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IN EVERY *style*

pg 46 & 106

ENTERTAINING  
MUST-HAVES

pg 130

KITCHEN & BATH  
*makeovers*

pg 82

*plus*

pg 68 MORE **TALENTED TRADES**

pg 128 **PIZZA** FOR YOUR PARTY

pg 30 COLOUR IS BACK  
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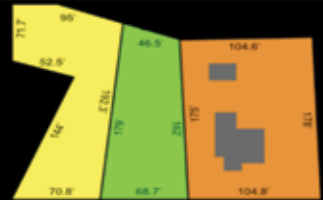
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Featured Property



**UPPER ALTA @ Alpine Ski Club**  
With true Ski-in/Ski-out capabilities, and gorgeous views of Georgian Bay, this location is one of a kind. Custom finishes throughout, 4400 square feet, 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, hot tub, sauna, granite, hardwood, furnished. Steps from the chair lift. Come have a look.  
20106350 Email Chris for details \$1,860,000

Featured Property



**Chalet at the Base of Blue!**  
You simply can't get closer to the mountain. Ski right to your front porch! This 2600 sq ft chalet on a double lot has tons of potential and an unbeatable location. Also available are the two adjacent building lots. All development fees paid and services at the lot line.  
20105479 Email Kevin for details \$799,000



**NOTTAWA ESTATE HOME**  
Custom 4bdm, 3 bath, 2300 sq ft, on a large estate lot, minutes from Collingwood. Email Kevin for details  
20104372 \$379,000



**CARMICHAEL CHALET**  
Six figure rental income annually. 4000 sq ft, 7 bedrooms, ski-in today! Email Kevin for details  
20105422 \$899,000



**CRANBERRY RESORT**  
3 Units available, 2,3 & 4 bdms Fully furnished, quick closings. \$134,900, \$144,900, \$149,900 Email Kevin for details



**HILLSIDE CONDOS**  
Units available now. Fully furnished and income producing. Lots of options. From \$119900 to \$264900 Email Kevin for details



**CHATEAU RIDGE**  
3 units. Ski-in, ski-out or upper with view. Income producing and fully furnished. Email Kevin for details.  
\$234,000-\$239,900



**LORA BAY LOT!**  
Spring will be here in no time! Clean off your clubs. Deals to be had at Lora Bay. Email Kevin for details  
20105651 \$179,000



**BAY COLONY ESTATES**  
Custom Bungalow with high end finishes, 4000 sq ft, 5 bdrm, 3 baths, triple garage. Email Chris Today  
20105408 \$615,000



**RANKINS LANDING**  
Best value in Thornbury. 3 level, 1475 sq ft, 3+1 bdrm, large deck 2 F/P, open concept. Email Chris for details  
20104554 \$172,500



**GEORGIAN MEADOWS**  
Almost 3000 sq ft, 4 bdms, 2/2 baths, 3 living rooms, 7 appliances incl. Email Chris for details  
20104942 \$359,900



**DOCKSIDE VILLAGE**  
Waterfront townhouse condo, 1750 sq ft, 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath, garage, fully upgraded. Email Chris Today  
20105555 \$289,900

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**Real Estate Today**  
Investing in income earning property in The Blue Mountains...

Continued on page 98

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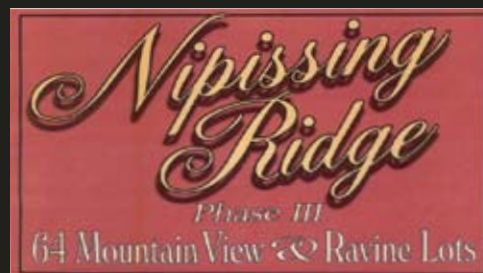
**MCKEAN SUBDIVISION** 4 bedroom raised bungalow. 2,300 sq. ft. of living space, oversized deck with hot tub, large rec room on lower level, double car garage with inside entry, open concept living. Large lot with fenced rear yard. Walk to Nottawa Public School. **\$349,900** MLS#20110064



**CASTLE GLEN** Ranch bungalow with full walk out lower level. Timber frame construction with over 5,500 sq. ft. of finished living space. 6 bdrms, 4 baths. Beautifully designed kitchen & features built in stainless steel appliances. Living rm. with exposed beams, wood burning fireplace, plank floors. Lower level perfect for entertaining, areas for media viewing, shooting pool. Built sound system. **\$1,299,900** MLS#20103338



**LORA BAY VILLA** On the golf course. 2 bdrm "Carmouste" model. 1,540 sq. ft. of finished living space. 2 master bdrms with their own ensuite. Open concept main level, kitchen opens onto great room with gas fireplace & patio doors with transom window. Attached 2 car garage & finished lower with rec room & 3 pc bath. Located in a beautiful waterfront/golf course community at the Raven Golf Club. **\$374,900** MLS#20110024



**NIPISSING RIDGE!!!** Pre-construction pricing! Newly created subdivision in popular recreation area of Nipissing Ridge. 64 lots in total. Municipal water & sewers. Construction to commence spring 2011, building permits by spring 2012. See L.B.O. for covenants & offer forms. Walk to Alpine & Craigleith Ski Clubs. **STARTING AT \$229,000** MLS#20105110



**COLLINGWOOD** In town family home with detached shop suitable for small home-based business. The home has had a total make-over. Many upgrades. 4 bdrms, gas fireplace in living room and a finished rec room for the kids. Landscaped yard, full town lot, paved double driveway. **\$324,900** MLS#20110097



## FEATURE PROPERTY

### 3/4 ACRE ESTATE LOT

High quality craftsman style bungalow in Craigleith. Custom built 3 bdrm, 3,200 sq. ft. bungalow, office/den + bonus room on a professionally designed/landscaped park-like rural setting. Minutes to all the area's amenities. Bright open concept design with large eat-in kitchen, a sunroom & great room with cathedral ceilings & floor to ceiling gas stone fireplace. Hardwood flooring, 7 person hot tub.

**\$849,900** MLS#20110149



**HOBBY FARM** Fabulous hobby farm. 78 acres with newly renovated 3 bdrm, 2 bath ski chalet. Close to Osler Bluff, Devils Glen & Blue Mountain ski hills. Pastoral views of the countryside & the Escarpment property borders the Pretty River on the south side. Detached bunkie with kitchenette & bath, great for the guest or kids. There is also a barn on the property. **\$739,000** MLS#20105203



**COMMERCIAL PROPERTY** Located on Highway 26 in Thornbury with a 3 bdrm. red brick house & a small storage barn at rear ideal for a home base business or restore home to it's natural beauty. Walking distance to all of Thornbury's many shops, restaurants & harbour. **\$299,000** MLS#20106163



**GEORGIAN BAY CLUB** New home to be built by Patrick B. Coulter & Associates Inc. 4,390 sq. ft. of finished living space with 3 bdrms above grade & 2 in the lower level, 3 full baths plus powder room. Covered porch, main floor master with walk-in closet & 5 pc ensuite, great room with fireplace, separate dining room. Full landscaping & building package available from L.B.O. **\$2,285,732** MLS#20104800



**MILLPOND IN THE VILLAGE** One of 12 loft bungalows on the Millpond. Interior unit 2 bdrms, 2 baths, cathedral ceiling with full height picture windows, solid oak flooring in kitchen/living/dining rooms. Deluxe cabinetry with granite countertops. Attached 1 car garage with inside entry. One-of-a-kind project located 5 minute walk to Main Street or harbour & just a short drive to Georgian Peaks Ski Resort & Lora Bay Golf & Country Club. **\$399,000** MLS#20105320



**47 ACRES** Fabulous 47 acre view property near Epping. Great vistas of the Beaver Valley & Old Baldy. Many excellent building sites. There is an abundance of spring water & a natural stream on the property. Close to Talisman & Kimberley, skiing & golf. 20 minutes to Georgian Peaks & 5 minutes to Beaver Valley Ski Club. The property backs onto the Bruce Trail with miles of hiking at your back door. **\$399,000** MLS#20105834





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Connie Thompson\*\*  
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Bill Thompson\*\*  
705-888-0808



Martha P. Whitton\*  
705-443-9022



Marilyn Douglas\*\*  
705-444-9497



Susan Boadway\*\*  
705-446-8427



**WALK TO BLUE MOUNTAIN** Gorgeous ski chalet. 4 bdrms/3 baths, open concept kitchen/dining, separate family room, 3 fireplaces, detached 1.5 heated garage on 1/3 acre. **\$515,000** Visit: [www.128ClaireGlen.com](http://www.128ClaireGlen.com) Rob Dubien 705-888-0092



**POPULAR CREEKSIDE** Tastefully decorated, bright, spacious 3 bdrm, 3 bath, open concept. Family room above garage. Walkout to huge deck and fully fenced yard. **\$324,000** Visit: [www.6PattonSt.com](http://www.6PattonSt.com) Angiline Dubien 705-888-0021



**RANKIN'S LANDING** 3 bdrm, 2 bath, end unit. Open concept living with skylight, wood f/p, walkout to large deck. Lower level family room w/gas f/p/stove. **\$169,900** Anthony Bauer 519-270-6336



**CHRISTIE BEACH WATERFRONT** 70' of sand beach, 243' extra deep lot. Gorgeous views & sunsets. Safe beach for children. Older 2 bdrm summer cottage w/lrg deck. **\$449,000** Anthony Bauer 519-270-6336



**THE VIEWS DON'T GET ANY BETTER THAN THIS!!** Dramatic views from 2 +/- acres located on a paved road, 5 mins to Thornbury. Build your dream home! **\$339,000** Jim Chapman 705-446-7733



**LITERALLY ON THE HILL AT BLUE** Intrust's best building, Weider Lodge. Newly upgraded, sleeps 8 comfortably, 2 full baths, 2 kitchens. **2 Suites for \$369,900** Connie or Bill Thompson 705-888-0808



**A VIEW FOR ALL SEASONS** 3+ bdrm home on 1 landscaped acre overlooks Beaver Valley. Easy winter access, plenty of parking, recroom w/fireplace, recently updated interior. **\$348,000** Betty Hancey 705-444-4139



**HISTORIC BATTEAUX HOME** Nearly an acre of manicured gardens and grounds, 5 minutes to Collingwood. The barn is converted to living space with recent mechanical upgrades. **\$349,000** Doug Linton 705-444-9643



**BREATHTAKING VIEWS** of the Mountain & Georgian Bay. Stunning finishes throughout this 5 bdrm/3 bath custom built home. Located between Georgian Bay Club & Peaks. **\$599,900** [www.114hooverlane.com](http://www.114hooverlane.com) Michael Kearns 705-888-2888



**MAGNIFICENT 50 ACRE ESTATE** Stunning views. Over 950 ft on Beaver River. Custom built 4,900 sq ft. Open concept. Geothermal. Immaculately landscaped. Minutes to Thornbury. B&B potential. **\$789,000** Michael Kearns 705-888-2888



**ATTENTION SKIERS!** Beautifully maintained and ideally located 4 bedroom, 4 bath, 4 season chalet. Ski Blue, Craigleith, Alpine or Peaks...this one could be for you! **\$379,000** Doug Beaumont 705-606-1046



**NESTLED BETWEEN GEORGIAN PEAKS AND GEORGIAN BAY CLUB** Beautifully landscaped 1.32 acre lot backing onto the Georgian Trail. Just under 3,200 sq ft with 4 bedrooms. **\$499,900** Doug Beaumont 705-606-1046



**YEAR-ROUND WATERFRONT HOME** On a quiet lane w/direct views from dining/great room & master suite. Walkouts to large raised deck & screened-in porch. 110 ft waterfront. **\$469,900** Hugh Dunbar 519-375-0740



**GREAT LIFESTYLE LOCATION** 5 bdrm, 3 bath, 3,000 sq ft with plenty of privacy. Path to beach at the end of driveway. 5 mins to Georgian Peaks/Georgian Bay Golf Club. **\$389,900** Martin Oosterveld 705-446-8747



