



Mike, Carol and Ken Ormsby.



**THE STYLE:** The Ormsbys have sourced out some of the finest perennials, annuals, herbs, trees, evergreens, shrubs and garden giftware anywhere, and also offer an eclectic, eye-catching assortment of concrete gargoyles, Buddhas, gnomes, and other whimsical lawn and garden ornaments. The full service Garden Centre remains a family affair; Ken oversees the entire operation, and is responsible for landscaping quotes, and son Mike takes care of all installations, including interlocking stone and flagstone for driveways and walkways, in addition to tree and shrub planting. Carol proudly oversees a selection of the finest herbs and perennials available in Ontario, and Mike's daughter Ashley lends a helping hand on busy weekends.

**SEASONAL:** Every season features a lineup of delightful new plants and products, and a selection of outdoor furniture and garden statuary that will turn your backyard into a veritable oasis. From planters to outdoor clocks, solar ornaments to bird feeders, colourful watering cans to wall art, the Garden Centre is a treasure trove for even the most reluctant gardener. In full swing during the summer months, it's also a busy place around holiday time, when Christmas trees, urn inserts, fresh greens and poinsettias are in demand.

**WHAT'S HOT?** According to Carol, annuals, such as geraniums, are making a comeback this year, and there's also renewed interest in raised garden planters for vegetables and herbs. "Everyone loves our wide variety of grasses," says Carol, "and hot peppers for salsa and chili are also very popular." Equally trendy are large evergreens for privacy and windscreens.

**WHERE:** Highway 26, Meaford, 519.538.3145 **OH**



## HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

BY JUDE WAYLAND  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY BONNIE FOX

**THE PLACE:** Open most of the year, **Ormsby's Garden Centre and Landscaping** is a true Meaford landmark. The family-run business has been serving the local community since 1989, when Ken and Carol Ormsby purchased and remodeled the front and roof of the store. They also added a 3,000 sq. ft. perennial house, as well as three retail greenhouses that total 4,000 sq. ft. of growing space. In addition to the greenhouses, the full-service Garden Centre features a huge retail store, with gift ideas galore for the avid gardener, and complete landscaping and design services.

