/mature trees, woods, perennial gardens & large deck. Features lrg principal rms. Close to Nottawa & Collingwood. Laurie Westlake* www.lauriewestlake.com



BED AND BREAKFAST POTENTIAL

\$450,000 Landscaped to perfection with wonderful perennial gardens. Castle Glen home featuring 4 bdrms, 2.5 baths. Granite counters in kitchen, B&B potential, Main floor family room with gas fireplace. Judy Crompton** 705.444.9312



CENTURY HOME - CLARKSBURG

\$439,000 Beautiful red brick home in the heart of the Blue Mountains. View of Georgian Peaks. 4 bdrms, large principal rooms feat. many original details. Detached garage/barn adding additional charm to the property. Keith Hull** www.keithhull.com



MAGNIFICENT CENTURY HOME

\$419,000 Built in the late 1800's offering 20 acres of mature trees and pond. 3 bdrms, maid's quarters, hardwood flooring, 10' ceilings. Great views of the Bay. One of a kind estate sale. Brendan Thomson*/Barb Pugh* 705.606.1270



ON MONTERRA'S 18TH FAIRWAY

\$399,900 Beautifully decorated 2 storey townhome offering an open concept kit, liv, dining area with cathedral ceilings. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Fully equipped with all the comforts of home. Minutes from Village at Blue. Laurie Westlake* 705.446.7747



GEORGIAN MEADOWS

\$394,900 PRICED UNDER ASSESSED VALUE! 4+2 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, granite kitchen counters w/stainless appliances, gas fireplace, finished rec room, attached double garage. MUCH MORE! Ron Picot* 705.446.8580



C2 COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL

\$375,000 Multi-use landmark Meaford property with creek, gardens and storefront business opportunity. Steps to public beach, harbor and shops. 2 dwellings for extra income. Ideal for Bed & Breakfast possibilities. Sue Mallett** 705.444.7181



WATER VIEW CONDO

\$348,000 Turn-key fully furnished with superior chattels and quality finishes throughout. This 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo includes two boat slips, underground parking and storage lockers and large balcony w/water view. Ilse Ayers** ilseayers@chestnutpark.com



WEST BAY - COLLINGWOOD

\$345,900 Immaculate 3 bedroom home inc. vaulted ceilings, modern kitchen with breakfast island, large family room with fireplace and walkout to deck. 3 full bathrooms, 2 are ensuites and lovely gardens. Ilse Ayers** <http://myhomes.thevirtualtourcompany.ca/5233>



WATERFRONT CONDO

\$339,000 West Bay - Collingwood. Open concept 1700 sq ft, 3 bed/2bath, main floor master w/walkout to water views. Pool overlooks the Bay. Walk to Cranberry Harbour and West Collingwood shops. Sue Mallett** 705. 444. 7181



CAMERON STREET- COLLINGWOOD

\$329,000 1893 stone treasure just waiting for someone to enjoy its warmth & charm. Set on a large (.56 acres) w/an in-ground pool. Perfect for those who love to entertain. Open concept kitchen, living, dining area w/hardwood floors & lg. family room. Laurie Westlake* 705.446.7747



HUGE SPACE - AFFORDABLE PRICE

\$319,900 Wow! 1738 sq ft, all on the ground level. 4 bdrm, 3 bath, two large terraces. Generous rooms, great storage. Don't wait, only four floor plans like this in all of Lighthouse Point. Diana Lea Berdini/John M. Kacmar** 705.444.4968



QUEBEC STYLE LOG HOME

\$314,000 Well treed 1.15 acre lot. Charming 3 bdrm home with a potential 4th bdrm features a large kitchen w/pine cabinetry, bright & spacious living room, private deck & garden. Minutes to Georgian Peaks & Thornbury. Paige Young* 705.241.2433



PINE STREET - COLLINGWOOD

\$309,000 This renovated turnof the century semi has large principal rooms. Wood floors & restored to original 10 foot ceilings w/decorative medallions & cornice mouldings. 3 bdrms & spa like bath w/large shower & heated floors. Laurie Westlake* 705.446.7747



DIRECT WATER VIEWS

\$248,000 3 bdrm, 3 bath condo w/2 fireplaces & only a 2 minute drive from Collingwood shopping. This unit has forced air heat, central air & central vac. unlike other units in the complex & has been renovated throughout. Sue Mallett** <http://myhomes.360photo.ca/5088/>



CHARMING CENTURY HOME

\$220,000 Meticulously maintained, 1.5 storey, 3 bedrooms, vaulted ceilings, gas fireplace, open concept, kitchen/dining room, mn flr laundry. Peaceful setting, wrap-around porch, perennial and rock gardens. Shelly Paul** 705.888.0225



GREAT VALUE

\$219,900 Cozy and compact 1121 sq ft., 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom ground floor condo at Lighthouse Point. Natural gas furnace & fireplace, air conditioning, pride of ownership! Diana Lea Berdini/John M. Kacmar** 705.444.4968



CONDO AT BLUE MOUNTAIN

\$199,900 Walk to the chairlift & Intrawest Village at Blue from this lovely multi-level 2 bedroom 2 bath condo. Soaring 16 ft ceilings. Use for yourself or rent out for an income. Buyer to pay the balance of special assessment. Shelly Paul** 705.888.0225



3 BDRM CONDO TOWNHOME

\$159,000 Two private stories in Cranberry Village with beautifully renovated gourmet kitchen, ceramic & cork floors & open concept living. Huge private southern facing back deck and woodburning fireplace. Shelly Paul** 705.888.0225



FOR THE BUDGET MINDED!

\$142,900 One bdrm condo packs lots of living space for the money! Rec Centre w/gym, social rooms, pool. Outdoor pools, tennis, waterfront walkways, playground. Diana Lea Berdini/John M. Kacmar** 705.444.496



LIVE AND WORK DOWNTOWN

\$1300/month lease. Gorgeous renovated office/living space across from Bay in convenient Collingwood location. Cathedral ceilings, huge windows, gleaming wood floors. Parking included, signage permission & front & back staircases. Shelly Paul** 705.888.0225

\$150k = 70 ft x 200ft
\$207k+ 78 ft x 172 ft
\$280k = 80 ft x 162 feet
3 BUILDING LOTS @ LORA BAY

3 fabulous building lots offered for sale at Lora Bay. From \$150k-\$280k. Upscale neighbourhood, Raven Golf Course & Clubhouse, 2 sandy beaches on Georgian Bay to choose from. Call today for more information and have your home built to your custom desires. Choose your own builder or use one of ours. Shelly Paul** www.shellypaul.com 705.888.0225



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CUSTOM BUILT – IN EVERGREEN Designed with distinction. 5 bdms, 3-1/2 baths, beautiful upgrades, finished lower level/separate entrance. Private, estate lot, approx. 1 acre. Blue Mtn views. **\$839,000** Visit: www.1JuniperCrt.com Angiline Dubien 705-888-0021



UNIQUE RAVINE PROPERTY Design and build dream home or chalet. Private ravine view and wooded setting; approx. 1 acre, close to Intrawest Village/BlueMtn. **\$140,000** Visit: www.27BirchViewTrail.com Rob Dubien 705-888-0092



MAGNIFICENT 50 ACRE ESTATE Custom built 4,900 sq ft home; stunning escarpment views; over 950 ft of frontage on the Beaver River. Minutes to Thornbury, ski clubs. **\$949,000** Michael Kearns 705-888-2888



WATER VIEW PROPERTY Custom built in 2009 with quality in mind. 5 bdrm, 3 bath; features breathtaking views of Georgian Bay/mountain; conveniently located minutes to Thornbury. **\$649,900** Michael Kearns 705-888-2888



LAKE EUGENIA WATERFRONT 4 season custom home, 4 bdrm, 3-1/2 bath, 2 docks, near causeway. Nicely treed, 24x28 sep garage, home shows extremely well. **\$775,000** Visit: www.161macdonaldsroad.com Jim Chapman 519-599-3300



98 FT. GEORGIAN BAY WATERFRONT Granite countertop, California shutters, crown moulding, 2 decks, sweeping 180° views from family rm, heated garage, walk to downtown. **\$659,000** Visit: www.459grandviewdrive.com Jim Chapman 519-599-3300



MEAFORD Beautifully renovated classic 5 bdrm brick century home in downtown Meaford. Duplex w/excellent positive cash flow. B&B potential. Investors take note! **\$249,999** Melissa Dolezel 705-606-7881



NIPISSING RIDGE Luxury chalet in outstanding location. Stunning Great Room, gourmet kitchen, cozy family rm, 3 bed/2.5 baths, 3 walkouts/decks, mountain/water views. Quiet & secluded. Steps to skiing & Northwinds Beach. **\$439,900** Melissa Dolezel 705-606-7881



SCENIC VIEWS from every window, 2.2 acre country living mins to Collingwood, Blue Mtn, golf/trails. 4 beds, family rm with gas fireplace, solarium, double garage. **\$449,900** www.jochivers.ca Call Josephine Chivers 705-441-4893



CLARKSBURG STATELY HOME Great family room addition in this 3 bed, 1-1/2 bath home. Original woodwork, spacious kitchen/dining and living rooms. Attic ready to finish! **\$399,000** Marilyn Douglas/Susan Boadway 519-599-3300



LOVELY VICTORIAN, 3 ACRES Near Loree – 4 bed, 2-1/2 bath, with character, wood accents, lrg dining rm, 2 living areas. Ideal wknd getaway; private lot. **\$349,000** Marilyn Douglas/Susan Boadway 519-599-3300



LORA BAY WATER VIEW GEM! Outstanding 5 bdrm, 5-1/2 bath, custom home on ridge lot. Finished lwr lvl w/spa. Gourmet kit w/walk-in pantry. Open concept liv. **\$1,280,000** Marilyn Douglas/Susan Boadway 519-599-3300



BLUE MOUNTAIN SKI-IN SKI-OUT Neat as a pin! Stunning 1,700 sq ft beautifully renovated private end unit. Highest location on hill. Excellent income potential. Fully furnished. **\$319,000** Melissa Dolezel 705-606-7881



SERENITY ON THE RIVER 2 + 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, upgraded kitchen, bath, floors, etc. Fenced yard, beautiful gardens & mature trees. **\$334,000** MLS#20102615 www.104knoxroadeast.com Lynne Gagne 705-444-3433



SPECTACULAR THORNBURY CONDO BACKING ON ORCHARD 3 bedroom open concept. Family room, gas fireplace. Recreational facilities, tennis, swimming pools. Energy efficient. **\$198,500** MLS#20100492 Emily Black 705-441-2473



COUNTRY LIVING New 1,676 sq ft, 7.5 acres, 1/2 acre pond. 3+2 bedrooms, main floor master w/ spa bath/walkout. Custom kitchen, great rm w/ vaulted ceiling/view to pond. **\$419,000** www.59648110concession.com Lisa Scott 705-606-2557



RIDGCREST ESTATES – HOUSE ON THE HILL Economical, 3,600 sq ft, space for extended family, views to Bay. Full unfinished basement. Country living close to Thornbury! **\$369,000** Marilyn Douglas/Susan Boadway 519-599-3300



SPECTACULAR GEORGIAN BAY VIEWS Unsurpassed sunsets, expansive decking, high end quality finishes. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2400 sq ft. Like a new home! **\$399,000** Marilyn Douglas/Susan Boadway 519-599-3300



HISTORIC SNOWBRIDGE presents this beautifully appointed 4 bedroom, 4 bath home-wood plank floors, granite counters, steam shower, and fully finished basement. Steps to Village at Blue. **\$637,900** Doug Beaumont 705-606-1046



STUNNING BEACH FRONT HOME Picture hot sunny days lounging by your pool, walks along the beach, the sound of waves lapping onto the shore. All this+! **\$749,900** Doug Beaumont 705-606-1046



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



GREAT VALUE! Resort condo: 2 bdms/2 baths. Attractive plan features finished lower level with family room/patio walk-out. Main floor has Brazilian hardwood floors, fireplace and deck. **\$169,500** Martha P. Whitton 705-443-9022



LIGHTHOUSE CONDO – NO STAIRS! Spacious end unit; partial Bay views. Large windows, California shutters, gas heat & f/p, 2 beds/2 baths. Furnished. Immediate occupancy. **\$254,900** Martha P. Whitton 705-443-9022



VIEW OF GEORGIAN BAY Beautifully upgraded 4 bdrm, 3 bath home. Loaded – hardwood, granite & tall cabinets, main flr master. **\$459,900** Bill Thompson & Connie Thompson 705-888-0808



CUSTOM HOME on quiet court. 3+2 bdms, 4-1/2 baths, huge family room, hardwood flrs, wood fireplace, huge deck, part ownership – tennis court next door. **\$739,000** www.108camperdowncourt.com Betty Hancey 705-444-4139



GARDENERS PARADISE 1+ acre lot w/magnificent Beaver Valley views, extensive perennial gardens/fish pond and mature trees. Updated 3+1 bdrm bungalow, recroom w/flagstone fireplace, hardwood floors and more. **\$364,900** www.bettyhancey.ca Betty Hancey 705-444-4139