**NEW PRICE INCREDIBLE VALUE!** Applejack condo, 2 bdrms/2 baths. Lower level family room/patio walkout. Main floor - Brazilian hardwood, cathedral ceiling, fireplace, deck. **\$154,900** Martha P. Whitton 705-443-9022



**COLLINGWOOD CHARMER** New kitchen, main floor family room w/heated slate floors. Loaded with original woodwork. Would suit home occupation w/street access to detached shop. **\$269,900** Martha P. Whitton 705-443-9022



**BUCOLIC: (PICTURESQUE IN ITS NATURAL SIMPLICITY)** describes this 97.5 acre Beaver Valley farm. Panoramic views. 4 bdrm farmhouse & barn need TLC or build your "dream home". **\$525,000** **MLS#20105950** Lorraine Bull 705-446-5034



**FABULOUS 54 ACRES BEAVER VALLEY** Spectacular views. Open concept, gourmet kitchen, wood burning f/p, 4 bdrms, 4 bath in-law suite. In-ground pool, 2 car garage w/workshop. **\$875,000** Sue/Marilyn 519-599-3300



**SECLUDED 48 ACRES WITH VIEW** Cozy 3 bedroom, 2 bath log home w/wraparound deck; large pond. Wood burning fireplace, updated kitchen; mn/fl master w/ensuite. Close to skiing. **\$495,000** Marilyn/Sue 519-599-3300



**LORA BAY 13TH FAIRWAY** 4 bdrm, 3 1/2 bath bungalow. Open concept, mstr on main w/ensuite, kitchen w/granite counters. Finished lower level. Close to skiing & town. **\$659,000** Sue/Marilyn 519-599-3300



**GEORGIAN VIEW ESTATES** Lovely 3 bdrm, 3 bath bungalow. Private landscaped lot. Master on main w/ensuite, large open concept living/dining/kitchen. Minutes to skiing & town. **\$465,000** Marilyn/Sue 519-599-3300



**LORA BAY END VILLA** Open concept; custom kit., gas f/p, master w/ensuite, 3 bdrms, 3 1/2 baths. Private terrace with view to woods. Finished lwr lvl. Attached 2 car garage. **\$489,900** Sue/Marilyn 519-599-3300



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



**HUME ST. COMMERCIAL ZONING** Permits many uses such as medical clinic, professional office, retirement facility. Call for details. **\$925,000** **MLS#20105626** Wayne Cornfield 705-444-7669

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Meaford Waterfront on Georgian Beach, Cottage with adjacent lot. Located in a desirable country setting just minutes to downtown Meaford. Exceptional views & private treed setting with access from two private roads. Asking \$539,000



Big Head River – A spectacular 50 Acre Parcel with 2000' of The Big Head River running through the property. Paradise offered \$329,000



Rob Roy, Clearview – A rare & private offering. 5,000 sq.ft. modern home nestled into the forest perched above a spring-fed pond. 10 minutes to Glen, Osler, Collingwood. Offered at 2,250,000



Grey Highlands fully equipped Equestrian Centre – with stalls for 49 horses, training ring and arena on 97 acres – including 1362 sq.ft. home. All building 7 years old or less. Asking \$990,000



MEAFORD. Great Lot! Great Location! Across the street from Beautiful Joe Park & the Bighead River - a short walk to downtown. Many recent upgrades. Offered at \$339,000



Collingwood – Spectacular upgraded 4+1 bedroom 2800+ basement Barrington model in a quiet corner of Georgian Meadows. Features gourmet kitchen, luxury master suite & vaulted ceiling. Offered at \$384,900



Thornbury – The Woods. Designers personal residence...and it shows. Quality of finishes evident in this 2,700 sq.ft. home includes fireplaces, home gym, open office & much more. Offered at \$350,000



### FEATURE LISTING

BASE OF ALPINE SKI CLUB – Fantastic Craftsman home that wants for nothing. 10,000 sq.ft., 8 bedrooms, backing onto Craigleith Provincial Park. Pool, outdoor kitchen, 10 person spa, for luxury inside and out. Ready for ski season. Offered at **\$3,600,000**







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Cozy 3 bdrm with Nanny suite potential. Treed lot, detached garage & large paved drive. Stroll to downtown & Bay.  
Faith Lupia\*\* 705-229-9413 **\$209,900**



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8 yr old fully finished bungalow boasts open concept main level, gas fireplace and large master w/ensuite.  
Connie O'Shell\*\* 705-444-3154 **\$399,000**



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2 storey, 2 kitchens, 6+2 bdrms, 4 baths & finished basement all set on large lot.  
www.46Donald.com  
Larry Farrall\* 705-606-0043 **\$310,000**



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2 bdrm, 2 bath condo in prestigious Raglan Village features access to salt water pool, bar/bistro and private dining facilities.  
Melanie Moss\* 705-888-1578 **\$234,900**



#### FAMILY FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD

2+2 bedroom, 3 bath home features an eat-in kitchen, master w/ensuite, finished basement and more!  
Jeff McInnis\*\* 705-446-6438 **\$345,000**



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Valerie Scott\* 705-606-0955 **\$220,000**



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John deRuiter\* 705-351-9013 **\$257,000**



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Spacious 3,400 sq ft, 4 bedroom, 3-1/2 bath home with over 2-1/2 acres of land to enjoy.  
myhomes.360photo.ca/6110  
Sandy Shannon\*\* 705-445-7833 **\$399,900**



#### MONTEREA ESTATES

Stunning open concept, gleaming hardwood floors, 3,600 sq ft set on large private lot. 5 bdrm, 3 bath home.  
Bonnie House\* 705-444-9323 **\$499,900**



#### BEAUTIFULLY DESIGNED

4+1 bdrm, 3-1/2 bath, 3,652 sq ft Georgian Meadows home boasts many upgrades.  
myhomes.thevirtualtourcompany.ca/6166  
Greg Syrota\* 705-446-8082 **\$374,500**



#### COUNTRY SETTING

Mins. to town, all brick, custom built. 4 bed, 3 bath, eat-in kitchen, h/w and more!  
myhomes.thevirtualtourcompany.ca/5933  
Debbie Bunston\* 705-444-2925 **\$349,000**



#### SCANDINAVIAN LOG HOME

3 bedroom, 3 bath home is set on 9.89 treed acres for your family to enjoy. Spacious eat-in kitchen.  
Stan Reljic\* 705-888-5124 **\$689,000**



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\$3,395,000 Spectacular in every way! 6 bdrm, 4.5 bath. Radiant heating throughout. 4 fireplaces, gourmet kitchen, sep. nanny suite (apartment). Large pond. Silver Creek runs through property. 42 acres, 180° views of Georgian Bay. Judy Crompton\*\* 705.444.9312 Paige Young\* 705.241.2433



**A JEWEL ON THE WATERFRONT**

\$2,600,000 Unparalleled shoreline property w/exquisite tranquil setting. Fabulous 128 ft. protected sandy beach w/remarkable views of the bay from all levels of the home. 8 bdrms, 7 baths, 4 fireplaces, heated boat house. High end detailing throughout. Anthea White\*\* 705.446.8520



<http://myhomes.360photo.ca/6099>

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



**EXCEPTIONAL 47+ ACRE PROPERTY**

\$1,275,000 Expansive views of the Bay and Beaver Valley. Huge receiving rooms w/fireplaces, summer room, renovated kitchen complete w/fireplace, 5 beds including master w/ensuite & fireplace. Den, private sitting areas, 5 baths. Elegance personified! Anthea White\*\* 705.446.8520



**STUNNING DOWNTOWN HOME**

\$1,200,000 In the heart of Collingwood, this Century home has been lovingly restored & maintained. More than meets the eye! Attached offices, detached coach house, wood working shop, double lot & charm & character of yesteryear. Sandee Roberts\*\* 705.446.7775



**NEW HOME – LORA BAY**

\$1,195,000 Luxury & location w/views of Georgian Bay. Generous list of appointments. Superior construction w/incredible detail. Master bdrm w/full ensuite on each level. Builder will finish bsmt to your desires inc. in price. Raven Golf Course. Shelly Paul\*\* 705.888.0225



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PANORAMIC BAY VIEW

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



ADDRESS OF DISTINCTION

\$879,000 Evergreen Estates, this custom built home is nestled at the end of a quiet cul-de-sac and offers 4 bedrooms, 4 baths, oversized garage, quality construction with attention to detail. The great view of Blue is a bonus! Sandee Roberts\*\* 705.446.7775



100 FT WATERFRONT

\$869,000 Open concept – 3 bedroom, 3 bath waterfront home on Teskey Court. 100 feet of Georgian Bay waterfront. Garage and bunkie. Easy to view. Call for details. Judy Crompton\*\* 705.444.9312 VTour: http://myhomes.360photo.ca/6354



MINUTES TO GEORGIAN PEAKS

\$839,000 Stunning 5 bedroom custom home on private lot. 5 minutes to Thornbury. Bright open concept living, dining and kitchen areas. Main floor master with spa, ensuite featuring a steam shower, private water closet and natural stone. Paige Young\* 705.241.2433



STONE HOME ON 97 ACRES

\$799,000 4000 sq ft of elegance; cathedral ceilings, Brazilian cherry floors, gourmet kitchen and top-of-the-line appliances, main floor master w/ensuite. Lower level walkout, geothermal heating/cooling & separate observatory. Incredibly special property! Shelly Paul\*\* 705.888.0225



MONTERRA ESTATES

\$799,000 Newly quality constructed custom bungalow done to perfection! Golf course views. Generous principal rooms, gourmet kitchen, master w/ensuite (shower + tub), 3 car garage, very upscale w/attention to details & superior finishing. Ilse Ayers\*\* ilseayers@chestnutpark.com



ROCKLYN ACADEMY

\$799,000 This pristine turnkey property offers 3 buildings & 8000 sq ft barn on 75.36 acres. Many uses w/zoning in place for commercial greenhouses & other uses such as riding, tennis & hockey schools as well as an accessory single family attached dwelling. Sue Mallett\* 705.444.7181



NEWTON WAY AT OSLER BLUFF

\$798,000 A perfect chalet with 4609 sq ft 4+ bedroom, 3 bath, ground floor family room, recreation room, play rooms, double car garage with inside entry. 3 fireplaces and ski shuttle at your door. Sue Mallett\* 705.444.7181/ Laurie Westlake\* 705.446.7747



BASE OF BLUE MOUNTAIN!

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



BEST OF THE BEST @ BLUE

\$675,000 3 bdrm furnished, inc. washer, dryer, bar fridge/wine cooler, 2-sided f/p, custom kit. w/stainless appliances. Spectacular views. Southern exposure. Year round heated outdoor pool w/adjoining lap pool, hot tub, exercise room & sauna. Sleeps 10. Ellen Jarman\* 705.441.2630



THE SHIPYARDS

\$669,000 Walk to shops and restaurants from your open concept 2229 sq ft attractively appointed waterfront condo with panoramic water views, ground floor master suite and second level guest suite and state-of-the-art kitchen. Sue Mallett\* 705.444.7181



LEGENDARY LOG HOME

\$649,000 At the base of the ski hills. Over 3000 sq ft, 2 + 2 bedrooms, 3 baths, custom kitchen with granite counters, gas fireplace, in-law capability in lower level with 2 bedrooms, and full kitchen, radiant floors and much more! Barb Picot\*/Ron Picot\* 705.444.3452



MULTI-SEASON PRIME LOCATION

\$629,000 Walk to chair lifts & Intrawest Village. Stunning views of Blue Mountain! 3694 sq ft large open concept living dining, kitchen, wood burning fireplace. Great for entertaining. Barb Picot\*/Ron Picot\* 705.444.3452



LOCATION PLUS!

\$599,900 Imagine owning over 8 acres w/your own 28'x44' shop. 2 bdrm in-law suite apartment + main residence offers 2200 sq ft of fin. space, 4 bdrms+office, 2 baths, wood burning f/p. Mins. to Osler, Blue Mountain & Collingwood. Barb Picot\*/RonPicot\* 705.444.3452



WATERFRONT GEM

\$585,000 One floor living in this large 2 bedroom, 2 bath upgraded luxury condo on the water at Lighthouse Point. Striking views of Georgian Bay. Indoor/outdoor pools, tennis, marina and close to skiing, golf and shops. Sue Mallett\* 705.444.7181



BLUE SHORES BEAUTY!

\$599,000 Great space, 6 bedrooms, 5.5 baths on a Georgian Bay inlet. Steps to marina, tennis, recreation centre w/indoor & outdoor salt water pools in gated community minutes to skiing, golf and shops. Sue Mallett\* 705.444.7181



CENTRAL COLLINGWOOD CHARM

\$595,000 Unique 6 bedroom, 3 bath, 3700 sq ft circa 1910 on an 84' x 210' lot with garden studio. Private staircase to secluded master suite. The design, location and other features offer a large family or B&B opportunity. Sue Mallett\* 705.444.7181



ROLLING ACRES – STREAM & VIEWS!

\$573,500 You could own Victoria Acres Sunflower farm. 2580 sq ft century double brick home built in late 1878 offering 36.25 acres. 3 bdrm, 3 bath, hardwood flooring, 9 ft ceilings. Insulated shop, bunkhouse & much more! Brendan Thomson\*/Barbara Pugh\* 705.606.1270



BEAVER VALLEY BUNGALOW

\$549,000 Beautiful views, chic interior finishes. Custom kitchen and baths, hardwood flooring, expansive deck. Fully finished lower level will accommodate all your family and friends! John M. Kacmar/Diana Lea Berdini\*\* 705.444.4968



BEECH STREET – COLLINGWOOD

\$498,000 Move to one of the favoured tree streets! Open concept kit/dng/lvg room w/hardwood floors, an office-library-guestroom on main floor. Upper level has 2 bdrms, a den or exercise room & 3 pc. bath. Main floor master w/ensuite. Laurie Westlake\* 705.446.7747



COZY SNOWBRIDGE CONDO

\$459,000 3 bdrm, 3 bath condo. Living, dining & kitchen hw/cathedral ceilings & extra windows to view mountains & let the sun shine in. Furnished & tastefully decorated. Backs onto greenbelt & views of Monterra Golf Course & Blue. HST has been paid. Ellen Jarman\* 705.441.2630



THORNBURY BUNGALOW

\$445,000 Rare find on 1.3 acre nature preserve w/creek, ponds, boardwalk & meticulous landscaping. 3 bdrm, 2 bath fully renovated w/post & beam addition, slate floors, high end finishes, windows & doors. Steam room & outdoor shower. Bill Muns\*\* 705.443.1121 www.billmuns.com



STATELY RED BRICK HOME

\$439,900 Something for everyone...detached garage/workshop for dad, media room for the kids, fenced yard for the pets, gourmet kitchen for mom plus a 3 bdrm suite for the in-laws. Landscaped lot, hot tub, 7 bdrms all on the outskirts of Collingwood. Sandee Roberts\*\* 705.446.7775



TANGLEWOOD TOWNHOME

\$434,000 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, open concept living, dining and kitchen with cathedral ceiling, granite kitchen counters, single garage, backing onto enchanting woodland views & green space. Many upgrades. Barb Picot\*/ Ron Picot\* 705.444.3452



SUNSET POINT COLLINGWOOD

\$425,000 Exceptional location. 4 bdrms, 3 baths, walk to Georgian Bay. Hear the waves. Fully landscaped, in-ground pool, det. 1.5 car garage, full front porch & 4 season sunroom. Hardwood floors, gas fireplace, appliances included. Jen Scholte\*\* 705.444.4949



MONTERRA RIDGE ESTATES

\$414,900 Strategically located close to Blue Mountain and Village and overlooking Monterra Golf Course. 3 bedroom, 3 bath condo with garage and basement in an exclusive enclave of 27 units. Other models available. Ilse Ayers\*\* www.monterraridge.com



MARSH ST. CLARKSBURG

\$390,000 Beautiful red brick century home in the heart of Blue mountains w/a view of Georgian Peaks. 4 bedrooms, large principal rooms feature many original details. Detached garage/barn adding additional charm to property. Lot is 330' deep. Keith Hull\*\* 705.444.5855 www.keithhull.com



EXCEPTIONAL LOCATION

\$329,900 Immaculate Wasaga Beach home. Ministry of Natural Resources Park Land at your door. 3 bdrms, 3 baths, oak hardwood floors, 9 ft ceilings, central air, sprinkler system, bright walk out basement. Jen Scholte\*\* 705.444.4949



FABULOUS HOME – GEORGIAN MEADOWS

\$389,900 Plenty of space to entertain w/4+2 bdrms & 4 baths. Cathedral ceilings in foyer extending into dining room w/large windows & plenty of natural light. Dbl. attached garage. Upgrades incl. kitchen w/granite counters & more! Barb Picot\*/ Ron Picot\* 705.444.3452



AFFORDABLE LUXURY!

\$375,000 Spectacular views and sunsets all year long! 3 bedroom, \$30,000 worth of upgrades. 3 exterior lockers plus a 4 ft x 6 ft indoor storage locker. Shows like new and must be seen! John M. Kacmar/Diana Lea Berdini\*\* 705.444.4968



GREY HIGHLANDS – BUNGALOW

\$355,000 Enjoy this fantastic property with wildlife and more than 66 species of birds can be seen from every room. Beautiful pond with cedar backdrop. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, attached double garage. 3.9 private acres. Barbara Pugh\*/Brendan Thomson\* 705.606.1270



PRETTY RIVER VALLEY

\$345,000 Sprawling country home on 3 acres near top of scenic valley. Across from Provincial Park, nature trails & wildlife habitat. Large principal rooms, 4 bdrms, 2 baths, 2 cozy wood burning fireplaces. Large detached workshop/garage – insulated & heated Bill Muns\*\* 705.443.1121



PRIDE OF OWNERSHIP!

\$337,000 4 bdrm, 3 bath home on a beautifully landscaped lot. Fully fenced. Entertain on the spacious deck w/built-in seating & covered hot tub. Features include a main floor family room and gas f/p in the living room. Family neighbourhood. Laurie Westlake\* 705.446.7747



HISTORIC SNOWBRIDGE

\$329,000 2 bedroom/2 bath luxurious condo. One level with ground floor entry. Upgraded unit shows to perfection. Designer décor, stainless steel appliances. Gas fireplace, private patio, jet tub in maser ensuite. Ilse Ayers\*\* ilseayers@chestnutpark.com



INVESTORS TAKE NOTE!

\$299,000 2 detached homes on 1 property, steps to water in east Collingwood. Beautifully renovated w/an upscale flair. Each have 2 bdrms & 1 full bath. Det. garage & ample parking, generous lot w/mature trees. Live in 1 – have the other pay mortgage. Shelly Paul\*\* 705.888.0225



MEAFORD CENTURY HOME

\$299,000 Fully renovated to its original glory, on a sprawling 1.4 acre property at the top of the hill near Beautiful Joe Park & the Bighead River. Lots of hardwood, renovated kitchen, bathroom, deck overlooking wonderful lawns and trees. Great quality and value at this price. Bill Muns\*\* 705.443.1121



MULTI-LEVEL LIVING

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



RIVER RUN BUNGALOW

\$278,000 3+1 bdrm – 2 bath home in established neighborhood. Open concept feat. large eat-in kitchen which opens onto large deck. Finished lower level family room w/bar (granite counters & stone front) + additional bdrm & 3-pce. bath. Laurie Westlake\* 705.446.7747



FAMILY MEMORIES MADE HERE

\$269,000 Adorable bungalow on coveted Brophys Lane. Fully winterized & beautifully renovated, 3 bdrms, 2 bthrms. Steps to deeded sandy beach & mins to the ski hills. Generous & mature treed property offers privacy with an option to expand the building envelope. Shelly Paul\*\* 705.888.0225



COME BE IMPRESSED

\$264,900 Great family neighbourhood. Totally renovated side split home w/1 bdrm in-law suite w/full size kitchen & private courtyard. Gourmet kitchen w/granite counters & lots of cupboards. Air-conditioned det. garage makes a great workshop. Sandee Roberts\*\* 705.446.7775



PANORAMIC GOLF COURSE VIEW

\$239,900 Exceptional – well appointed condo. Bright and spacious in desirable location. 3 bdrms, 2.5 baths. High efficiency gas forced air furnace, air conditioning, open concept kit., liv., dining area w/private treed patio overlooking the golf course. Barb Picot\*/ Ron Picot\* 705.444.3452



LIGHTHOUSE POINT CONDO

\$239,000 Great value! Spacious 3 bedroom, 3 bath, 2 storey end unit. 2 balconies, gas f/p, engineered flooring and Berber carpet. 4 appliances included. Enjoy fabulous Lighthouse Point recreation centre, pools, tennis! John M. Kacmar/Diana Lea Berdini\*\* 705.444.4968



THE PRICE WILL MOVE YOU!

\$239,000 Newly painted 3 bed home w/lv master, walk-in closet & semi ensuite. Open concept kitchen w/bright living rm facing fully fenced yard. 1.5 car garage, & partially finished basement. Bill Muns\*\* 705.443.1121/Charity Lakk\* 705.444.9690



SPECTACULAR WATERFRONT CONDO

\$219,900 Spectacular price! Just slashed, this condo features 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, 3 levels w/views of Georgian Bay from each level. Gas f/p on the main floor, wood burning f/p on the third floor, lots of storage & many renovations completed. Sandee Roberts\*\* 705.446.7775



GROUND FLOOR LIGHTHOUSE

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



BUILDING LOT ON 5TH STREET

\$164,900 In the centre core of Collingwood. Municipal services at the lot line. Natural gas also available. No development charges payable if permits by MARCH 16, 2011.Walk to Collingwood shops & restaurants.Barb Picot\*/Ron Picot\* 705.444.3452



ECONOMICAL TOWNHOME

\$159,000 This 3 bdrm, 3 bath home offers open concept living and shows beautifully. Large kit/lvg/dng w/gas f/p & hardwood floors. Master has a walk-in closet & 4-pce ensuite. Full finished bsmt. A great place for families or those that like to entertain. Laurie Westlake\* 705.446.7747



THE MEADOWS – CRANBERRY

\$147,900 2 bedroom, 2 bath open concept with cathedral ceilings, lovely new kitchen cupboards & backsplash, wood burning fireplace, sun deck with westerly exposure, numerous exterior upgrades complete. Carol Whyne\* 705.441.6709





**BASE OF BLUE**

Walking distance to Blue Mountain Inn and the North Chair. 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 3rd floor family room with view of Georgian Bay.  
**\$839,000** MLS® #20106037



**SILVER GLEN PRESERVE**

Choose from 2 storey townhomes and loft bungalows and a variety of floor plans. **Models range from \$252,290 to \$397,500.** See L.B.O. for more details.