OSLER BLUFF SKI CLUB Charming log cabin with wrap around porch, open concept living area, two fireplaces, outside entrance to finished lower level with ski room. **\$590,000** Pat MacLeod 705-444-7471



CLASSIC CAPE COD with 5 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 3 fireplaces, main floor family room and office, 2nd floor laundry, 4 car garage, pool, sauna and hot tub. **\$849,900** Pat MacLeod 705-444-7471



LARGE EXECUTIVE HOME IN PRESTIGIOUS AREA! 4 bedroom/4bath finished rec rm, great rm with fireplace, over \$45,000 in upgrades! **\$399,900** Call Nancy Agnew 705-446-7975 or Stan Kukla 446-7976



BEST VIEWS IN INTRAWEST VILLAGE Luxurious 1 bdrm + den at the Westin overlooking Mill Pond. 4-star amenities w/year round pool, workout room/hot tub. **\$295,000** MLS#20101862 Call Wayne Cornfield 705-444-7669



SECLUDED THORNBURY HOME Lovely renovated farm house on well treed lot. Main floor family room w/fireplace, 4 bedrooms, master w/ensuite, garage & private deck. Offered at **\$299,900** Call Wayne Cornfield 705-444-7669



BAY STREET THORNBURY Charming 3 bdrm bungalow/cottage, private 63 x 165 ft lot; access to Bay. Walk to downtown, grocery shopping & future health centre. **\$385,000** MLS#20103425 Lorraine Bull 705-446-5034

**Broker *Sales Representative



Marilyn Douglas*
705-444-9497



Susan Boadway*
519-599-3300



Michael Kearns*
705-888-2888



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UPPER MAPLE



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\$219,000 MLS@20103477




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of Alpine & Craigeleith Ski Hills. 2300+ sq ft 3 bedroom home/chalet in Alpine Flatlands. Many upgrades, main floor master, corner stone fireplace & large windows in living/ dining room. Close to skiing, golfing, hiking/ biking, Georgian Bay, Intrawest & Craigeleith.

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Almost 1800 sq ft of finished living space. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, hardwood floors in living room, large kitchen & eating area leading to deck. Family room, 3rd bedroom, 2nd bathroom & laundry/workshop on lower level. Beautifully decorated and maintained home inside and out.

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Beautiful chalet/home close to ski hills, Northwinds Beach, golfing, biking/hiking trails and Village at Blue. Raised bungalow with bright, open kitchen, separate dining room, master bedroom with walk out & 5 piece ensuite. Fully finished lower level with family room, gym, den and 3 piece bath.

\$774,000 MLS@20101053



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I LOVE SUMMER PARTIES. Small, intimate, casual outdoor dinners are among my favourites. There is nothing better than enjoying good food and wine with company on a cool summer evening on the patio or deck.

I also love a big boisterous bash, with great tunes, a smoking barbecue and lots of kids splashing around in the pool. Every year, we host a Canada Day celebration and invite our friends and neighbours. Everyone brings a cooler, plops a bag of chips or a tray of Rice Krispie squares on my long barnboard table and we celebrate the holiday together in our big backyard. My brother-in-law Lindsay brings a huge box of fireworks. After the spectacular show, the kids gather 'round the fire pit, make s'mores and roast spider-dogs. It's a wonderful way to spend the holiday.

Part of the fun of featuring beautiful homes during the summer season is stealing a peak at how people entertain. The backyard setup is always a huge giveaway.

This issue we feature more talented landscapers and we take you to Lora Bay and two homes in the popular bayside community.

Bill and Odeen Probert moved to their Bob Armstrong Construction-built home a short time ago, mostly because of the Raven Golf Club. To put it mildly, the Proberts love playing golf. But when they're not on the links, they look forward to hosting friends and family, especially their first grandbaby (page 106).

Our other Lora Bay home is for sale (page 82). Built by Cobalt Custom Homes, this beautifully landscaped backyard has a huge deck and endless possibilities.

We also take you to a cottage on the Georgian Bay Club owned by Julie Anne Smedley and Gary Scholl. Built by Patrick Coulter and landscaped by The Landmark Group, this home has it all, inside and out, including an outdoor pizza oven (page 46).

Here at OUR HOMES, we're at it again...We want to feature another round of YOUR home renovations. Send me an email (editor@ourhomesmagazine.com) and tell me about your latest home project. It can be a do-it-yourself project, a carefully planned renovation you've contracted out, or a combination of both. We'll showcase you and your project in an upcoming issue of OUR HOMES.

Remember, life is too short. Enjoy your home and throw a party this summer.

Georgette

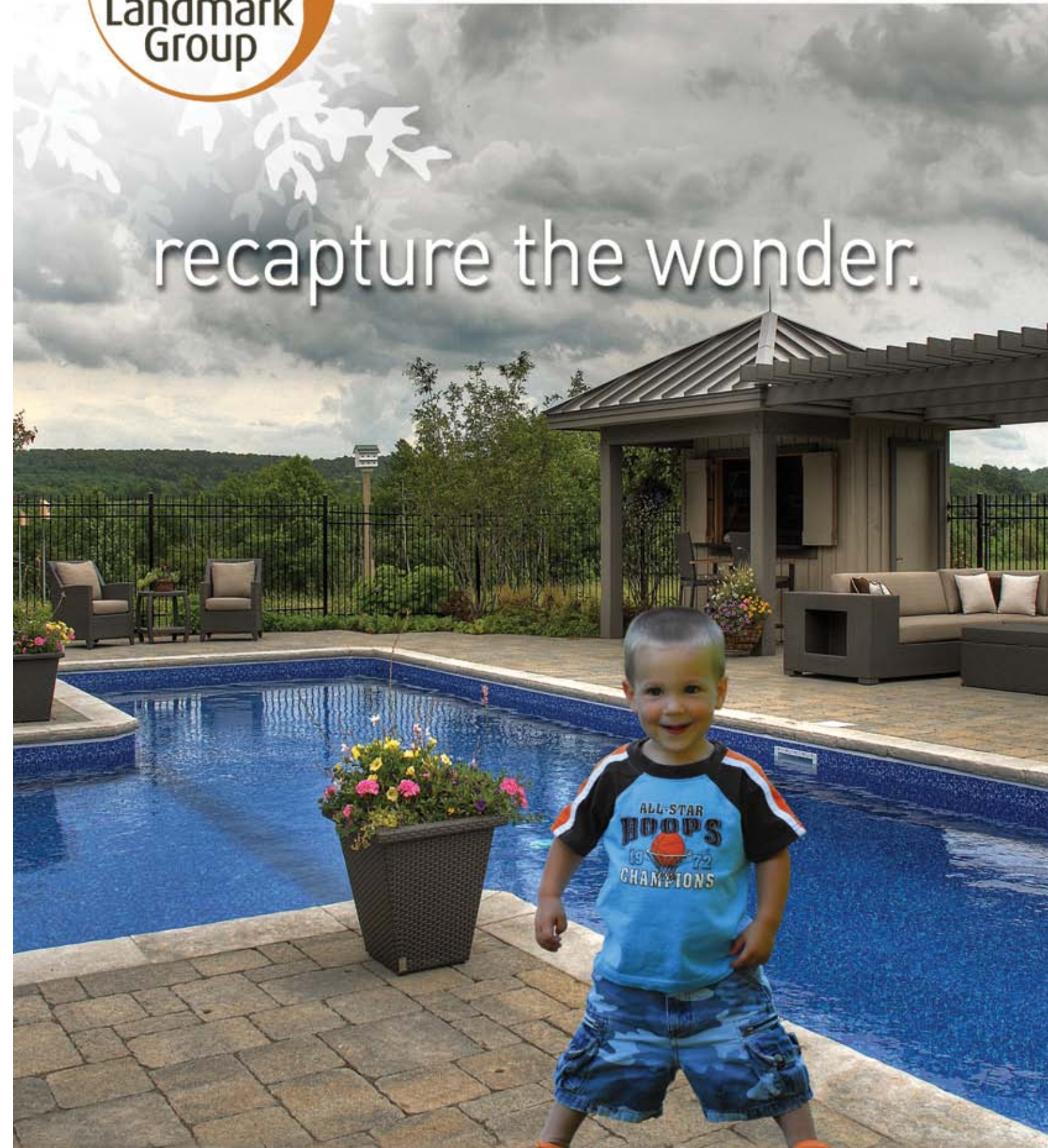
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publisher's note



Creating another clean-up.

I HAD TO CHUCKLE WHEN I READ PAUL WILSON'S column on clutter bugs and organizing (page 36). At our place it's a constant battle. Not because we are disorganized. No, because we have two children under four.

During the day, we create mess station after mess station. All day long we move from paints, to blocks, to story time, to puzzles, to dominoes, to puppets, to train set, to my current personal favourite – cave (prop up the edges of a rug with rocking horses and bingo, it's 15,000 BC).

The most challenging though, for me, is meal time. My son is 11 months old. He's going through the pick-up-your-tofu-and-avacado-and-rub-them-in-your-hair-and-behind-your-ears stage. Then he does the wave-your-arms-back-and-forth-on-your-tray-really-fast-and-watch-your-food-fly-everywhere trick. Yup. That's my boy. Expressive. He sings while he does it too. One syllable: "laaaaaahhhhh."

I've timed it actually. Yesterday, dinner cleanup took me 55 minutes*. I found broccoli behind the blinds.

My wife and I have a good system though. One manages mess-station creation while the other takes care of clean-up duty. We're not losing. But we're not winning either. Thank goodness for 21st century designers who understand homes with children. And thank goodness for those who bring us clever storage.

So yes, I chuckled at Wilson's column (in which he admits to saving 30 years' worth of *The New Yorker* magazine). Wilson is an empty nester. He can get away with being a clutter bug. What a luxury!

At any rate, this issue as always is a completely useful and sensible item with which to fill up your space. From our feature on excellent local landscapers, to grilling salmon on a cedar plank (yum), to some spectacular homes, it's all here, celebrating summer and great times with loved ones.

Enjoy.

David Loopstra, Publisher
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* This figure does not include bath time.

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ON THE COVER

Setting the Table
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Photography by
Sandy MacKay.

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Dear Stephanie,

I love spending summer on my deck, relaxing on my patio furniture, but my cushions have to be brought in from the rain. What are my options for carefree cushions? Can I treat my existing ones or do I have to buy new ones?

— Sam

Stephanie Redmond replies:

Carefree is a matter of opinion! If your cushions are made of mildew-resistant poly/foam interiors and covered with mildew and fade resistant fabric you don't have to bring them in. Sunbrella fabric is the most common outdoor fabric. It's stain resistant, UV-coated and definitely carefree. However, water will still penetrate the interior cushion in a storm. If they do get wet, prop them up sideways in the morning. They drain more easily that way and will be dry when you get home from work.

If you're looking for alternatives, consider ample-sized teak benches with wide slats. These can be comfy without cushions and teak does not require any maintenance at all. This is a truly carefree solution!

Dear Stephanie,

I would like to try creating an accent wall in my living room. Is there a formula? Should I choose a wall the furniture points toward, or one in a less visible location, like behind the couch.

— Marcy

Stephanie Redmond replies:

When it comes to design, creativity is your formula. Go with your instincts. Do you have a wall that you're not quite sure what to do with? Then that's the wall! An accent wall is a very effective way to create change in a room that needs a little updating.

HERE ARE SOME IDEAS FOR ACCENT WALLS:

1. HOT TREND! WALLPAPER: Paper one wall to add interest with texture and pattern. The end result will depend on your paper choice, of course; sophisticated, bold, romantic, trendy. Your options are endless. This works very well as a backdrop.

2. PHOTOS: Photos are a conversation piece and add a personal touch to your space, giving your guests (and you) something to enjoy and learn from. Arrange a dozen or so photos in similar frames of various shapes and sizes. This works well as a sidewall that you can look at up close.

3. COLOUR: Paint one wall in a contrasting tone. This is a cheap and cheerful way to add character to a room and serves as a great focal point.

Dear Stephanie,

We have a wall-to-wall, floor-to-ceiling fireplace in our family room. I have tried many combinations (we have been in our house 36 years) but never felt satisfied with the outcome. My question is how to decorate the fireplace.

— Beverley



Stephanie Redmond replies:

I can see that this has been a long battle! Your space is small and is overwhelmed by the stone on this wall-to-wall fireplace. Let's get rid of it. I suggest doing one of two things, both involving drywall.

MINI BUDGET

1. Drywall the upper section of stone, leaving the wall-to-wall mantel and everything below. Hang a painting or mirror that is larger in scale than the one that is currently hanging and use fat pillar candles instead of tapered candles (they are too thin for the stone and out of scale). This will minimize the heavy stone and allow your living room to finally have four walls.

MEDIUM BUDGET

2. Completely eliminate the existing mantel and drywall from the ceiling to the floor, leaving the raised wall-to-wall hearth exposed. You will have to create a fireplace surround. Use a simple stone (limestone) to match your raised hearth. Make this very simple, square and non-decorative (approximately eight inches wide on all sides and four inches deep). It has to be chunky enough to balance the heavy fireplace. To decorate, stack some logs on the hearth in a low basket and again, hang a painting above.

The existing stone wall is too heavy and has too much texture for the room. Either of these solutions will have you finally breathing a sigh of relief. Good luck! **OH**

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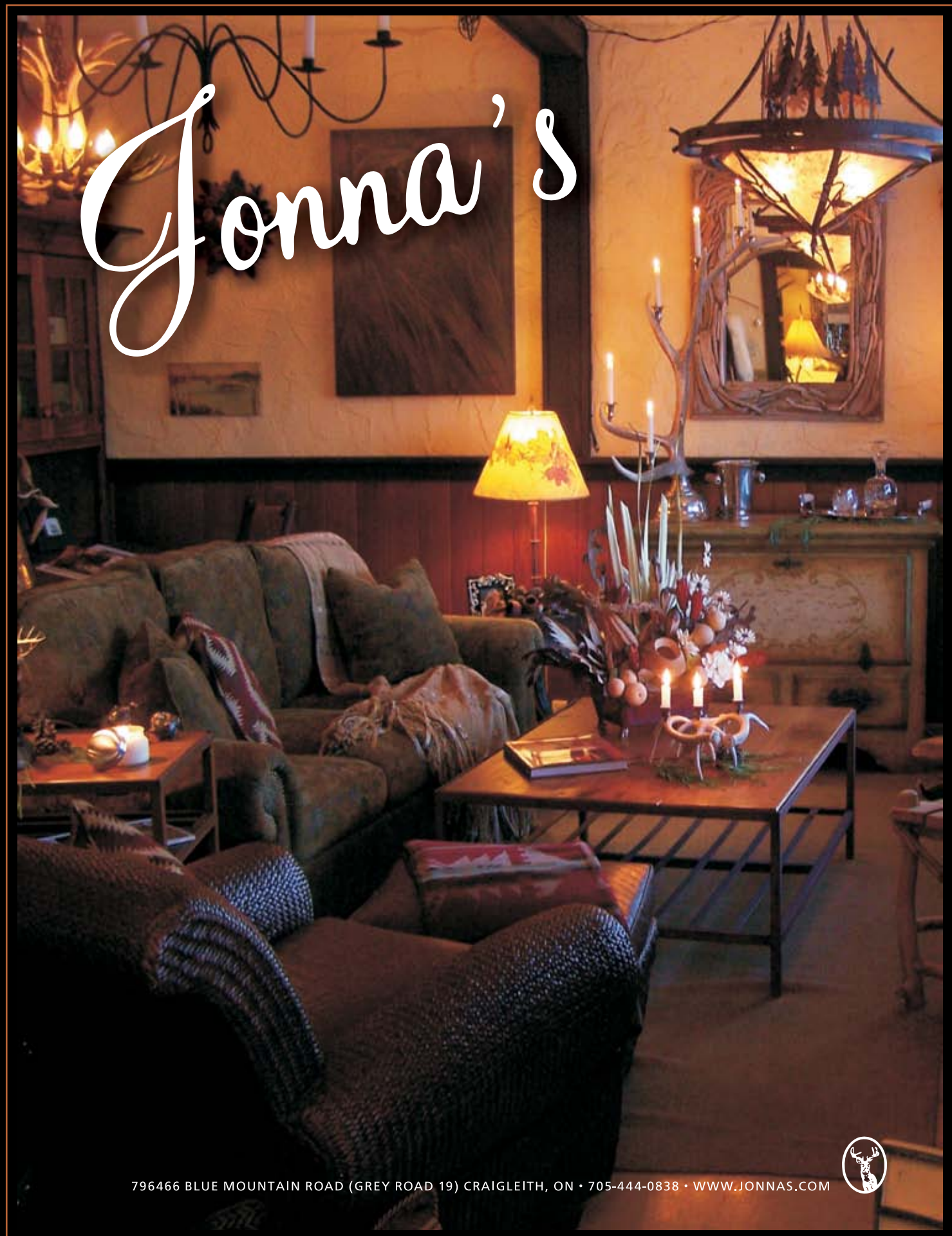
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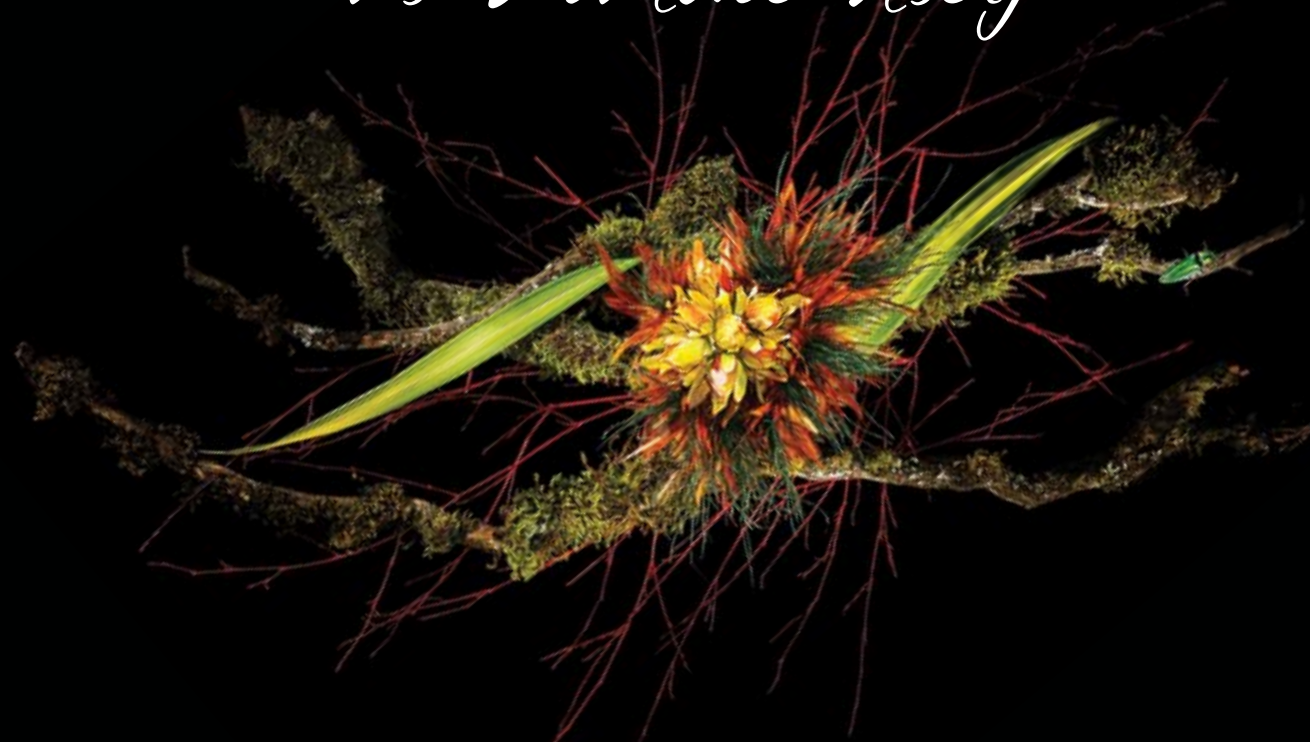
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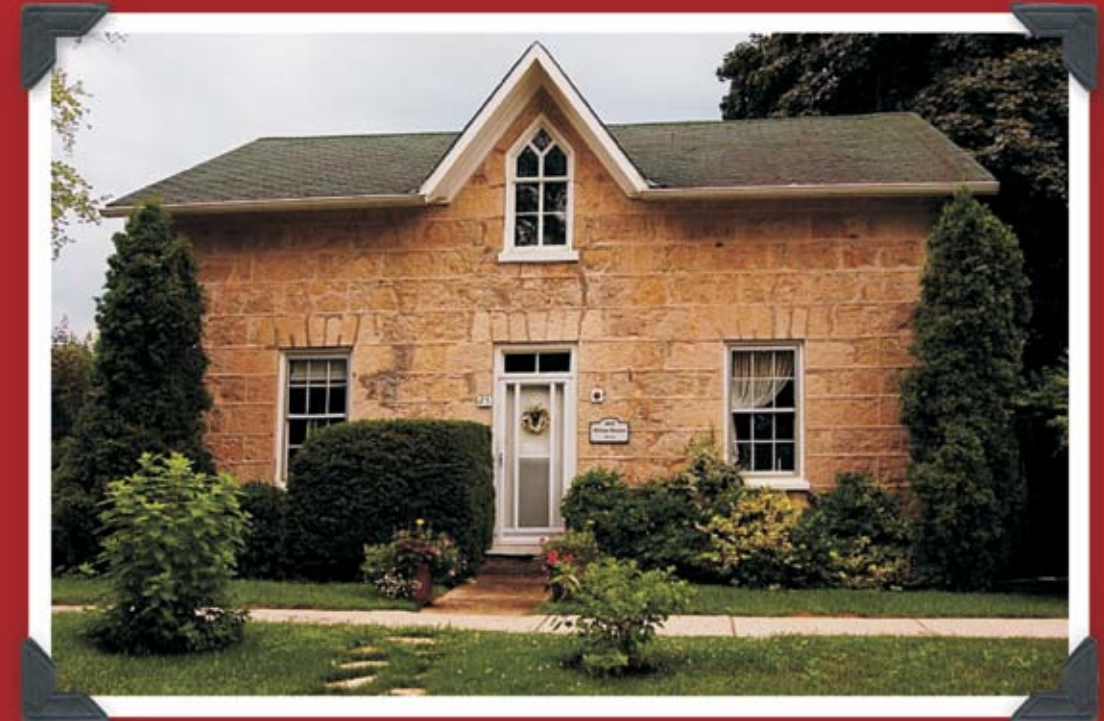
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Continued on page 32



3

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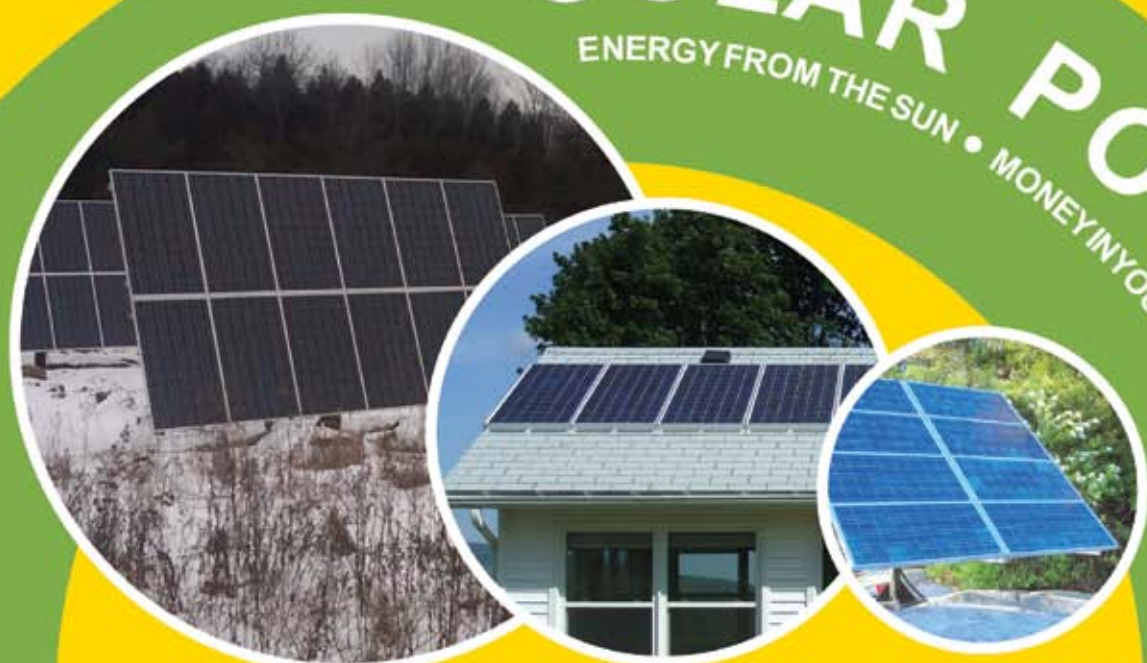
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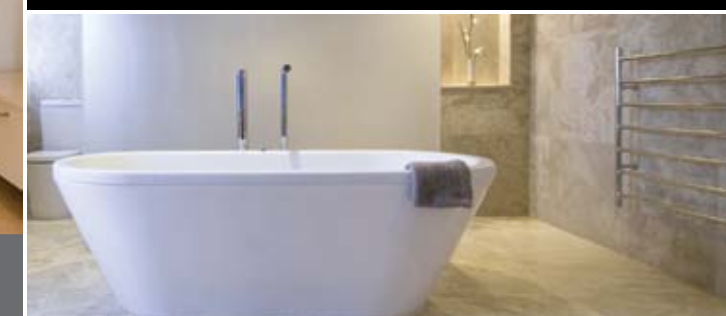
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RONA will take the paint it collects and ship it to a Quebec-based company where it will be "reconditioned" and sold under the brand name Boomerang in RONA stores. Leftover latex and alkyd paint, stain and varnish are all accepted.