**100 ACRE ESTATE**

Custom built ranch bungalow with main floor master. Beautiful pond and views of country-side and Georgian Bay.  
**\$1,595,000** MLS® #20103873



**LORA BAY HARBOUR LOTS**

First 5 lot purchasers receive a family golf membership valued at approx. \$25,000. Financing available for qualified buyers.  
**\$179,000 to \$249,000**



**SNOWBRIDGE**

One of a kind 6100 sq ft post and beam chalet. Unobstructed view of the mountain across Monterra golf course.  
**\$1,389,000** MLS® #20105629



**LORA BAY**

4300 sq ft ranch bungalow with 3 bedrooms at the 12th tee of the Raven Golf Course. Main floor master, finished lower level.  
**\$791,000** MLS® #20106023



**PEAKS BAY**

Registered waterfront development across from Georgian Peaks Ski Club, with great vistas of Georgian Bay and the Escarpment.  
**Lots range from \$195,000 to \$375,000.**



**SOUTH END OF BLUE**

Great views of the mountain and surrounding area. 4000 sq ft home with 4 bedrooms. Heated garage – parking for 6.  
**\$999,000** MLS® #20104858



**AMAZING VIEWS**

6 bedroom, 4 bath timber frame chalet on treed and private lot overlooking Osler Bluff. Close to ski clubs and hiking trails.  
**\$1,299,900** MLS® #20103338



**Eleven BAY STREET**

Exclusive residential community consisting of 13 townhomes situated just steps from the waterfront in the centre of Thornbury.  
**\$650,000 to \$1,250,000.**



**UNOBSTRUCTED VIEW OF BLUE**

Great location, walk to ski hills and Intrawest Village. Main floor master bedroom w/ensuite; total of 4 bedrooms and 3 baths.  
**\$569,000** MLS® #20104176



**WATERFRONT**

Great opportunity to own on "million dollar" street in Craigleith. Cozy cottage on awesome waterfront lot with sandy beach.  
**\$649,000** MLS® #20105779



**GEORGIAN BAY VIEW**

9+ acre parcel, consisting of 2 properties and 2 homes. Ideal for estate or family compound. Severance has been applied for.  
**\$895,000** MLS® #20106025  
**\$395,000** MLS® #20106118



**MAGNIFICENT IN ALL SEASONS**

5 bedroom chalet located on dead end street at base of Blue ski runs. Property is approved and licensed for a B&B.  
**\$985,000** MLS® #20106188



**NIPISSING RIDGE III**

New phase of existing Nipissing Ridge subdivision in popular recreational area. Walk to Craigleith and Alpine Ski Club. **Lots range from \$209,000 to \$539,000**



**SNOWBRIDGE**

3,260 sq ft home with 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, fully finished lower level. Great views of Blue, short walk to the Village or use the shuttle service.  
**\$799,000** MLS® #20105679



**TANGLEWOOD AT CRANBERRY TRAIL**

3 bedroom, 2 storey townhome. View of ski hills from upper bedroom. Quick possession possible.  
**\$299,000** MLS® #20110090



**LORA BAY VILLA**

2 storey condo with 2 master bedrooms, each with their own ensuite. Located in a beautiful 4 season golf and waterfront community.  
**\$374,900** MLS® #20110024



**WALK TO THE MOUNTAIN**

Completely and tastefully remodeled chalet. Excellent location, large outdoor covered hot tub, front and rear decks.  
**\$489,000** MLS® #20105648



**COLLINGWOOD CENTURY HOME**

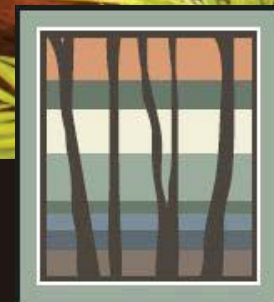
Collingwood Century Home with 70's style "ski chalet" attached. Ideal for 2 families or as a commercial operation.  
**\$649,000** MLS® #20106320

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**TECHNOLOGY HAS TAKEN OVER OUR LIVES.** If your home is anything like mine, electronics rule the roost.

We all have our own laptops, iPods and cell phones. There is a flat screen in the family room, a couple of game consoles in the basement rec room and cordless phones scattered throughout the house. I usually find them buried in the sofa, next to the TV remote.

We've also upgraded all of our appliances over the years to sleek, energy efficient models.

My 84-year-old mother just shakes her head in wonder at the latest electronic gadgets on the

market. I still remember way back when my parents bought their first colour TV. The old black-and-white console was relegated to the basement. A few years later, we got the Atari Pong game – one of the world's first video games.

I also remember getting our first dishwasher. We all rejoiced until Mom demanded that every dish be pre-washed before it was put into the machine. For Christmas one year, all five of us kids pitched in and bought my parents a microwave oven. It was this huge box and it was loud, but it was the coolest thing ever.

My parents continue to embrace new technology. Dad just bought a new flat screen TV for his den and he has his own laptop, but he prefers to leave it plugged in and sitting on his desk.

These days, full automation is pretty well standard in renovated and new homes. Lighting, electronics, security – you name it – can all be controlled from one remote or your laptop.

In this issue of OUR HOMES, we take you to Craig and Susan Farrow's fabulous log home that combines chalet charm and cutting edge technology from their company Farrow AV. They even have an all-season TV outside that you can watch from the hot tub (page 46).

Do your 2011 plans include a kitchen or bathroom renovation? They will after you check out the incredible kitchen and bathrooms designed by Missy Sharp and Jennifer Bramwell, page 82. I also encourage you to visit the OUR HOMES new and improved website at [www.ourhomesmagazine.com](http://www.ourhomesmagazine.com) and take a guided video tour of three fab new kitchens. In this issue, we also showcase three more homes that may help you in your search for your next dwelling (page 106).

Snow is like fine champagne in this beautiful corner of the world. Pop open your doors and get out there and enjoy the rest of this fantastic winter season.

Sincerely,

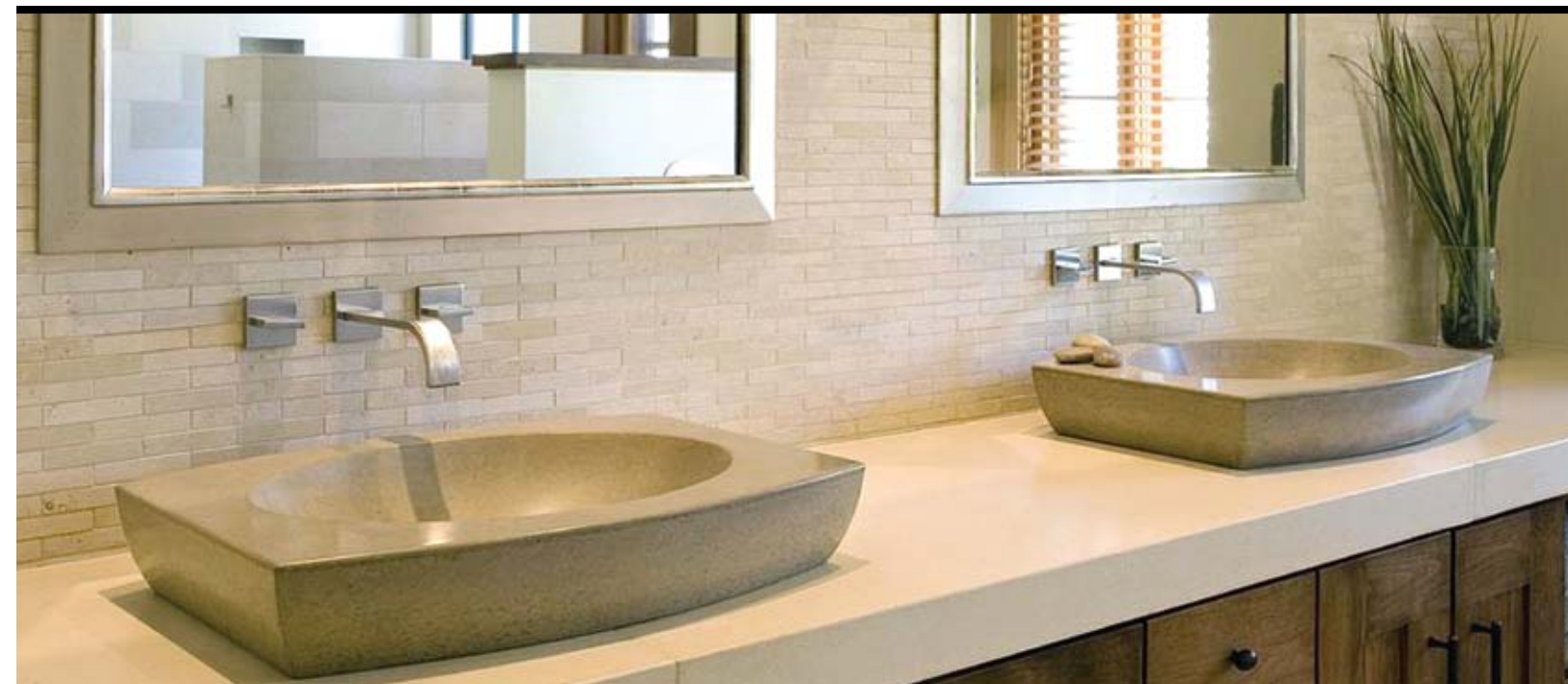
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Georgette'.

Georgette McCulloch, Editor-In-Chief  
[editor@ourhomesmagazine.com](mailto:editor@ourhomesmagazine.com)

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## publisher's note



Pictured here, some members of the OUR HOMES team (and I me!).

### IT IS OUR FIFTH ANNIVERSARY AS A MAGAZINE!

Remember our premiere issue, so long ago? The first OUR HOMES ever, published here in Southern Georgian Bay, was just 40 pages, and it contained many of the elements that make our magazine the success that it is today.

It is safe to say that we are evolving in a manner that is without a doubt resulting in a more rewarding experience for our readers, and that translates into unprecedented value for our advertisers.

Over the last five years the company has grown substantially.

Shortly after our first issue came out, we realized that we had hit upon something very special: the concept of a premium, local homes and décor magazine, with local content, but attracting a loyal fan base of sophisticated readers whose love towards OUR HOMES rivals the admiration they feel for their more national magazine brands.

Under the strong leadership of Georgette McCulloch, our editorial content has matured and flourished into what it is today, and in turn the relationship we have with our readers has been strengthened enormously. All of which makes for unparalleled value for our advertisers, especially when complemented by the exceptional value-added marketing programs only offered by OUR HOMES.

As a result, our successful model has expanded, via franchising.

We are now publishing (or about to publish) in 14 local markets across Ontario and British Columbia, and we expect to expand right across Canada soon, which of course only means extra value for our local advertisers due to the larger audience, even outside our geographical boundaries.

For all of this, and for the fun we're having along the way, I am incredibly grateful to our readers for loving us, to our advertisers for supporting us, and to my staff and contributors. OUR HOMES is a wonderful, living, breathing thing, made up of, well, you and your support!

We only have more amazing things in our future, and I am so thankful you are along for the ride.

Sincerely,

David Loopstra, President, Our Homes Media Group Inc.  
david@ourhomemagazine.com



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PS...This issue we are introducing bar code "tags" to allow our advertisers to put a little more content in their ads. Simply use your smart phone to scan the tags and go from there. To get you started, we put a little video together taking you behind the pages at OUR HOMES magazine. Scan the barcode above to watch our video (or visit our website). Enjoy!

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Lora Bay



Bordering the Raven Golf Club, LORA BAY is the perfect four-season community. Close to Collingwood and Meaford, LORA BAY offers a private BeachClub, a residents' only Lodge with over 10,000 sq. ft. of recreational and social amenities and hundreds of glorious acres to explore. Welcome to LORA BAY Living!

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\*The first five purchasers of either a Masters or Clubhouse Collection home at Lora Bay by Reid's Heritage Homes will have the Family Entrance Fee of \$25,000 waived. The first five purchasers of a Cottage Collection home at Lora Bay by Reid's Heritage Homes will receive a year of free golf for both an individual and a spouse. Agreements must be firm to qualify. Not redeemable for cash. \*Prices and specifications subject to change. See sales representatives for more details. E. & O.E. Renderings are artist's concept. Jan 2011.

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OUR HOMES is distributed via Canada Post to the majority of homes in southern Georgian Bay and via  
addressed mail to the GTA addresses of everyone who owns recreational property in southern Georgian Bay,  
yet lives primarily in the GTA. OUR HOMES is also available for free pickup throughout Collingwood,  
Blue Mountain, Wasaga Beach, Clearview Township, Thornbury and Meaford. OUR HOMES is also  
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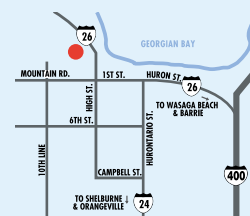
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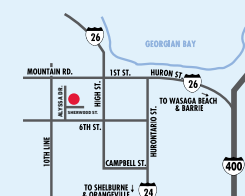
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The ultimate high-tech log cabin Story, page 46. Photography by Sandy Mackay.



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## advice

Designer **Stephanie Redmond** answers your questions.

If you need help, send your questions to [stephanie@ourhomesmagazine.com](mailto:stephanie@ourhomesmagazine.com)

### Dear Stephanie

I have a new sideboard in my dining room and I want to hang a painting or a mirror above it. How long should the piece be and how high do I hang it from the top of the sideboard?