"Boomerang will be on shelves as soon as we have sufficient quantity," said Michael Rushton, RONA'S vice-president of big-box stores in Ontario. "This is all part of our new initiative to be more sustainable and eco-friendly."



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ideas

Confessions OF A CLUTTER BUG

BY PAUL WILSON



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

know when you might find a use for that old sliding door, the boxes of left-over tiles, the chipped chinaware, or the extra set of my mother's ancient dining room chairs. What if our kids suddenly decide to move to a bigger apartment and need more stuff? What if Windsor chairs come back in style? And what's wrong, by the way, with having three saws, four hammers, five caulking guns, and 45 screwdrivers? Nothing like the right tool for the right job, I say.

It helps that Patricia is also an organizer. Using what she calls "sleight of hand," she can magically find a place for everything, making additional pieces of furniture or dishes vanish or blend in with what's already there. I, on the other hand, tend to put my latest acquisitions on the handiest empty, flat surface. As a result, there are no more empty, flat surfaces left in our home.

I used to think hoarding was something that could be remedied with a periodic tidy-up. But as I've discovered, that's as delusional as a problem drinker believing he has only to remain sober for a few days to prove he's not an alcoholic. Sooner rather than later, we return to our old habits.

Naturally, where there is a problem, someone will offer solutions, or sell them. In the United States, professional organizers – people whose job it is to help others like me – have created an entity called the National Study Group on Chronic Disorganization (NSGCD). Their Website, www.nsgcd.org, includes a scary quiz to help you determine if you need help, and how badly. "Has disorganization been a factor in your life for many years?" (Yes, okay, whatever.) "Does your level of disorganization interfere with the quality of your life?" (Now that you mention it. . .) "Do you suffer from 'fear of filing'?" (No, but I think I've read the book.) "Is it difficult for you to part with things even though they have outlived their usefulness?" (Is the Pope Catholic?)

"Don't panic," the site advises those who, like me, answered three or

At our house, far more comes in the door than goes out. In what was once a roomy dwelling of a few thousand square feet – far more than two people really need – I find myself banging into things in the night, things I'd forgotten were there, things that in fact weren't there not that long ago.

This is mainly my fault. I'm a hoarder; my wife, Patricia, is a chucker. If it were up to her, we'd be regulars at the town dump, or the local Goodwill, or the Re-store, and we'd hold a garage sale every long weekend. But as I see it, you never

more questions positively: "We have solutions." Thankfully, they offer a non-judgemental list of possible causes of chronic disorganization, ranging all the way from poor lighting, lack of storage space, and "too much stuff" to more unsettling possibilities such as traumatic brain injury (TBI), obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), or a fascinating new affliction called "affluenza," which I'm almost certain I don't have. My favourite possible cause, and one that I will readily admit to, is "infomania." Fortunately, we only have dial-up Internet access where we live, so that particular mania remains, for the most part, unsatisfied – unless you count the 30 odd years of old *New Yorkers* that are currently choking our bookshelves.

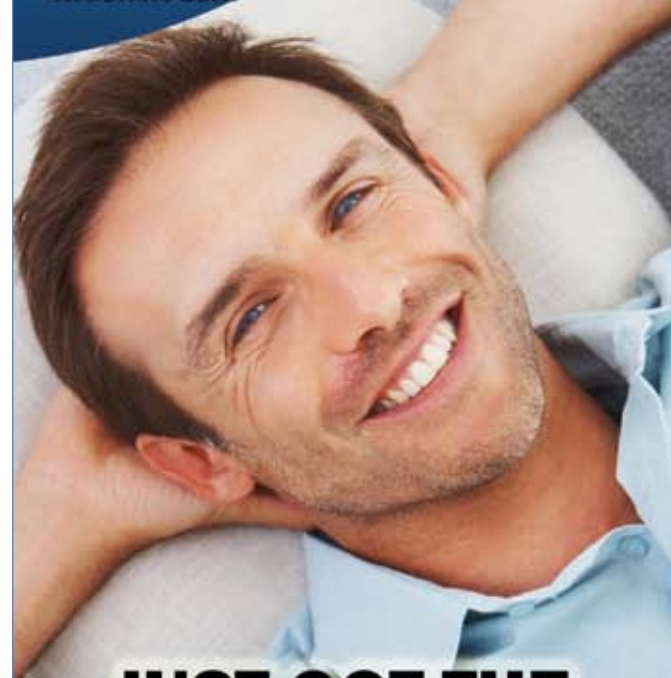
Here in Canada, we're not far behind the U.S. in offering help to the organizationally challenged. Professional Organizers in Canada (POC) is a relatively new group (founded in 2002) of around 500 professional organizers who are, well, organized in 14 chapters across the country, seven of which are in Ontario (www.organizersincanada.com). The statistics they offer are rather alarming, unless you are a professional organizer looking for work. A poll they conducted last December told them that 80 per cent of Canadians feel disorganized to some degree. The current president, Kristie Demke, says: "When people have car troubles, they hire a mechanic. When something is wrong with their health they go to a doctor. So it should be natural that when disorganization is making your life less pleasurable, you should hire a Professional Organizer."

If the POC's numbers are even partially accurate, we are probably looking at a new growth industry, one we'll be hearing more and more about in the future. But judging from my own experience, I think the answer to the problem is more likely to be found in the field of abnormal psychology. A former president of the NSGCD put her finger on the root of my problem, at least, when she told the *New York Times* a few years ago that if someone with serious disorganization problems looks at a row of coffee mugs she (more likely he) will see each mug as a unique item invested with strong memories.

I think she's got that right. To be honest, I have trouble throwing something out not because I think it might come in handy but because it feels like a silent witness to a part of my life, or even my parents' or grandparents' life. Hoarders like me surround themselves with souvenirs of their own history. Deep down, in some primitive recess of our brains, we're afraid that if we throw something out, we'll lose a part of our selves.

Okay, I admit it. It's a serious problem, and it calls for a serious solution. There is such a program. It's called Clutterers Anonymous (www.clutterersanonymous.net). No, I'm not kidding. It treats the affliction of untidiness as an addiction, using a 12-step program borrowed from Alcoholics Anonymous. As a matter of fact, I've just taken the first step. I've admitted that I'm powerless over clutter. Now I just need a higher power to help me sort out the mess. **OH**

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GET IT RIGHT BEFORE YOU START

BY IRENE TURNBULL

The “home renovation market” is hot – and the playing field has become ripe with competitors seeking opportunities to capitalize on serving this growing niche. The key to project success is in knowing how to make the right choices, especially when hiring skilled trades and even more importantly, overseeing their work from the start.

It's a bit like tripping through a mine field since renovations always harbour potential for costly unknowns, which emerge from behind walls once tear-out has taken place. As a result, most of the stress and tension on a job ultimately revolves around money, as both homeowner and contractor have financial commitments and expectations, which if not met can trigger a host of unpredictable reactions.

Keeping communication open and honest between homeowner and contractor is critical in maintaining a no surprises policy, which is essential for the homeowner's financial management and fair payment to contractors. In more serious cases, this kind of misunderstanding could escalate into litigation. When all is said and done, nobody really wins. *Continued on page 40*



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RENOVATION GONE WRONG

Linda and John remortgaged their home to renovate their kitchen. They received quotes, hired a contractor, checked his references and signed a contract, which included cost accounting. Their problems started when they upgraded on several main purchases, leaving little wiggle room in their budget for cost overruns. Their project quickly fell behind schedule and it became evident the contractor undervalued his quote. He understaffed the project and got further behind, causing him to have to juggle this project with other commitments.

Even after advancing monies totalling two-thirds of the contract value, no cost accounting or additional notice of extras was provided, despite repeated requests for it. The situation worsened when invoicing finally arrived, because as they feared, it included extras not previously discussed and work quoted but not yet completed. The contractor also refused to return to their home until he was paid in full (less a very small holdback). Feeling trapped and somewhat held to ransom with a non-functioning kitchen, Linda and John, trying to avoid serious confrontation, paid the contractor, who promised to complete all the work still outstanding. In the end, the contractor did not fully honour the contract commitment and remedial work had to be done by others at a higher cost than the amount of their small holdback. The result was an unpleasant experience for both client and contractor that could have been avoided.



Tips For A Successful Renovation

1. Full Contractor Transparency

Whether a contractual agreement is based on:

- (a) a set price for the job
- (b) cost plus a percentage markup
- (c) time and materials.

It is incumbent upon the contractor to provide full disclosure of costs for all work performed for monies requested. It is unreasonable to expect that clients have a bottomless moneybag from which to pay unexpected extras at the end of a job. Changes to quotes should be identified as they arise and confirmed in writing so there is no misunderstanding between parties as to their scope, cost and time commitment. There is more to job responsibility and integrity than just showing up!

2. Homeowner Awareness

Renovations seldom go 100 per cent as originally planned. Changes are inevitable. Make sure you are firm with your contractor that you expect transparency and ensure you have your requirement for "notice of extras" and "completion dates" duly noted in your contract. Get quotes in writing and be aware of attempts to "loop hole" under-quoting by using "extras" as a scapegoat.

3. Become aware of the Ontario Lien Act

Under Provincial Law, homeowners have requirements to holdback funds at the end of a project. Make sure you understand how this regulation applies to you. Plenty of information is available on the Internet to assist you.

4. The best projects are based upon the principles of fair exchange. Expect to pay for what you ask for and plan to deliver what you know is expected. OH

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PICKING THE PERFECT *perennial*

STORY AND PHOTOS BY MELANIE REXOLA



Liatris

The gardening season is upon us and many of us find ourselves browsing our neighbourhood nurseries, trolling for any new plant addition that may strike our fancy. But plant collectors beware! When picking perennials it is critical to use restraint and not choose impulsively. I think everyone knows of a perennial garden overrun by invasive species and weedy looking foliage – don't let this be you! Here are some tips to keep you on the gardening straight and narrow.

1. LONG BLOOMING AND REPEAT BLOOMERS

Of course we all want beautiful flowers in our landscapes! Whenever possible, choose long-blooming and repeat-blooming perennials for maximum impact. Often just by deadheading spent blooms, a perennial will be forced to produce more flowers causing a repeat bloom. This is true for many daylilies, delphinium and cranesbill.

2. FOLIAGE

It is crucial for a beautiful garden to have not only beautiful flowers, but have great foliage and form as well. Try for colour in your foliage! Amongst the sea of mid-green that is the majority of most flora, a splash of chartreuse or burgundy will really add an essential contrast to any landscape. I recommend the emerald hosta “Sum and Substance,” hosta “Blue Halcyon” and the whole Heuchera family for a wide range of beautiful colours and textures ranging from burnt orange, to purple and lime green.

3. CONSIDER THE REQUIREMENTS

When choosing perennials, it's essential to look at the maximum height and spread of each plant, as well as the sun exposure and hardiness zone. This will ensure your new plants will survive in their new home and won't take up too much space. And never plant anything labelled invasive!

MELANIE'S PLANT PICKS:

Here is a list of some wonderful and colourful perennials that have many of the attributes discussed above.

Perennials For Spring: Spring gardens are so exciting! The anticipation of things to come make it the most thrilling time of year. “Species tulips” are tulips that are truly perennial, unlike their fancy hybrid cousins that last but a few short years. They have a smaller stature and flower than the typical tulip, but they make up for it in abundance. Another great spring perennial is Bergenia. It is available in reddish/bronze foliage or glossy green, usually accompanied by lovely pink flowers. Bergenia blooms in early spring, making them a prize perennial for any spring garden.

Perennials For Summer: There are so many lovely perennials for summer. This is when bloom time is at its maximum. I recommend any of the Echinacea family for their substantial clumps and sturdy upright appearance. Their sizable flowers come in countless colours and bloom for up to two months! I also recommend the dwarf, repeat blooming daylilies such as the D'oro series. Again, they come in a range of colours and have tidy, compact foliage. Daylilies flower for about 3-4 weeks depending on the size of clump, but repeaters will bloom sporadically afterwards if deadheaded properly. I find Liatris (available in white or purple), planted in a large mass, breathtaking. Its actual bloom period is not long, but the immature flower spikes add an interesting textural element. Spiderwort is yet another welcome addition to any garden. Its grassy foliage comes in blue/green as well as chartreuse, plus it has a very long bloom period of roughly seven weeks. Their flowers range from pink to purple.