- Donna

#### Stephanie Redmond Replies:

Here are a few simple guidelines to take into account:

- Always inset your artwork to the furniture below. The sideboard should not feel overshadowed by the piece that hangs above.
- Are you using wall sconces on either side of the art? Allow enough breathing room and include that space in your overall measure for width.
- Maintain a relationship with the sideboard by keeping the artwork close. The piece should not feel like it's floating in the space above.
- If using a mirror, you have to consider the distance to the sideboard, but also the reflection.

It's the relationship between the two pieces that is important. The buddy system is a great way to judge this. Have a friend hold it up for you, stand back and see if you like the way it looks. Sometimes it just feels right.

### Dear Stephanie

Recently, I've been hearing and seeing a lot about "transitional" style. Can you tell me what it is and how I can introduce this style into my more traditional home?

- Suzanne

#### Stephanie Redmond Replies:

Key words enter into our lexicon like trends and the word transitional has become a catch-all term for a "cleaned up" traditional look. It has derived from exactly what you are attempting – to streamline your existing traditional décor. You won't ditch everything and switch to ultra-modern, but you're willing to scale back the chintz.

The removal of pattern and introduction of texture plays a key role. To achieve the look, you need to use pattern sparingly. Throw cushions, wallpaper, sofas; these are all acceptable applications, just not together!

Switching to a transitional style is more an exercise in subtraction than addition. Do you have fringe trim on your sofas? Remove it. Do you have a pleated lampshade? Remove it. Do you have a hodge-podge of throw cushions on your sofa? Remove them. All can be replaced with a pared down version.

We don't have to eliminate all things traditional. Transitional is about keeping the good stuff but keeping it simple.

### Dear Stephanie

We just bought a very old home with lath and plaster walls. I want to start hanging art, shelves and mirrors but I don't want to make a mess of the already fragile walls. What can I do to make this an easy process?

- Faith

#### Stephanie Redmond Replies:

The answer is preparation. Have a tape measure, a pencil and a level on hand. Some scotch tape and a note pad are handy. And of course, the appropriate tools and hardware.

**ASSEMBLE** the items you wish to hang and then place them around your house in the appropriate locations. Remember, you're doing this once, so take your time.

**MEASURE** twice (or more)! Measure the pieces and mark the holes. Have someone there to help you hold the items up. Don't guess. It's difficult to judge if you're holding something straight when you're right in front of it.

**HARDWARE** is critical. Plaster walls are sensitive and can easily chip. Ask for the appropriate wall hangers, anchors and drill bits at a hardware store. You will likely need anchors as the lath and plaster is weight sensitive. Use them! You will avoid falling artwork and a chunk of missing wall in the long run.

**MESS** is containable. For a simple hanger put a small piece of clear tape on the wall, mark the tape with pencil, and then tap the nail in. Sometimes a small piece will chip off and the tape will at least contain that mess. When drilling, hold a piece of paper or dustpan underneath to catch the dust. This stops the fragments from falling to the floor and scattering.

Go for it! **OH**

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# Wood burning can be clean



## Best Burn Practices

A properly installed, correctly used wood-burning appliance should be smoke free. If you see or smell smoke that means you may have a problem. Practice the following guidelines to Burn Wise in your appliance and reduce smoke inside and outside your home.

## Practical Tips for Building a Fire

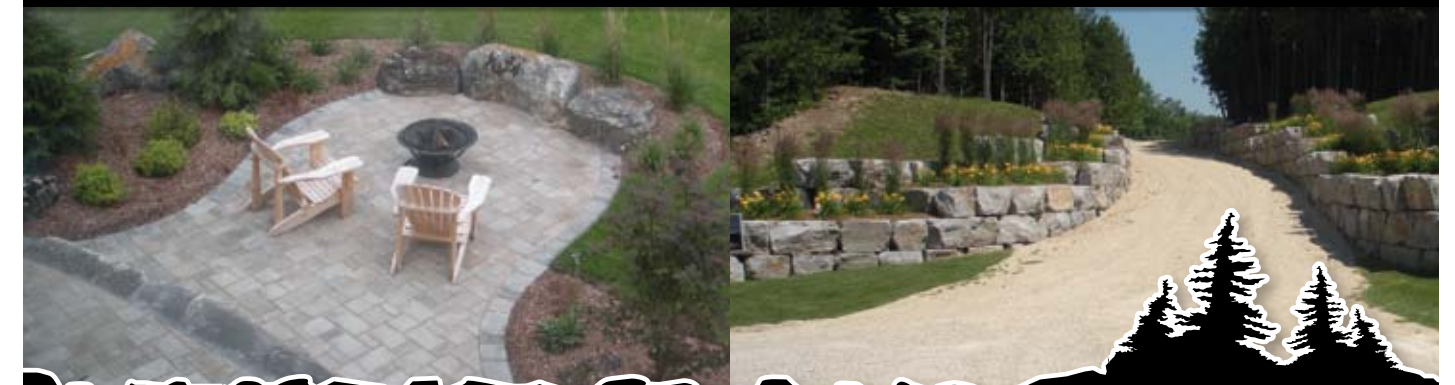
Once your wood-burning appliance is properly installed, building an effective fire requires good firewood (using the right wood in the right amount) and good fire building practices. The following practical steps will help you obtain the best efficiency from your wood stove.

- Season wood outdoors through the summer for at least 6 months before burning it. Properly seasoned wood is darker, has cracks in the end grain, and sounds hollow when smacked against another piece of wood.
- Wood burns best when the moisture content is less than 20 percent. You can purchase a wood moisture meter to test the moisture content of your wood before you burn it.
- Store wood outdoors, stacked neatly off the ground with the top covered.
- Burn only dry, well-seasoned wood that has been split properly.
- Start fires with newspaper and dry kindling.
- Burn hot fires.
- To maintain proper airflow, regularly remove ashes from your wood-burning appliance into a metal container with a cover and store outdoors.

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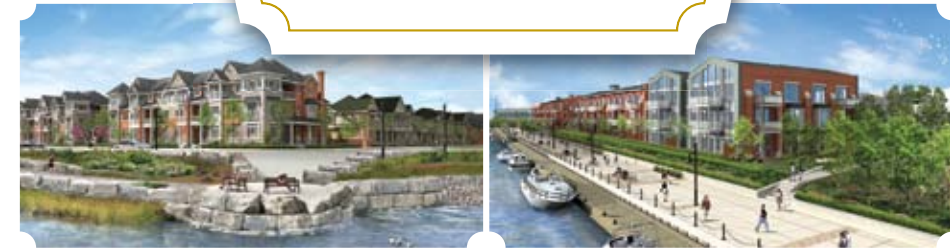
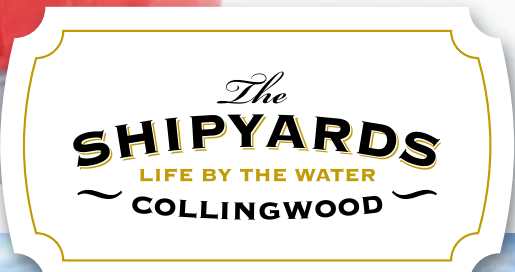
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## style picks

*"Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire: it is the time for home." – Edith Sitwell*

The ski season is all about making your home cosier, more beautiful and more enjoyable, and these picks will help you do just that. PHOTOGRAPHY BY BONNIE FOX



### ANGELS & RASCALS

#### (1) Owls

Hoo wouldn't want one of these adorable creatures? Hand-knitted by a local artist, these stuffed owls make great companions for kids of all ages. They're also a wise addition to any display. Other animals and Beatrix Potter characters also available.

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[www.angelsandrascals.ca](http://www.angelsandrascals.ca)

### DAGS & WILLOW

#### (2) Serving Dish

This one-of-a-kind cast aluminum bowl was creatively named and designed by South African artist Carrol Boyes. 'Men at Work' is sure to spark conversation among guests – especially if paired with Boyes' pewter utensils.

60 Pine St.

Collingwood

705.444.9100

[www.dagsandwillow.ca](http://www.dagsandwillow.ca)



3



### CORINTHIAN KITCHENS

#### (3) Wine Cabinet

Crafted from fruit wood and hand painted a deep sage with a distressed vintage look, this Karensa Wine Server features a pullout serving shelf and keyed locking doors.

99 King St. E.

Thornbury

519.599.2800

[www.corinthiankitchens.com](http://www.corinthiankitchens.com)

Continued on page 32

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#### PEAKS & RAFTERS

##### (4) Accent Pillows

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##### (5) Hallway Organizer

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5



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##### (6) Rocking Chair

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##### (7) Polish Pottery

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##### (8) Brix Chocolate

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[www.heavenlysweets.ca](http://www.heavenlysweets.ca)



8



9

#### VAN ALLAN DESIGN

##### (9) Lounge Chair

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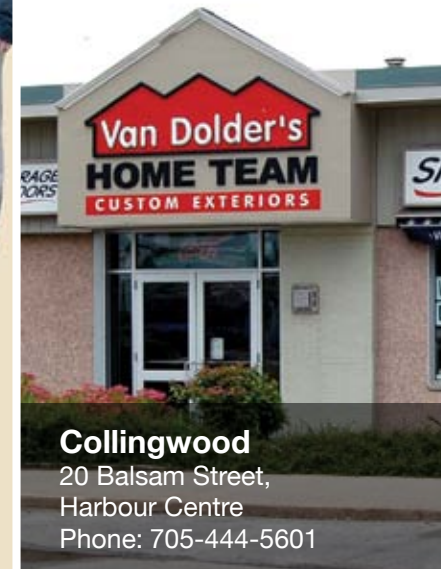
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# SMART METERS AND *candle-lit dinners*

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.

The other day, I got a phone call from an electricity retailer, one of those companies that offer you stable electricity prices for a period of three or five years. Such offers seem to make sense, because every April and November, the Ontario Energy Board “adjusts” the price we pay for hydro, usually upward.

It wasn’t the first time they’d called, yet in the past, I’ve always turned them down, and for two reasons. First, the price the retailers offered per kilowatt hour was always more than we were paying at the time. And second, because the cost

of the electricity itself is only a fraction of the total monthly power bill, the savings have never seemed that significant. The rest of the bill – up to 60 per cent most months – is made up of annoying extras like cost of delivery, debt retirement, something called “regulatory charges,” the new HST, plus an additional 1.1 per cent to make up for “losses in transmission.” Nobody is offering us savings on that part of it.

In the meantime, however, a lot has changed, or is about to, in how we are billed for electricity. Most of us will soon have activated “smart meters” that can record not only how much we use, but what time of the day we use it. It’s called Time of Use (TOU) metering and as the system is rolled out across the province, the utilities will charge us higher rates during peak periods – midday in the summer, mornings and evenings in the winter – when the cost of producing electricity goes up. Parts of Ontario, notably Toronto, already have TOU billing, and since May 1st of this year, they’ve been paying 9.9 cents per kWh at peak, 8.0 at mid-peak, and 5.3 from 9 p.m. to 7 a.m. on weekdays, and all weekend. These prices will probably go up again.

The new system makes a lot of sense. During the daily peaks, the nuclear power plants that are the main providers can’t keep up with demand, so the coal and gas-powered plants are brought on line to make up the difference. Peak power is both more expensive and dirtier than nuclear (at least in the short run). Reducing demand at peak, the argument goes, will lower costs and benefit the environment. This is where the smart meters, and TOU billing, come into their own.

To take full advantage of smart metering, it helps to understand a little more about how the system as a whole works. Dave Watts, a communications officer for Hydro One, which services 1,200,000 customers in Ontario, explained it to me this way: every smart meter has a small, 2.4 gigahertz radio inside that can link to other meters in what he

calls a “self-healing mesh network.” This means that your smart meter is in radio communication with other nearby meters. Our meter, say, talks to our neighbour’s meter across the road, and theirs, in turn, connects with their neighbours until they’re all joined up in a daisy-chain of smart meters busily passing their tiny digital bundles of information up to a regional collector, where it is sorted and passed on to a central data warehouse. (The network is self-healing because if one smart meter breaks down, for whatever reason, the meter immediately before it in the chain will automatically look for the next available meter and link to it.)