Species Tulips



Sedum



Spiderwort

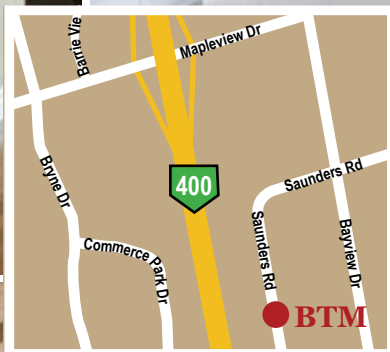


Japanese Anemone

Perennials For Late Summer And Fall: Most gardens look tired by late summer; foliage doesn't look so fresh and many plants have grown to gangly heights. This does not hold true for the “sedum” family. With its succulent, drought tolerant foliage, sedums always look their best and come in a variety of sizes, from ground covers to two feet in height. Their leaves can be blue, gold or burgundy with flowers in an array of colour that bloom for approximately four weeks. For September bloom, I adore Japanese anemone. They have large dark green leaves and lovely pink or white flowers held high above their foliage. Lastly, don't forget about fall-blooming bulbs like autumn crocus. They are such a wonderful surprise of splashy colour when most everything else is turning to shades of amber and gold. Happy hunting! **OH**

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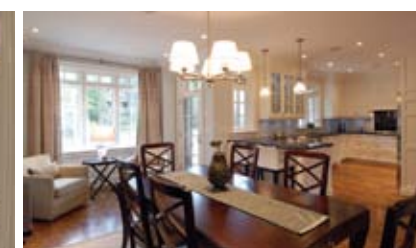
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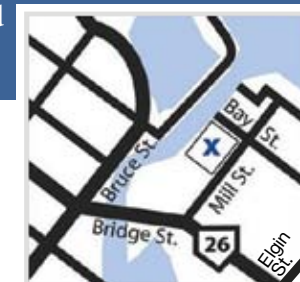
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The front of the Dee Dee Taylor Hannah designed home, which was built by Patrick B. Coulter and Associates. The home has five distinct areas: three inside plus the garage and the backyard.

BELOW: The rear of the home shines. The outdoor entertainment centre includes a full kitchen with a pizza oven. The pool is tucked close to the home and there are several lounge areas, perfect for large gatherings.

TIMELESS AND *Beautiful*

BY GEORGETTE MCCULLOCH // PHOTOGRAPHY BY SANDY MACKAY

Having to return to the city after a blissful weekend at their cottage is never easy for Julie Anne Smedley and Gary Scholl. They've discovered the joys of living, even part-time, in Southern Georgian Bay. The destination and their sophisticated new home is a welcome respite from their busy urban lives. *Continued on page 48*





Scholl is the CEO of POI Business Interiors, a company founded by his father in 1958; Julie Anne is the president of POI, named one of Canada's 50 best-managed companies.

Business and pleasure converge for this dynamic duo. Together with their two teenaged boys, they embarked three years ago on a quest to meld their love of fine architecture and furnishings with nature and recreation in a serene setting backing onto the Georgian Bay Golf Club.

"(The area) has great restaurants, shops and amenities that allow us to get away all year round," Julie Anne says of their choice location. "We also entertain friends and clients here so the variety of activities, skiing, cycling and golf, is very attractive."

Gary and Julie Anne selected **Patrick B. Coulter and Associates** to construct a home designed by celebrated Toronto architect **Dee Dee Taylor Hannah**.

Patrick Coulter came highly recommended and Julie Anne met Taylor Hannah at an event in the city. "Dee Dee called me the next day and told me she wanted to design our home," Julie Anne recalls.

Taylor Hannah and Coulter worked well together, creating a timeless dwelling that fits the landscape and the couple's penchant for a contemporary interior with fine Italian furniture. *Continued on page 50*



A view inside the courtyard, which includes the kitchen, living area, master bedroom and a library upstairs. Fine Italian leather lounge chairs and sofas by Giorgetti add a contemporary, European flair to the mountain home.

TOP LEFT: A floating staircase with iron and glass railings leads to the upstairs library. Two sets of double doors open into the room, which is furnished with dark leather Italian sofas.

BOTTOM LEFT: The Arturo cabinet by Giorgetti, located in the courtyard of the home, is a very special piece. Gary and Julie Anne have configured the cabinet for use as a bar.



The sleek kitchen has Douglas fir ebony stained cabinetry and a large sparkling granite-topped island. The stunning chandelier over the island, which came from the Netherlands, is beautiful and unexpected.

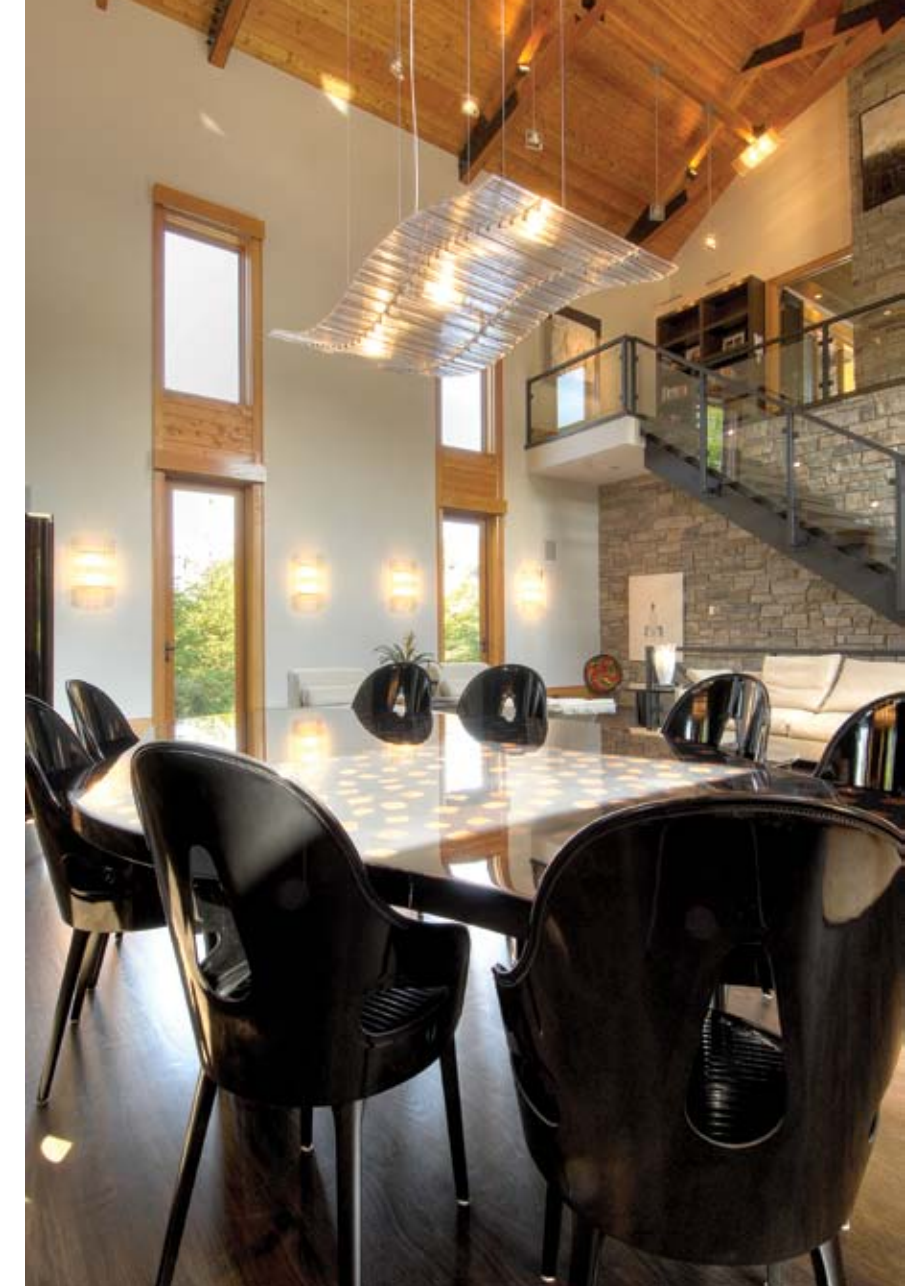
The home has five distinct areas to fit the family's lifestyle. Area one is the building with the master bedroom and en suite, kitchen, courtyard and upper level library. "This is all we really need if it is just the two of us in the home as our children get older and may not be with us every weekend," Julie Anne explains.

Area two is the living/dining area, which is where you enter into from the front door. Area three, behind a large white rolling door, has a cool space with an entertainment unit, fridge and sofa for Keewatin, 16, and

Nicholas, 14, to enjoy their space. There are four bedrooms – two for the boys and two rooms to accommodate friends and family overnight – including Gary's two grown sons.

Area four is the garage "and it is exactly as Gary wanted it!" laughs Julie Anne.

Area five is the fabulous outdoor area, designed and built by **The Landmark Group**. "Landmark did an excellent job and were great to work with," Gary says. *Continued on page 52*



BOTTOM RIGHT: A view from the kitchen into the bright courtyard shows off the detailed ceiling.

TOP RIGHT: This table, just off the kitchen, is a beauty. It's finished in black ebony epoxy with solid pau ferro wood inserts and is surrounded by black patent leather chairs.



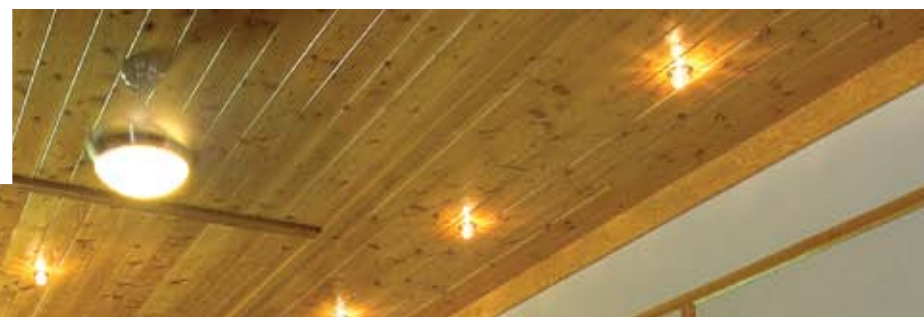
“The covered outdoor kitchen/dining area with infrared heaters allows us to spend as much time outdoors as possible and extend our short northern summers,” Julie Anne adds. This area also includes a wood oven from an Italian company called Mugnaini.

“We love to entertain and this oven is a lot of fun for us to make pizza as everyone can create their own and they cook in only two minutes,” says Julie Anne. “You can, however, cook anything in this oven that you would in a traditional oven so it’s very practical.”

The backyard also includes the pool, hot tub and lounge areas with a firepit and firebowl to add warmth and drama to the yard in the evening. The furniture is from Dedon.

Inside, the ebony-stained hickory floors set a dramatic tone for the sleek, modern furnishings.

The home is furnished almost entirely in a furniture line POI sells called Giorgetti. “Giorgetti is the second oldest furniture company in Italy and they make very unique and incredibly beautiful pieces,” Julie Anne says. “We wanted our home to be a showroom for these products.” *Continued on page 56*



TOP LEFT: The master bedroom has a modern gas fireplace with a stainless surround and TV built into the wall above.

BOTTOM LEFT: Light woods on the walls and ceiling add a new dimension to this timeless home and recognize its location in The Blue Mountains.

TOP RIGHT: The dark cabinetry is carried into the master en suite. White marble gives the room a classic look. The glass shower is located across the back of the room, while the tub sits in the centre.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Closets and storage for the master sit outside the suite – a very clever design and use of space.

feature



The front door opens into the living and dining room. The metal fixture over the table is from a company called Brand Van Egmond in the Netherlands. Gary and Julie Anne purchased the John Little painting over the fireplace at a gallery in New York.



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LEFT: A second table in the dining room also has a stunning metal chandelier from Brand Van Egmond.

BELOW: Sons Keewatin and Nicholas enjoy their own space in the home, designed and furnished just for them. It includes an entertainment cabinet, with fridge by Jim Edgeson.

BOTTOM: Julie Anne rolls back the large door, which opens into the boys' private space and guest suites.




Taylor Hannah, who also worked on the interior design and placement of furniture, says it was a privilege to work with such beautiful pieces. "Giorgetti furnishings are top-of-the-line," she says. "It was like working with Ferraris everyday."

Gary and Julie Anne have their favourite pieces, including the Arturo cabinet in the courtyard designed by Massimo Scolari. The exterior is polished ebony macassar wood with brass hinges, trim and handles. "The handles take the shape of wings as Mr. Scolari loves to fly," Julie Anne explains. The legs are molded crystal. Gary and Julie Anne use the cabinet for a bar, but it can also be set up as a wardrobe.

Other favourites include the YFI sofa in the living room designed by Chi Wing Lo, who was trained in architecture in Toronto, and the Royal sofa upstairs in the library designed by Antonello Mosca.

The black Dora patent leather chairs and Theo table off the kitchen were also designed by Massimo Scolari, and are truly unique.