The information from the data warehouse will be posted each day at 5 a.m. on your utility’s website. When your meter is activated for TOU billing, you will be able to register and then access your individual account. This will give you a snapshot of your daily electricity usage, the times you use it, how much it’s costing you, and how your current usage compares with yesterday, last week or last month. It will also post outside temperatures at time of use, and show you what you’d be paying to a retailer for the same usage.

If we did nothing to change our daily patterns, our electricity bills would obviously go up. But the power to monitor our usage is a great incentive to shift certain activities, like dishwashing, hot water heating, laundry, air conditioning and so on, into off-peak hours.

How much will we be able to save? Dave Watts told me that in a survey of users already connected to TOU metering, 76 per cent saved an average of around \$5.00 a month, while the rest spent an average of \$1.75 more. It doesn’t sound like much, but if you remember that most of those savings come from shifting electricity use to off-peak hours, the social benefits – less dirty power generation at peak hours – are enormous.

The energy retailers are still in business, but with the imminent arrival of TOU billing, their pitch has changed. Now, instead of offering to protect me from rising prices, they are offering, in essence, to protect me from my own laziness. Without ever saying it in so many words, the agent suggested that TOU would be a colossal and expensive pain in the butt. What were we going to do? Have candle-lit dinners every night? Wash our dirty shirts at midnight? Get up dark and early for breakfast? Instead of this hassle, he was offering me a fixed rate of about seven cents per kWh for three years, bypassing the TOU system altogether.

It sounds attractive, but you know what? I like the idea of being able to take more control of our consumption of electricity. I like the idea of saving a few bucks a month while helping to reduce our carbon footprint. So I told the retailer I’d take a pass, for now. Once my smart meter is operating, I’ll be able to compare my options. But it’s not just about savings. Who knows, maybe the occasional candle-lit dinner might turn out to have some wonderful side effects, the kind that can’t be measured in mere dollars and cents. **OH**



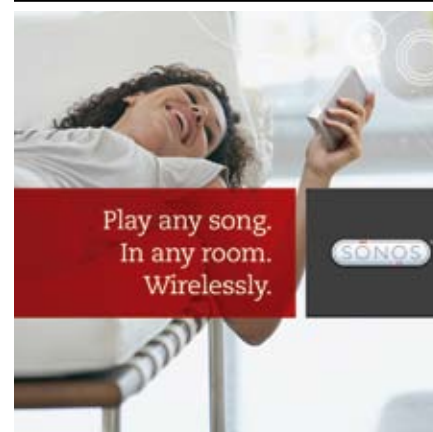
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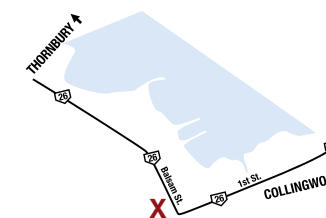
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ideas

# PRINTS. *charming*

BY ANDREA RINALDO // PHOTOGRAPHY BY BOHDAN CHREPTAK

The frame is important but it's what's inside that counts. Designer Andrea Rinaldo uses her imagination to create art that's simple, inexpensive and fun to make.



*finish*



*start*

## GOING TO PRINT

**THE FRAME:** Piano hinges purchased at the local hardware store.

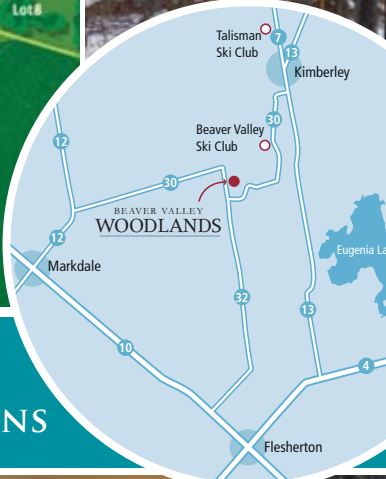
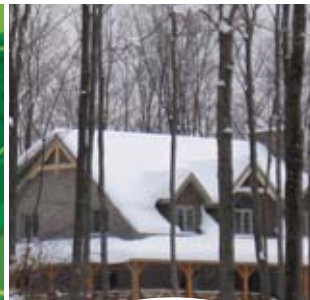
**WHAT'S INSIDE:** Vintage advertisements from *Life Magazine* (circa 1955-1966) discovered at local flea markets.

**HOW-TO:** Cut and paste old ads onto a piece of plywood that matches the size of the hinges. Apply a resin coating to the surface. Add hinges. Retro! *Continued on page 40*

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# ideas

## PAPER TRAIL

THE FRAMES: Purchased at a garage sale for \$3.00 each.

WHAT'S INSIDE: Japanese paper, bought online, but wallpaper will work too.

HOW-TO: Paint the frames and tape the paper to your mat, insert and voilà. Dramatic!



## FABRICATIONS

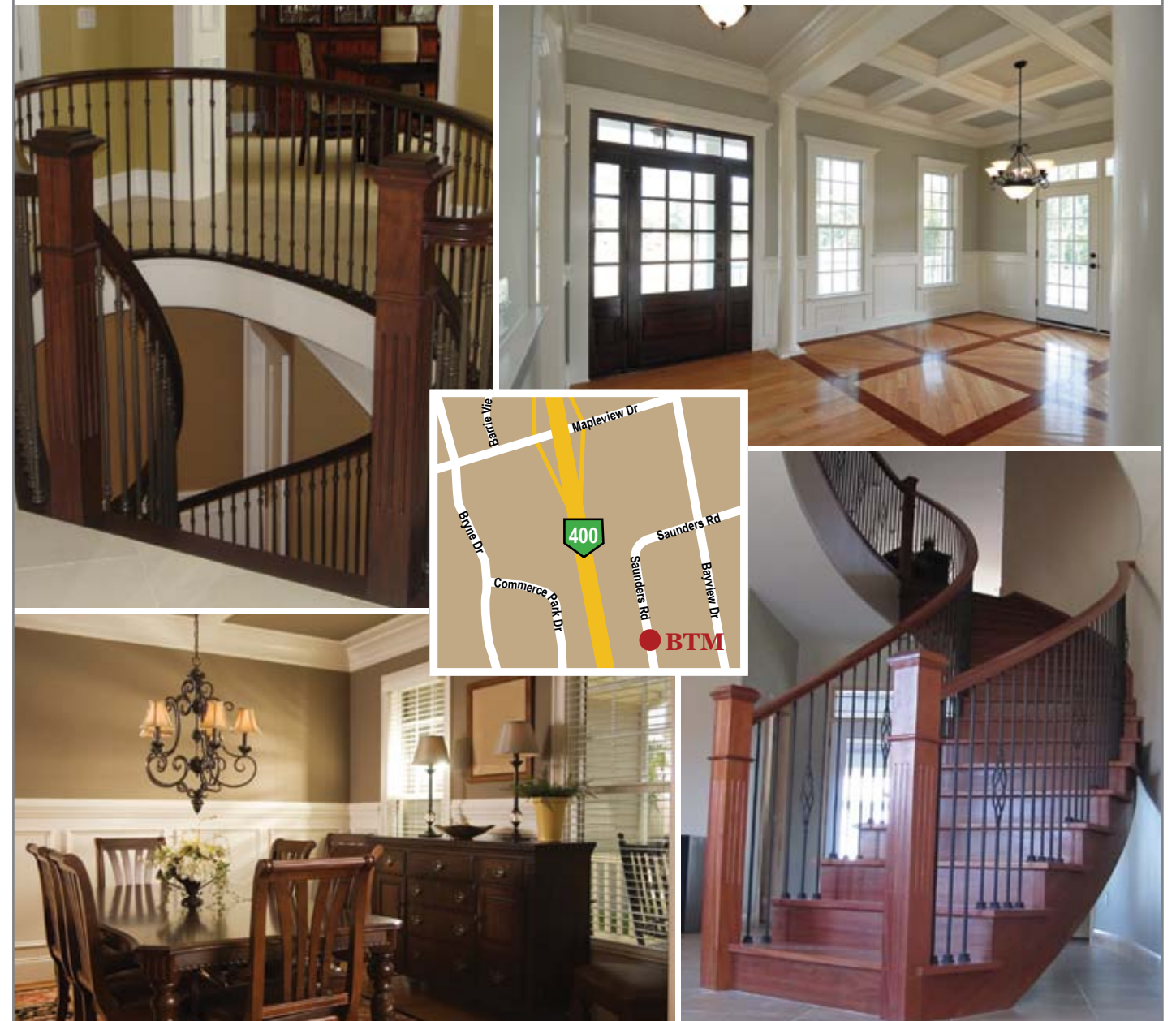
THE FRAME: Found at the local re-use store for \$4.00 and sprayed with a white, high-gloss paint.

WHAT'S INSIDE: A favourite piece of fabric.

HOW-TO: Wrap your ironed fabric over cardboard and secure using double-sided tape. Add a mat and secure behind glass inside the painted frame. Beautiful! **OH**

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# WHEN WORDS ARE WORTH A THOUSAND PICTURES

*Maintaining their commitment to excellence, The Landmark Group brings value in a changing economy.*

When Bill McEwan surveys the extensive landscaping on his country estate, he reflects on a philosophy that has guided many of his investment decisions.

"I always say that the bitterness of poor quality lasts far longer than the sweetness of low price."

Bill and Donna McEwan, whose custom home is perched near the Escarpment, chose The Landmark Group to build their landscaping. Due to The Landmark Group's emphasis on relationships and their track record, they had complete trust in them to handle a job of this nature, and complete it to the highest standards.

"Their reputation precedes them. Their whole system is good. They are creative, they are responsive, and they have great taste," says Donna. From design, to long-term maintenance, to the follow up, "They are just great to work with."

The Landmark Group was referred to them by Dave Harrington, of Absolute Craftsmen, who built their home.

The concept of trust was introduced early on, through a collaborative process. And once the job was complete, the relationship continued, with tremendous after-sales service and a proactive approach to ongoing grounds maintenance.

"I could tell right away that they were right," says Donna. "When they quote on a job, the quote is the quote. And they complete the job on time and on budget."

The service is top-shelf as well, Donna notes. For example, someone is always there at The Landmark Group to take a call. Questions are answered right away and problems are dealt with extremely promptly. That's important, she notes, because it results in far less of a time commitment for her.

Donna and Bill McEwan also attest to Landmark's value. One summer, a couple years ago, some oil from an unrelated tradesperson's vehicle dripped on the driveway and left a stain. Within days, says Bill, The Landmark Group had fixed the interlocking stone. "They actually removed the affected pieces and replaced them, no questions asked.

It wasn't even their problem. But that's their commitment."

Dave Harrington agrees. That's why he refers them again and again. Harrington doesn't oversee the landscaping projects; but he wants to ensure his clients receive the same degree of service that he offers. He also doesn't want to have to worry that the landscaping won't be completed to the level of detail and craftsmanship that his clients expect.

"The Landmark Group is very well organized," he says. "I know that the client is going to get quality service, and the job is going to get done on time." That's important he says, because "you don't want the job to take forever. My clients want to see it done, and see it done right, so they can get on with enjoying their new home."

Harrington is not the only builder that refers The Landmark Group.

Peter Schlegel, of Peter Schlegel Construction, also does. Another reputable builder of premium homes and chalets, Schlegel has no doubts about the value and quality that The Landmark Group offers. "Landmark has a proven track record," he says. "We take pride in the homes we build. And we want to ensure that whoever follows us with the exterior

work compliments our workmanship."

Schlegel has also observed the special care that The Landmark Group offers their clients. "Their after-sales service is particularly good."

The after sales service is what Fiona Green likes to talk about.

Green, whose home near the Georgian Bay Club was recently completed with landscaping by The Landmark Group, talks about a few reasons why Landmark is the number one choice for a landscaping investment.

First, she says, "We knew there was going to be a start and finish with The Landmark Group," she says. "They weren't heading off to do other jobs." And second, "I got what I wanted. They are a high end firm and really stand behind their work. Sometimes, spending less for the same job may end up costing more in the long run – and then you are still dealing with all the headaches along the way.



A view of the McEwan's backyard features extensive landscaping by The Landmark Group



The Landmark Group designed and installed the creative landscape for this custom home built by Peter Schlegel



A view of the indigenous landscape at the Green's property near the Georgian Bay Club. Each Design|Build project comes with an unconditional, three-year warranty. Something unheard of in the landscaping industry



Blythe's Lora Bay residence features low maintenance gardens, ponds and streams, a natural flagstone patio with a firepit, pergola, hot tub, lighting and irrigation



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- The Landmark Group finishes on time, and on budget giving clients peace of mind.



Gary Nordeman, President and General Manager of The Landmark Group

### QUALITY:

- Everything we do is of the highest industry standards and compliances.
- From design to materials to installation and maintenance, The Landmark Group is a top-shelf, premium quality, professional outfit.

### WARRANTY:

- You get a 3-year, hassle-free, no-questions-asked Warranty. It's the best we know of in all of Canada.
- That's serious peace of mind and builds confidence and trust.

### PEOPLE:

- We invest heavily in the on-going training of our staff so they continue to grow and are equipped to meet our clients' needs.
- We're here to answer your call in person and send a team member out to respond quickly.
- Our crews show up on time, operate in a clean, professional, courteous manner that exceeds clients' expectations. Further, we stay on site until the job is fully completed, sending you regular communication and keeping your project on time and on budget.

### ONE-STOP-SHOP:

- We handle everything from design to construction and maintenance services all with a collaborative and accurate process leaving no surprises.
- We eliminate your risk for project creep or pitfalls that could have been forecasted.
- You pay less in the long run when things are done well and done right, since mistakes are avoided and things are done efficiently.
- You have the peace of mind knowing the same people take care of it all with one phone call.

### ACCURATE, DETAILED ESTIMATES:

- Unless the project scope changes during construction (whereby they would be informed), we guarantee no price creep
- Our quotes show each component itemized to allow clients to see where the costs are and how to best make informed investment decisions.

### PHILOSOPHY & EXPERIENCE:

- We are an award-winning firm creating fine landscapes since 1986.
- While the size and scope of our projects have expanded, we have never lost sight of our core foundation: integrity and ethics, customer service, innovation and hard work.
- As our mission describes, we strive for excellence and sustainable growth with a commitment to quality, service, and ethics, while promoting team building and family values.

*Continued from previous page*

The Landmark Group offers excellent quality and service, and they really stand behind their work." Their follow up, she says, "has been absolutely incredible." Green has a story that illustrates their commitment. When a sudden, out-of-season, frost killed two of her newly planted serviceberries, she utilized her 3-year, unconditional warranty and The Landmark Group was there, right away, to replace them.

"They said, 'there's an issue here,' and they fixed it, right away," says Green. Even though the problem wasn't their doing. That's commitment, says Green, who also utilizes The Landmark Group for her property maintenance. "The maintenance staff are proactive and they pay attention to the details. If they see something that may be a problem, they let me know."

Elaine Blythe, whose home at Lora Bay features a natural, soothing landscape, also talks about Landmark's commitment to excellence.

"I really wanted a special garden," she says. "I wanted something that was low maintenance, while still being different and having special areas. They grasped that concept right away, and came up with a fabulous plan to meet our budget. They are great to work with. Nothing is impossible. They

*"...our clients are looking for uncompromised quality, fast response time and great value."*

*— Gary Nordeman*

always find a way to get it done. I have been totally impressed."

And the little things count too, she says. "They are extremely clean and tidy. The hoses are all coiled up in the garden at night. They don't leave things strewn about."

These are qualities that Gary Nordeman, president of The Landmark Group, has built his company around. It shows in the testimonials from clients, and in the numerous awards the company has won.

"Our creativity, passion and experience are woven into every project we touch," says Nordeman. "Rooted in honest values, we stand behind our founding principles: integrity, quality, service, performance, and rigorous attention to detail."

Clients of The Landmark Group can relax and know that the job will be done right, on time, and on budget, without hassles, Nordeman says. And that's important, because many clients of The Landmark Group live out-of-town. "The relationship doesn't end just because the job has been completed," adds Nordeman. "Our project managers stop by to check on completed jobs proactively to ensure everything is issue-free."

As Nordeman knows, business usually is driven by three deciding factors: Quality, Time and Budget. "We bring our clients refreshing and worry-free services," he notes. "Regardless of the size of job, our clients are looking for uncompromised quality, fast response time and great value. By continuing to invest in our people and streamline our processes we meet what our clients and their investment demand."

Clients of The Landmark Group, and the builders who refer them, attest to that.



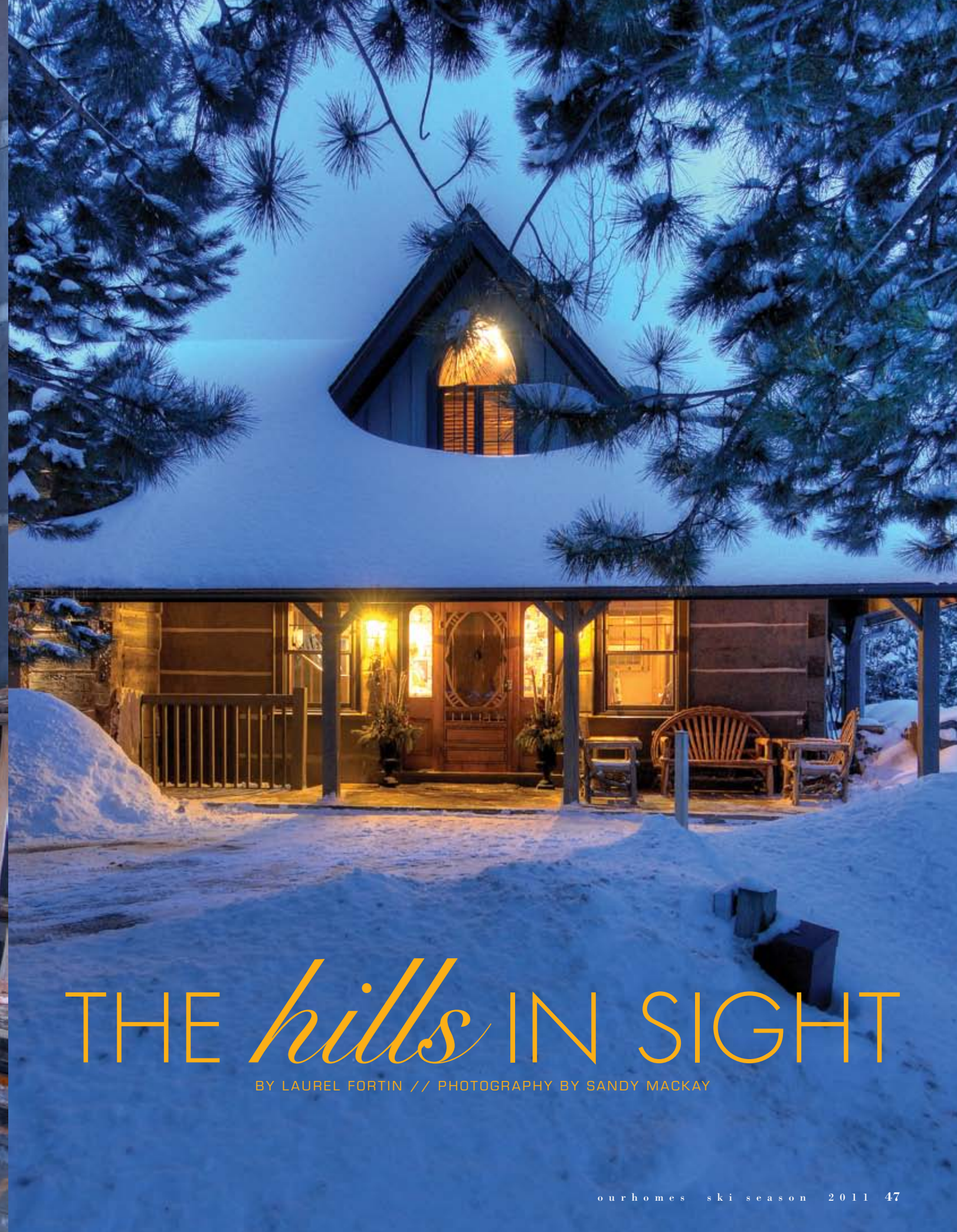
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*Let's get together and chat  
...before the Spring rush!*



# feature

Craig and Susan Farrow bought this quaint chalet 20 years ago. Since then, they more than doubled its size but the cosy chalet feel remains. **OPPOSITE:** The Farrows love to ski and their chalet is a short walk from the Craigleith Ski Club.



## THE *hills* IN SIGHT

BY LAUREL FORTIN // PHOTOGRAPHY BY SANDY MACKAY





Through the dining room window of their home on Sleepy Hollow Rd., Susan and Craig Farrow can see the ski runs where they met 25 years ago. Susan recalls, “I wasn’t much of a skier, but my younger brother liked it, so we got my dad to join Craigleith Ski Club and we would come up on weekends from Toronto.” Craig’s family, also from the city, on the other hand, have been avid members of the club since 1968 when the pull-down T-bar was the latest technology. He and his brothers and sister got into racing and he remembers the skiers were in the minority of the region’s shipbuilding community. “It cost \$300 to join at the time and my mom told me they had to borrow the money from her parents,” smiles Craig. The couple have had the hills in their sights ever since.

After the birth of their first daughter, Emily, 21 years ago, Susan and Craig bought their own family membership at Craigleith, and then bought a square-hewn chinked log cabin nestled not more than a 15-minute walk from the base.

The modest, yet immaculately timbered, cabin had two bedrooms on the upper floor and a generous central stone fireplace to heat the home. The couple’s weekend ski getaway had plenty of room to welcome their son Scott, but after daughter Katie arrived, laughs Susan, “I think it was my dad who said, ‘You can’t put Katie to bed in the bathtub.’”

So the couple added on to their cabin, more than doubling the square footage, and included a basement. They transformed it into the stunning chalet it is today. While the addition was constructed over 15 years ago, the Farrows still speak highly of **Patrick B. Coulter & Associates**, the Southern Georgian Bay custom home builder who oversaw the addition. “They were instrumental,” says Craig. The exterior log and chinking is a seamless match from old to new. The former exterior walls have all been preserved inside, becoming feature walls in the front foyer and new upper bedrooms. *Continued on page 51*

**LEFT:** The snow piles up outside while dinner is served at the picnic-style table. **ABOVE:** The large front entrance has rugged flagstone floors and a truly delightful wall of family photos. The room serves as a mudroom and catch-all.



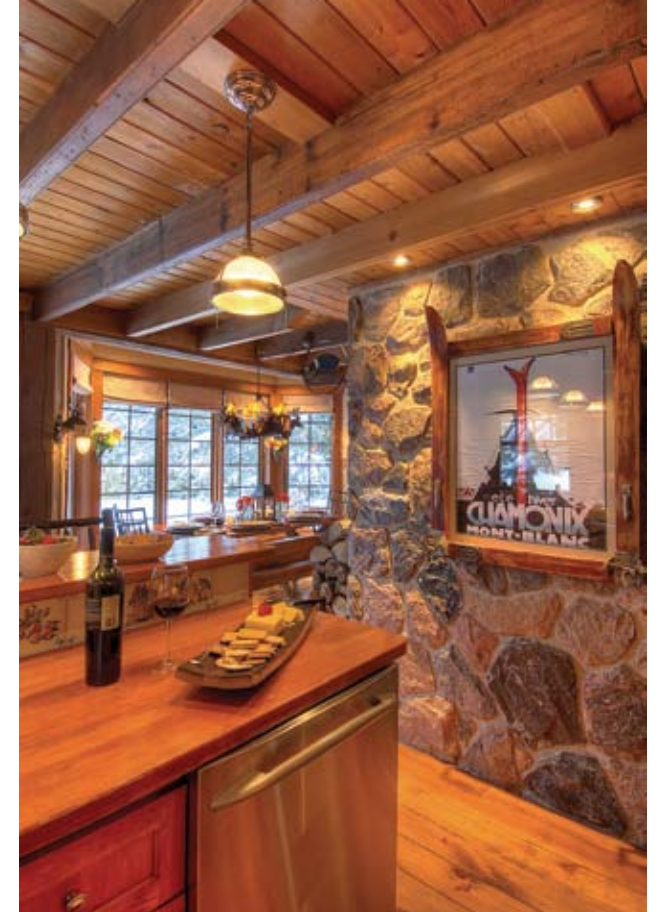


**LEFT:** The original stone fireplace warms the home on a cold winter's day. **BELOW:** Susan had help furnishing the chalet. Her sister-in-law Marina Farrow of Peaks and Rafters was instrumental in establishing the comfortable chalet style. **RIGHT:** The stone wall separates the kitchen from the living room.