The specialty Italian glass lighting from Venini, another product POI carries, is truly spectacular. "Our favourite pieces are the Nastri series, including the wave-like piece over the Theo kitchen table, which enhances the organic shape of the table," Julie Anne says. *Continued on page 60*



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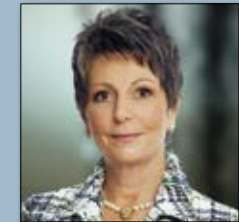
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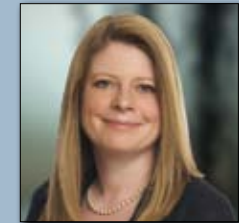
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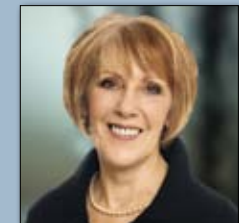
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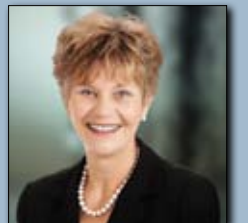
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This backyard has it all. Gary and Julie Anne worked with The Landmark Group to create an elegant outdoor space.

ABOVE: The outdoor kitchen and grill, complete with an ice maker. There's easy access to the courtyard and kitchen inside.

ABOVE LEFT: Gary returns to the cottage after exploring the area on his Harley.

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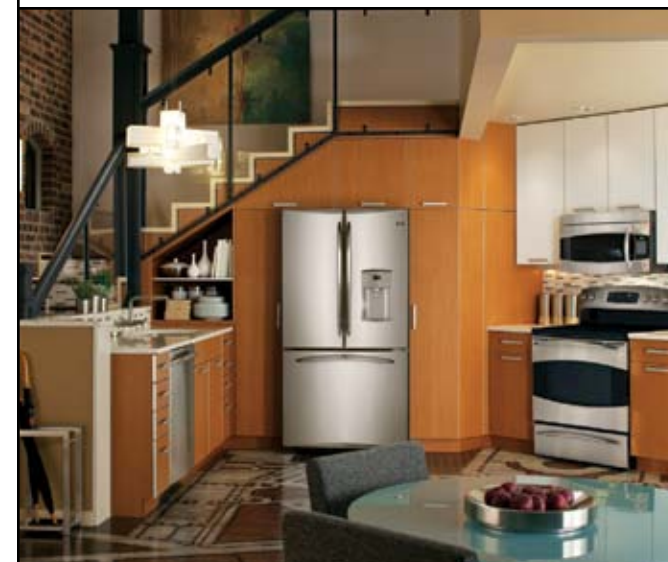


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The metal fixtures in the dining room and over the kitchen island are from a lighting and furniture company in the Netherlands called Brand Van Egmond.

Taylor Hannah returned to the home for a visit after the family moved in just before Christmas of last year. She was pleased with the final collaborative result.

"It was a pleasure working with Patrick," she says. "He was knowledgeable. He builds beautiful homes and understands value for the dollar. It was an interesting piece of architecture and we needed someone who could execute and Patrick did that all the way through."

Coulter was equally impressed. "The Smedley-Scholl house is an extraordinary quality residence," Coulter says. "The architecture is well planned and the building has incredible street presence. Julie Anne, Gary and Dee Dee made this project a pleasure and an honour to be involved with."

This summer, Gary, Julie Anne and their two boys are enjoying their retreat – golfing, entertaining and relaxing with friends and clients, eager to share their beautiful, timeless home.

"Gary and I were sitting outside the other night and he asked me if I would have done anything in the home differently," Julie Anne says. "We both agreed that we wouldn't change a thing." **OH**



ABOVE: The theatre room is located downstairs. The family gathers here to watch their favourite movies in complete comfort.

The spa is also located downstairs, next to the gym area. Gary and Julie Anne love their steam room and infrared sauna by SaunaRay.

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BY JIM FOX // PHOTOGRAPHY BY BONNIE FOX

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Continued on page 64



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SEASONAL: Summer is the perfect time to consider Ezra Martin’s many outdoor furnishings as well as the variety of annuals and perennials he has on hand. The Center’s vegetable plants have

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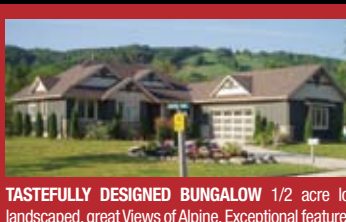
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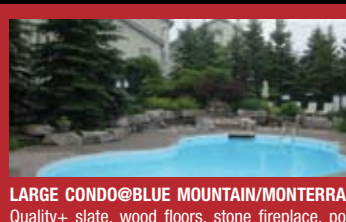
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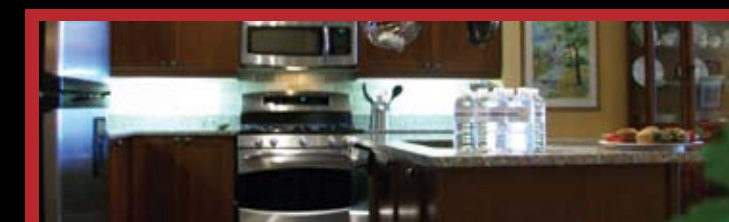
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Continued on page 70



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Continued on page 72







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Jim Murray, Chief Tree Officer and Lead Groundskeeper

◀ Kyle McTaggart

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(with Preston Owen of Clear Choice Pools)

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BEST LANDSCAPING ADVICE: Get an architect. Plans are always best. What's under the job is as important as above. Get your approvals. Buy materials local. Use local trades as they pay taxes in your municipality too.

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◀ Scott Henry

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Continued on page 80



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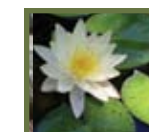
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There are many talented landscapers in our region. This feature is an ongoing OUR HOMES series and we will continue to showcase local tradespeople and businesses that sculpt our outdoor spaces. Look for another feature next summer. Last year we showcased the following landscaping companies:

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 Zeng Landscaping
 Temagami Landscape Design & Build Ltd.
 Oasis North Landscapers
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Michelle, Sheryl,
 Rich, owner
 Tracey Clarke
 and Tristan ▶

(missing from photo, Linda)

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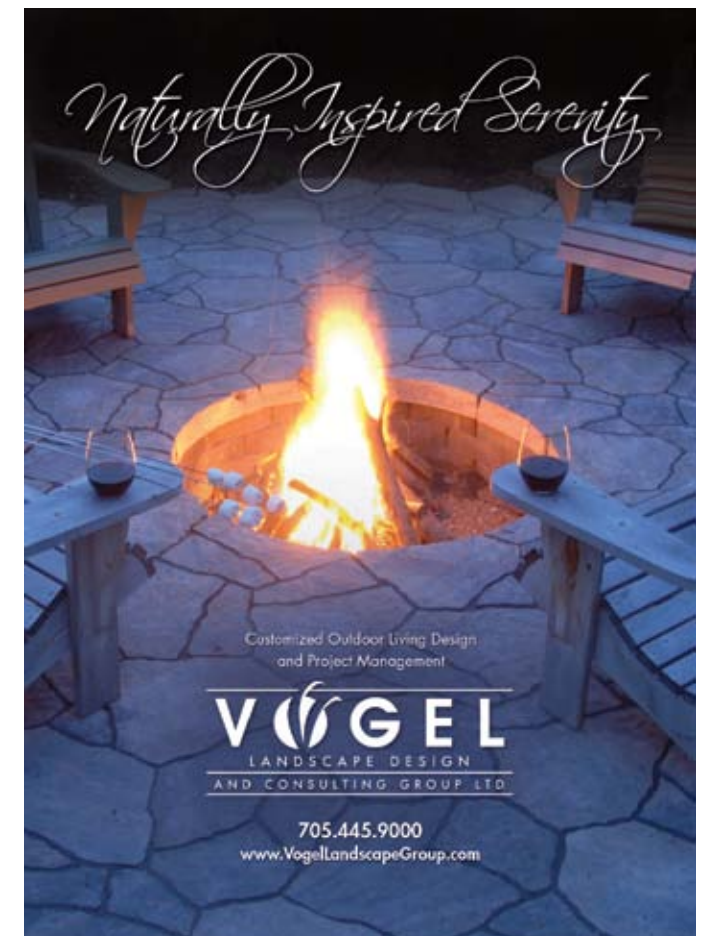
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BY JIM FOX // PHOTOGRAPHY BY SANDY MACKAY // STYLED BY ANDREA RINALDO & PATTI HUPPERTON



Builders Paul McCarthy and Brett Lindros of Cobalt Custom Homes

Paul McCarthy's casual friendly manner masks a meticulous penchant for design. With his business partner, Brett Lindros, of NHL fame, the two take the task of building homes seriously. McCarthy acts as general contractor and Lindros collaborates with McCarthy on development and design. *Continued on page 86*





A Sue Tupy painting graces the sideboard in the deliciously staged dining room. Table-top roosters come from Clarkson's. Stylists Andrea Rinaldo and Patti Clipperton set the table with hosta leaves and fresh berries on fun bright plates.



Reclaimed antique barnboard hemlock floors are used throughout the custom home. Cherry built-in shelves flank a gas fireplace in the living room. The antique pond boat is a nice addition to the décor.

TOP RIGHT: Andrea Rinaldo's dogs get comfortable in the living room.

BOTTOM: A beautiful outdoor room, by Clarke's Landscaping, makes living in this custom Lora Bay home even better.



Their high school friendship blossomed into a very successful partnership following McCarthy's stint with Windemere Homes and Brett's retirement from professional hockey. It helps that both men have similar tastes in home design. Aside from building in their home base of Toronto, the two have taken on custom home projects in Muskoka and here in Southern Georgian Bay.

This elegant four-bedroom home at Lora Bay is a prime example of the care both McCarthy and Lindros take with each custom project **Cobalt Custom Homes** takes on. "Brett and I offer a customized layout," McCarthy explains. "After deciding on elevations and overall size, we work from the outside in, determining the best angles for natural light and the best views. Interior flow between the spaces is extremely important to us both. Brett's strength is interior spaces and the final layout is a result of our collaborative attention to detail. It's fun to work with a friend who has the same taste."

The Lora Bay community offers amenities homebuyers crave, including the challenging Raven Golf Club, four-season on-site recreation and the

close proximity to the quaint town of Thornbury, Blue Mountain and private ski clubs.

Back inside this stunning country home, visitors need look no further than the spacious foyer to see the builder's focus on the finer points of construction, which include antique hemlock banding and the old-world iron lantern chandelier. Natural light floods the atrium.

Upstairs, there are three bedrooms with en suite bathrooms and a walk-out to a beautiful covered veranda with spectacular views.

There are California Gold slate tiles at the access points, Tumbled Noce and Crème Marfil limestone in the bathrooms, but the rest of the flooring is reclaimed, antique barnboard hemlock, from **Floorcrafters** in Thornbury. McCarthy is pleased with the look. He says, "one of the most distinctive aspects of the home is the reclaimed hemlock. The wood was provided locally from a Mennonite barn, and the unique widths and warm hues that each board provides results in a truly custom wood floor arrangement. "People prefer wood flooring, it gives a cleaner look and the country feel that suits the area and people can create the warmth they desire with area rugs." *Continued on page 90*



The large custom kitchen is laid out beautifully. Custom cabinets flank the large, multi-purpose, granite-topped island. There's lots of room for cooks and guests alike in this handsome space.

Homes Featured in Magazines



- featured in CANADIAN HOUSE & HOME Magazine
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—Jana Temple on the second home recently built for her and her husband by Paragon Carpentry.



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RIGHT: Double doors open into the master suite.

BELOW: The Asian-inspired master bedroom has a walk-out to a backyard patio and a fabulous en suite with a jet-tub.

The entranceway leads to a ground floor master bedroom and a spacious family room bathed in natural light. Light streams through French doors that open onto the rear deck and the rustic, low-maintenance garden landscaped in local rock, flowers, shrubs and grasses by **Clarke's Landscaping**. The comfortable family gathering space is anchored by a gas fireplace, which is bordered in dark cherry wood shelving that allows for a wall-mounted television. Here, discreet ceiling pot lights and a built-in main floor audio/video system make relaxing easy.

The family area shares an open space with the dining area, which has its own beautiful views of nature as well as access to the outdoors. A few steps away, the roomy kitchen continues the classic country look with antique white cabinetry by Woodworks Design, a back splash of wheat-toned tumbled marble and granite countertops in "ivory fantasy." The large cherry-wood island with its own sink, wine cooler and ample storage adds to the work surface available for food preparation. Professional stainless steel appliances make the kitchen a suitable playground for any budding chef. *Continued on page 92*



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The master en suite is large and bright. The bead-board panelling gives the room a relaxing feel.

RIGHT: This large built-in shelving unit is located in an upstairs bathroom.



Fine touches like the built-up crown and baseboard mouldings, solid core beadboard doors to every room and nine-foot, cloud white, V-joint ceilings give the home a bright, relaxed yet sophisticated air. Add to this upgraded country trims, antique Baldwin hardware, heated bathroom floors and a built-in steam shower unit in the master en suite and you have a country home that is a notch above. All this reflects Cobalt's attention to fine details. "We take the time necessary in the planning stage to make sure everything works out well," McCarthy says. "What I want to have is a happy client. I want to see that their dreams for the home are met."

Particularly striking is the excellent use of space where the kitchen opens onto a short hallway leading to a powder room, a generous laundry room, a large storage cupboard and separate entrances to the double garage and the front porch. Here, the builder's foresight has provided an easy, all-season entrance and exit for today's busy families.

The home has put its best face forward because of the superb staging of **Andrea Rinaldo** and **Patti Clipperton**.

Continued on page 94

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“We used the home itself as a jumping off point for our designs,” says Rinaldo. “This is a very sophisticated home. We try to match its sophisticated tone with simple colours and textures, taking into account the superb exterior and interior views. In the main living area, we used an antique pond boat and vignettes of pears and other natural elements to enhance the home’s look.”

Rinaldo and Clipperton used their own decor and furnishings and sourced accessories from **Clerkson’s** and **The Garden’s Nest** of Collingwood as well as the work of local artists **Andrew Peycha**, **Sue Tupy** and **Janine Stonhill**. All these elements combine to enhance the attractiveness of this luxury country dwelling.

If you are interested in viewing this sophisticated home, contact **Shelly Paul** of **Chestnut Park Real Estate Limited**. **OH**



SOURCE GUIDE

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This covered porch, located upstairs, is a wonderful place to relax with a morning coffee or an evening cocktail.

BELOW: One of three upstairs bedrooms, decorated in bright summer colours. The inspiration comes from a painting on the wall by Andrew Peycha.



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Continued on page 100

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(Please see ad on page 29)



THE RIDGE

Continued on page 102

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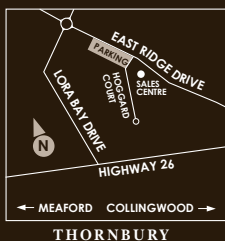
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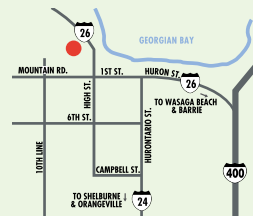
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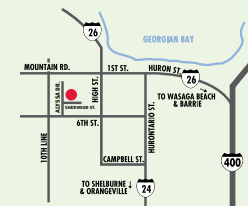
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A DIVISION OF REID'S HERITAGE HOMES



Odeen Probert practises her swing on the tee of the spectacular first hole at the Raven Golf Club at Lora Bay, while husband Bill watches. The Proberts love the community and their custom home, built by Bob Armstrong Construction.

RIGHT: The Proberts selected rustic stone and vertical siding for the exterior of their home. The covered porch is a shady spot to enjoy the street-scape and their gardens.

BELOW LEFT: Their backyard is beautifully landscaped (RockSolid) and is the ideal spot to relax, entertain and enjoy the summer sunshine.

BELOW RIGHT: Bill and Odeen take a break from their golf game to enjoy some down time on their front porch.



A GOLFER'S *Utopia*

BY SHELBY HILSON // PHOTOGRAPHY BY SANDY MACKAY

Bill and Odeen Probert scoured the province for the perfect golf community to spend their retired years in and found everything they were looking for and more at Lora Bay. *Continued on page 108*



A few years ago the Probert couple decided it was time to leave their Whitby home of 25 years behind and find something that was more suited to their love of golf and their recreational lifestyle.

“When we drove into Lora Bay for the first time and saw the water behind the golf course we looked at each other and said, “We could live here,” says Bill. And the golf course, co-designed by Tom McBroom and Tom Lehman, exceeded their expectations.

“It’s a course I could play every day and never be bored. Every hole is unique and challenging and course conditioning is excellent. The views of Georgian Bay and the Peaks are the icing on the cake, and with five sets of tees everyone can enjoy it.”

After trying out the course, the Proberts started looking at housing options and came across a uniquely shaped piece of land backing onto the Georgian Trail that wasn’t necessarily for sale, but had a realtor’s sign on it. The owner accepted their offer and that’s how the story of Bill and Odeen’s dream home begins. *Continued on page 110*



Their lovely kitchen opens to the dining area and the living room.

LEFT: Odeen wanted an open concept main floor with a bright kitchen and creamy white cabinets, glazed just so. The granite-topped island includes a breakfast bar and lots of additional storage.





The Proberts live on the main floor. Bill's office is just off the foyer. The living room is bright and airy with a view of the upstairs, where guests, including their new grandson, stay when they come for a visit.



Having no ties to this area, the couple asked around for a short list of custom home builders and invited a handful to explore the site. In the end they chose **Bob Armstrong Construction Ltd.** owned by Harold Robison.

"Harold was the only one who really walked the lot," says Bill. "He was also very positive about the possibilities."

The Proberts worked with architect Bill Leithead to design the home they had always wanted.

Their last home was missing the open concept they desired and they wanted to be able to live on the main floor of the house without trekking up and down stairs all the time.

Oddly enough, the staircase that takes you from basement to loft serves as the home's focal point and is one to be admired. **Jack Ploeg** of **Northern Custom Stairs** built the stairs while **Complete Value Painting** stained them to perfectly match the home's distressed hickory floors and Harold sites them as his favourite feature.

The open concept main floor boasts a large kitchen with lightly antiqued wood cabinets and uniquely designed granite countertops. "The pattern reminds me of lava flow," says Odeen. There's also a raised counter with stools perfect for a morning snack and cup of coffee. *Continued on page 112*

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The kitchen opens to an informal dining room and great room that are both filled with natural light and look out to the tree sheltered trail. The great room has a beautiful fireplace with stone surround, framed by lovely built-in shelves that stretch the entire width of the wall.

On the other side of that wall is a luxurious master bedroom that features relaxing earth-tones, ample closet space and a full en suite washroom complete with a glass walled shower.

The best part though is definitely the three-season sun porch built off the master with a full view of the gorgeously landscaped yard by **Rock Solid Landscapes**. The Proberts used stonework to create a maintenance-free outdoor space where they could relax, take in the scenery and enjoy a soak in the hot tub.

Although the main floor space is very open, it is also inviting, warm and comfortable the way Bill and Odeen wanted.

"We wanted it to be informal and cosy," says Odeen. "We wanted a destination place for our children and their children to visit," adds Bill.

Their two grown sons and very first grandbaby have made it just that, spending vacations and holidays in Lora Bay. Both of the Probert sons take after dad and are avid golfers, though it's unlikely they get in the four to five games Bill does each week. *Continued on page 114*

The large master en suite has a walk-out to a lovely three-season screened-in porch with an impressive Weatherwall system.

ABOVE: The open staircase is a beautiful architectural feature of the home, built by Bob Armstrong Construction.



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LEFT: The porch off the master bedroom is a favourite destination for Bill and Odeen. It's a great place to enjoy morning coffee while reading the newspaper.

BELOW: The powder-room sink, carved from stone, is a show-stopper.

SOURCE GUIDE

Quanbury Flooring, Di Pietra Design, Ashton's, Ken Childs, Campbell Mechanical, Jack Whittlin, Thornbury Computer and Protection Dealer, Meaford Carpets, MacDonald's Countrywide Furniture & Appliances, Shuttleworth Contracting, G Lawrence Enterprises, Rock Solid Landscapes, Jeffclan Roofing Worx, John McCaffrey Masonry, Havens Home Hardware/Bill Brown Lumber, Cedarport Windows and Doors, Campbell Mechanical, Billy Hill Pine, Complete Value Painting, Bear Electric.

The Proberts have four guest rooms, two on the upper level and two in the basement. They weren't planning on finishing the basement as this home was meant to be a downsize from the last, but once their grandson was born they had Harold finish the bedrooms as well as a large family room.

This is the first home Bob Armstrong Construction Ltd. has built in Lora Bay, but Harold hopes it's not the last. He has built custom homes all over Southern Georgian Bay and says, "I enjoyed working with the Proberts, they were very nice and easy going and everything worked out well."

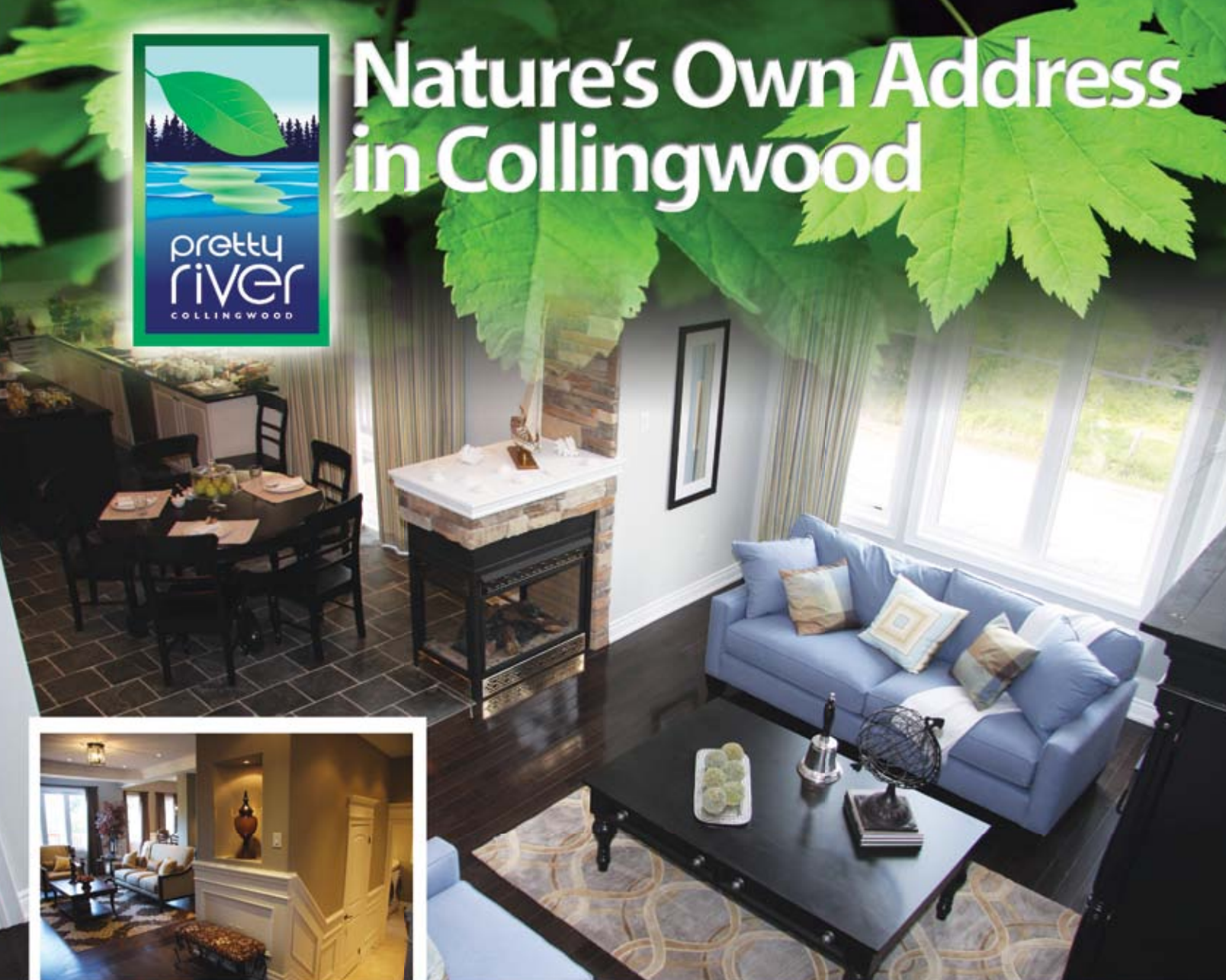
Aside from their spectacular home, Bill and Odeen couldn't be happier with their decision to move to Lora Bay. They say the community there is wonderful and that they went from knowing no one to several neighbours in just a couple of weeks.

Every Friday night a meet-and-greet is hosted at the Lora Bay Lodge, there are a number of clubs to join, a community support program called Helping Hands and several events to attend.

"They had a Halloween party and I haven't been out for Halloween since my 20s!" says Odeen.

Bill and Odeen have both taken up snowshoeing, joining groups of 30 to 40 people some weekends. Odeen has learned to play Bridge and they both, of course, play a significant amount of golf during the warm months.

Confident that they couldn't have chosen a better builder or a better community, the couple wear smiles from ear to ear. "We have absolutely no regrets," says Bill. "We love it here." **OH**



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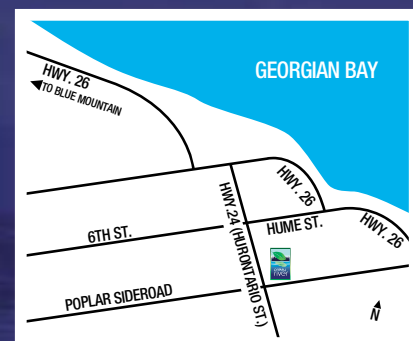
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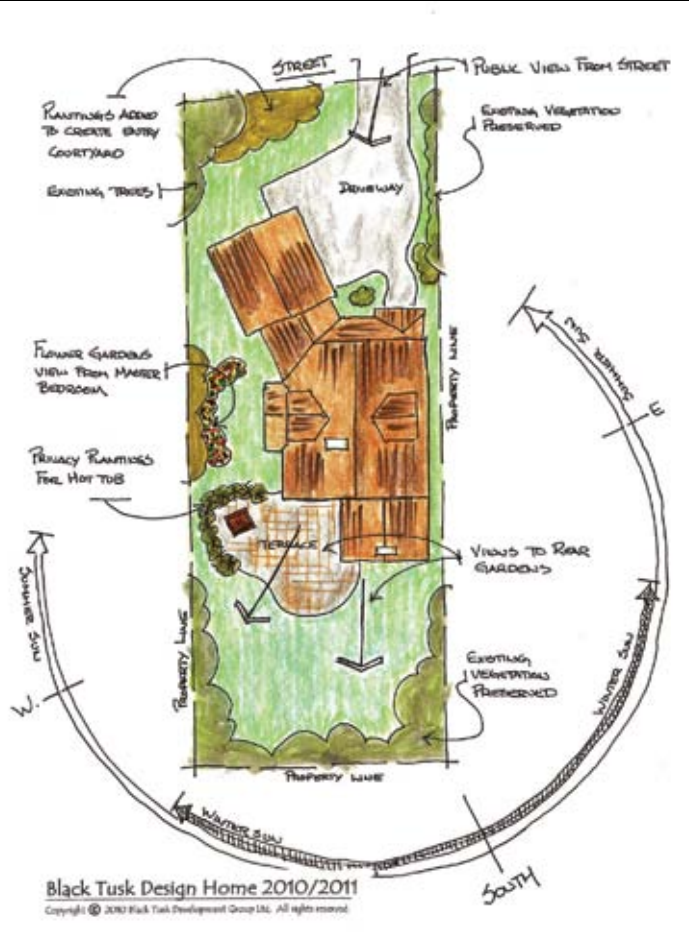
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DESIGNING BY NUMBERS

BY KIRK ESTIN

(1) HANGING ART: When hanging artwork above a sofa make sure it is **two-thirds** or more of the full length of the sofa. The centre of the picture/art work should be hung **60** inches from the floor. In sitting areas, the pictures can be hung a little lower so, when in a sitting position, the picture is at eye level.

(2) POSITION OF TELEVISION: To determine the proper distance between your television and the viewer, take the measurement of the television diagonally and multiply it by **three** and divide by **12**. For example, the ideal distance from a **40-inch** TV is **10** feet.

(3) FLOOR LAMP: The distance from a floor lamp to a book that you are reading should be **20** inches.

(4) AREA RUGS: The area rug in a room should be large enough to extend under the front legs of any furniture by **three** inches or more.

(5) FLOWERS: Flowers in a tall arrangement should be **two** times the height of the urn.

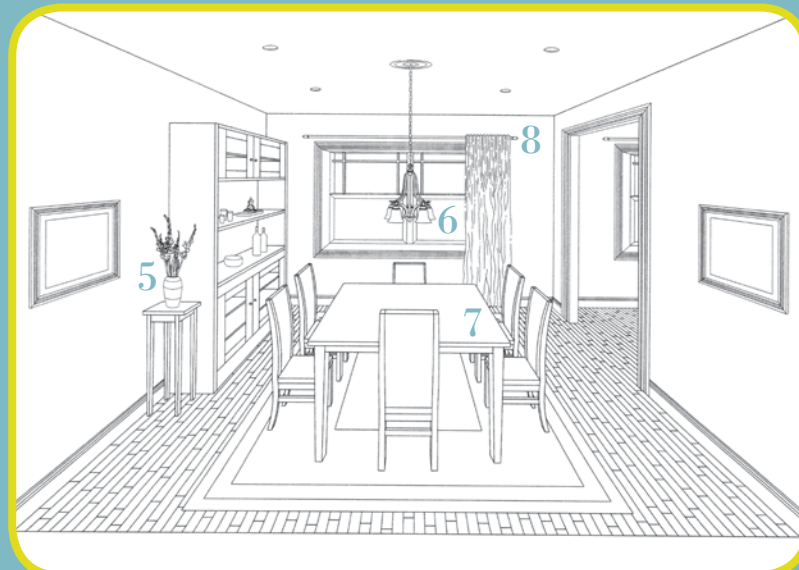
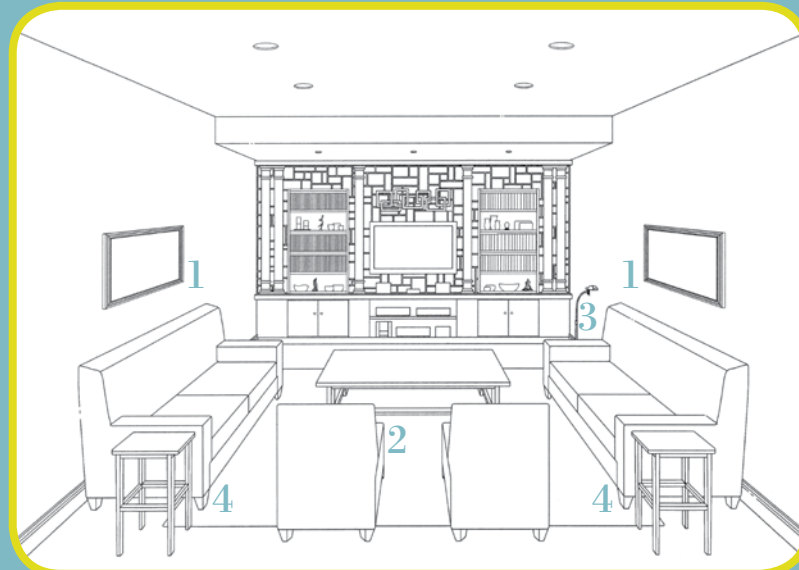
Centerpiece arrangements should be two inches below eye level when sitting.

(6) CHANDELIERS: In a room with an **eight-foot** ceiling, the chandelier should hang **30** inches above the table.

Each foot that the ceiling is higher, raise it **three** inches. To choose a diameter for the chandelier that is the correct size for the room, take the measurement of the total width of the room in feet and then double that number, then change it into inches. For example, a **12-foot** wide room requires a **24-inch** diameter chandelier.

(7) DINING TABLE: The distance between the wall and the dining room table should be no less than **three** feet and every person at the table should have **24 to 30** inches of table space. Area rugs should extend **two** feet outside the perimeter of the dining table; this allows the front chair legs to remain on the rug when pulled out.

(8) HANGING DRAPES: The drapery rod should be mounted at least **two** inches above the window. The rod should extend **six to 12** inches on either side of the window.



Applying these design tips will make a huge difference in the look, feel and function of your home. Use them the next time you decorate or take aim at a room that needs help. **OH**

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BY SAMANTHA MARTIN

It's warm. It's comfortable. It's where you feel most like yourself. And it's all yours.

A home tells the stories of the people within. It's where you build your life. And your first home is where that journey begins.

First-time homebuyers make up a significant portion of the buyers market, and they're becoming more and more particular in what they want.

On average, first-time buyers will tour 10 houses before making a single offer and the typical home purchased is a single family, detached home with between 1,501 and 2,000 sq. ft. of living space. This living space typically includes three bedrooms and two bathrooms.

According to a 2009 survey of 2,453 Keller Williams Realty agents in the U.S. and Canada who have worked with first-time homebuyers, the leading criteria for first-timers is location. It was in every client's top five and was the number one criteria for 36 per cent of respondents, price coming in a close second at 31 per cent.

Along with location and price comes the longing for that sense of independence, pride in ownership and a degree of financial readiness that has people searching for their first home. First-timers have two main motivations for making the leap: they can afford a home and they are tired of renting.

Kevin Somers, broker and area manager for Royal LePage, says that the majority of first-time buyer couples favour turnkey properties when starting their search. "They're looking for something that's sexy and attractive and has bells and whistles," he says, adding that most young couples are so career-focused, they are time-starved and looking for that ready-made home. That doesn't discount the trusty fixer-upper. Three-quarters of first-timers viewed at least one, and two out of five purchased a distressed property.

He also notes that young couples often focus on established neighbourhoods that have inherent charm, unlike the young single looking for the hip, urban, trendy neighbourhoods.

More than half of first-time homebuyers are between the ages of 25 and 30. The median age is 28, compared with 32 four years ago. They are looking for homes earlier and are more aware of their needs and where they aren't willing to compromise.

These three young couples, all with a different first-home dream in mind, found what they were looking for on the market without compromising their wants or needs.

THE FIXER-UPPER

THE COUPLE: Lindi Green and Drew Wright

INSPIRATION: Tired of roommates and renting. Wanted a place they could call their own.

BOUGHT: A two-bedroom, single-bath 1940s wartime home

WHY FIXER-UPPER? "We wanted it to feel cosy and home-like when you walked through the door," says Green. "I was looking for a lot of character with modern updates."

MUST HAVES: Warm curb appeal, close to town, privacy, character and updated kitchen

DECIDING FACTOR: Price and character

THE TURNKEY

THE COUPLE: Nathan and Talisha Metus

INSPIRATION: Newlyweds ready emotionally and financially to take the next step

BOUGHT: A semi-detached, three-bedroom, two-and-a-half-bath townhouse in a new development

WHY TURNKEY? "We wanted something as finished as possible to allow for our recreation time to be exactly that," says Nathan.

MUST HAVES: East-facing for sunlit barbecues on deck, a garage for Nathan's "man cave," hardwood floors, a master en suite and walk-in closet and two to three bedrooms

DECIDING FACTOR: Location and price

THE CUSTOM-BUILD

THE COUPLE: Meaghan Sweeney and Ryan MacDonald

INSPIRATION: Tired of renting and wanted to own an asset

BUILT: A custom three-bedroom, two-bath raised bungalow

WHY CUSTOM-BUILD? Do-it-yourself project and built to their specific needs

MUST HAVES: Master suite with en suite, two-car garage, granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, thick mouldings and hardwood floors

DECIDING FACTOR: Location and resale value

In the 2009 Survey of Household Spending (SHS), the majority of first-time homebuyers give the desire to become owners as a reason for moving. The survey suggests households tend to purchase a home as soon as they can afford one and that's exactly what these three couples did, in their own ways.

Now all that's left to do is make a house a home. **OH**

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CEDAR PLANK SALMON

BY MARIA DASILVA // PHOTOGRAPHY BY SCOTT HUNTER



Canada's coastal First Nations people have used cedar planks for cooking (among other uses) for centuries. On a backyard grill, this technique yields delightfully delicious results, perfect for a casual dinner on the deck with friends. The salmon soaks up a light, woodsy, smoky taste from the cedar while the maple mustard glaze adds a subtle sweetness. What better way to celebrate Canada than with some traditional flavours and ingredients of our great nation?

CEDAR PLANK SALMON: (Serves 4)

- 3 tbsp maple syrup
- 2 tbsp grainy Dijon mustard
- 1 tsp lemon zest
- 1/2 tsp dried thyme leaves
- 1 1/2 lb centre-cut salmon fillet
- salt and pepper


TO PREPARE:

- Mix together maple syrup, mustard, lemon zest and thyme; set aside.
- Trim any skinny edges from salmon. Place skin side down on soaked cedar plank. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. Brush all over with maple syrup mixture.
- Place plank on grill over medium-high heat. Close lid and grill until salmon flakes easily, 15 to 18 minutes depending on thickness. Transfer plank to cooling rack. Let cool for 5 minutes before serving.

TIPS FOR SUCCESSFUL CEDAR PLANK SALMON:

- Soak cedar plank for at least two hours before using. While the wood will burn on the bottom and around the edges, soaking slows this and prevents the plank from going up in flames entirely.
- Choose thick (at least one-inch) centre-cut salmon fillets for best results. The uniform thickness of centre-cut fillets from end to end means even cooking and moist tender salmon with every bite. If you can't find a centre-cut fillet, fold the skinny end (the tail end) under itself to match the thickness at the other end.
- Because the salmon is not directly on the heat source it takes a little longer to cook, about 10 to 12 minutes per inch of flesh. Salmon is done to perfection when the flesh yields a little to gentle pressure or flakes easily.
- Have a cooling rack ready to transfer the fish to when done. The bottom of the plank is red-hot and likely still smoking. Let the salmon cool on the plank for five minutes (outside, unless you want the smoke detector blaring!) before serving. **OH**

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HOW TO:

1. Choose a picture frame the size and style that suits your space. We found this inexpensive one at a yard sale and spray-painted it.
2. At your lumber outlet, ask to have a piece of wood cut to fit the dimensions of your frame.
3. Cut a couple of layers of quilt batting the same size as the board.
4. Choose a fabric that suits your frame style and your room. Cut fabric two inches larger, all around, than the board.
5. On the board, layer the quilt batting and then the fabric. Stretch the fabric tight and use a staple gun to secure the fabric to the back of the board.
6. Criss-cross, on a diagonal, several metres of ribbon or lace over the padded fabric board. Attach ribbon at the back with a staple gun.
7. Fit the covered board into your frame and secure.
8. Hang your elegant new bulletin board on the wall of your office or work area as you would a new work of art.

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