Wanting to update their home in 2008, Craig and Susan brought in Craig's brother Blake of **Blake Farrow Project Management Inc.** Together with Blake's wife, interior designer Marina Farrow of Collingwood's **Peaks & Rafters**, they updated the sauna and bathroom and put finishing touches on the rest of the home. Marina's expertise helped them stay in keeping with the rustic log cabin feel, while updating the décor and leaving many personal touches, says Susan.

Today, the Farrow home is a showcase of more than just old and new logs. Craig and Susan have been able to marry their passion for skiing with their passion for technology and create a chalet that showcases the latest in home technology.

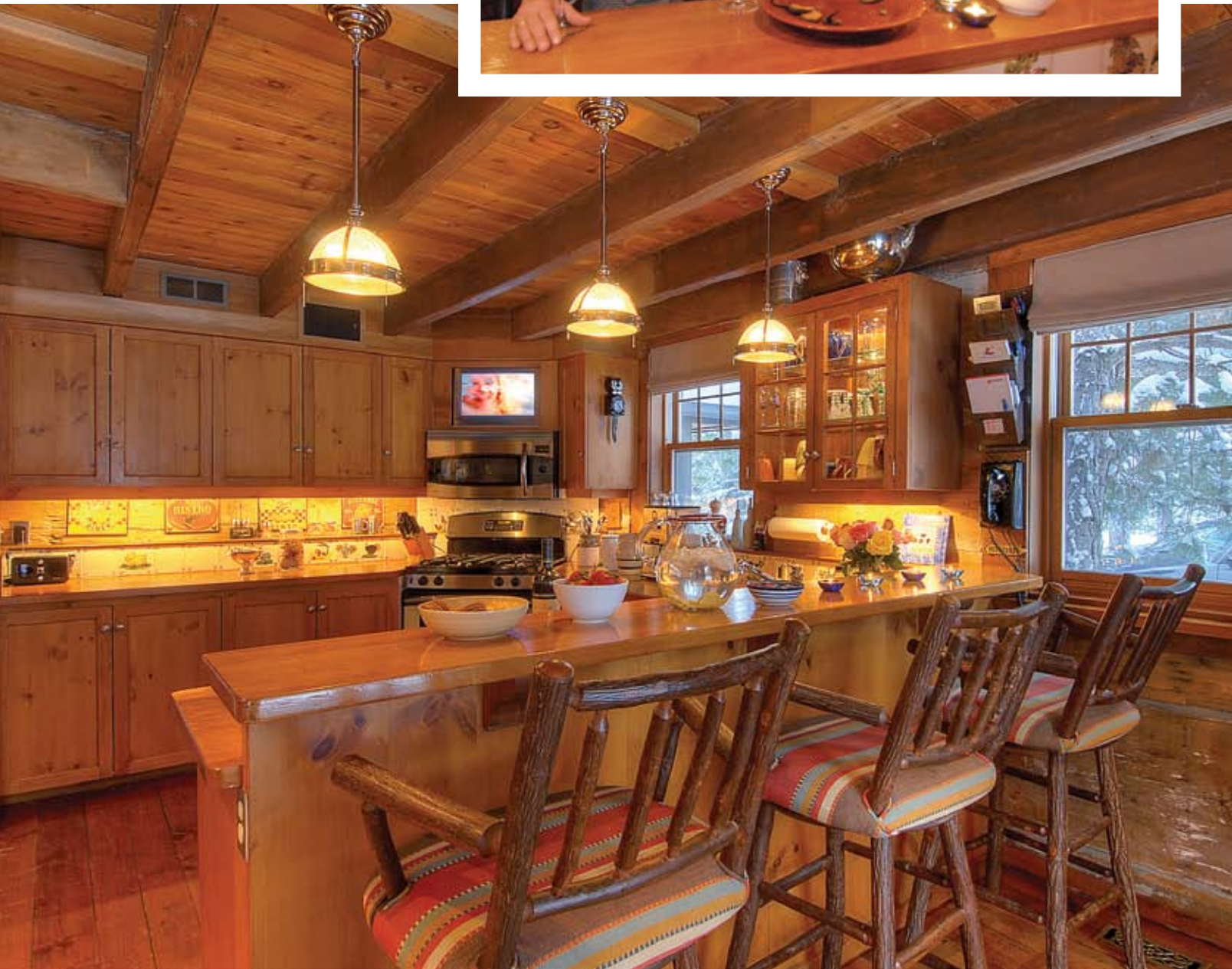
But you would never know it to see it. Discreet panels beside light switches in each room interface with their Crestron home automation hub. The panels control the stereo settings, volume, light levels and window coverings. Speakers are tucked into upper corners of the rooms with no trace of cabling. The living room flat panel screen is the viewing point not only for television and movies, but gaming, Apple TV, Internet radio and slide shows of the Farrow's family photos. The family members can each connect their music players and pipe the sounds to any room of the house. Or even to the backyard. *Continued on page 52*





feature

**RIGHT:** Susan and Craig Farrow and Marina and Blake Farrow, who steered a second reno in 2008, share a lot of great winter memories. **BELOW:** The pine kitchen is wired for modern life with the latest kitchen essentials.



The extreme conditions of the Southern Georgian Bay area are no hamper to Farrow family outdoor fun. Their backyard, designed by **Bodo Baecklund Carpentry**, features an eight-seater hot-tub, speakers connected to their Crestron system and a state-of-the-art outdoor flat screen television. Manufactured by Sunbrite, the screen has a heating and cooling system encased in it, and can withstand elements ranging from fire hose spray to snowball fire. Craig and Susan can make adjustments to the outdoor space or any room of the house by way of

touch panels, remote control or even remotely from their Blackberry or iPhone smart phones. Over the years, Craig's career in high tech and mobile technology had him on the road much of the time. "I wanted to change gears and decided it was time to do something a little more pragmatic," he says. He and Susan agreed they wanted to leave a legacy for their children to follow if they so choose. And they wanted to do it close to home where they could give back to their community. **Farrow AV** was born in 2009. *Continued on page 54*



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feature

**RIGHT:** Grab a towel and head to the sauna or out to the hot tub. **BELOW:** A dip in the hot tub is way better when you can watch the game or listen to your favourite music while you relax and unwind.



Craig and Susan now create custom entertainment and home automation systems for homes and businesses in Southern Georgian Bay. Farrow AV's referrals have led them into Toronto and the Muskokas. Their focus is on customer service. If a client has a question or problem, the 1-800 number rings right through to Susan, no matter the time of day or night. "I want to know what comes in and make sure that it's been responded to, even if it's just to say 'we're coming,'" says Susan. No job is too small, says Craig, "every dollar that anybody has is as important to them as anybody else's dollar. If someone has something that is a \$300 need, it's critical to them and we respect that." Suppliers have taken notice and both Crestron and Sunbrite have extended regional distribution exclusivity to Farrow AV for their products. *Continued on page 58*



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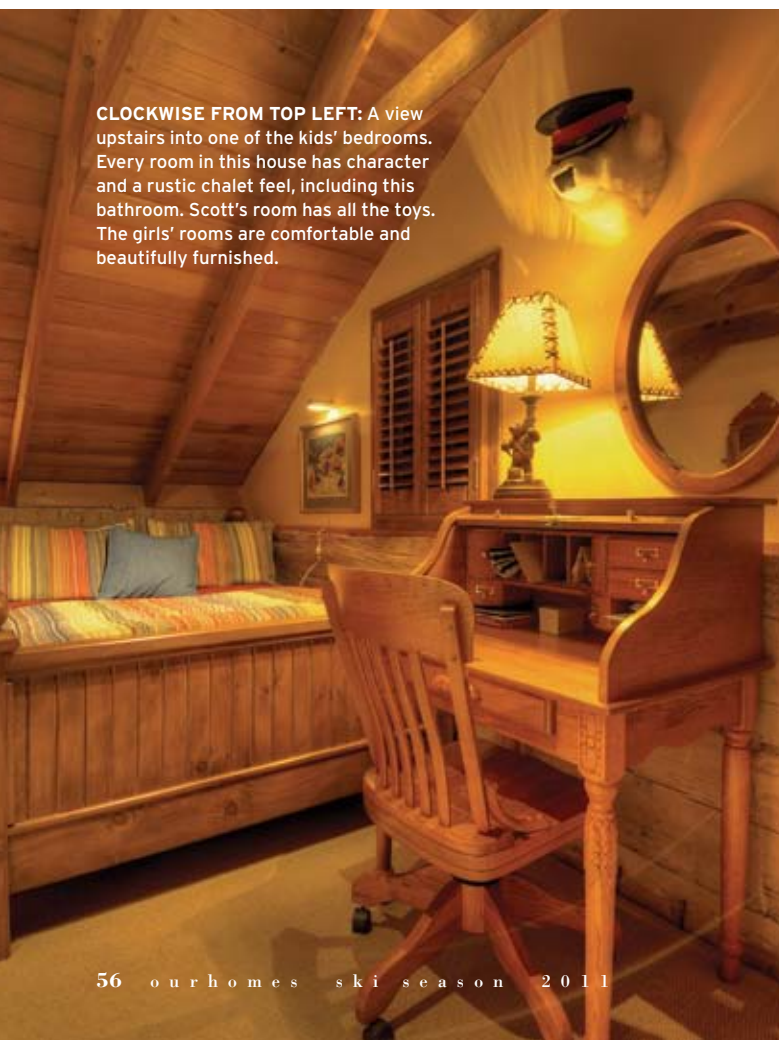
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CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: A view upstairs into one of the kids' bedrooms. Every room in this house has character and a rustic chalet feel, including this bathroom. Scott's room has all the toys. The girls' rooms are comfortable and beautifully furnished.



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Craig and Susan's upstairs suite is roomy and private. They can steal away and watch a movie by the fire while the kids entertain their friends downstairs.

Farrow AV opened an office showroom in downtown Collingwood in December. The historic building beside the town arena at 87 Hurontario St. with century-old baseboards and lath and plaster walls was no easy project to retrofit, says Craig. But the technology and wiring have been expertly installed and customers can now see many home automation features in action and choose what they would like for their own homes. The business is integrated closely to the family's values. Farrow AV sponsors local sports teams and ski clubs.

Skiing is still a major focus for the family. Craig acts as Chair of Alpine Ontario and sits on the board for Alpine Canada. Emily, Scott and Katie, members of the Ontario provincial alpine ski team, all grew up during winter weekends surrounded by poles, bindings and skis. Their rosy-checked, goggle-adorned faces beam from dozens of photos on the wall in the Farrow's front foyer. Nearby, a jumble of Craigleith ski pass lanyards hang beside a large coat rack. The stone floor, Susan confirms, has withstood a decade of kids and dogs and friends and family tumbling into the home with snowy feet.

"The kids in the families up here grew up together. Everyone can walk everywhere, that's part of the fun," says Susan. And she notes that more and more people are choosing to live in the area year-round. Just like she and Craig might consider doing one of these days, where they can keep their eye on their business, and on the hills. **OH**



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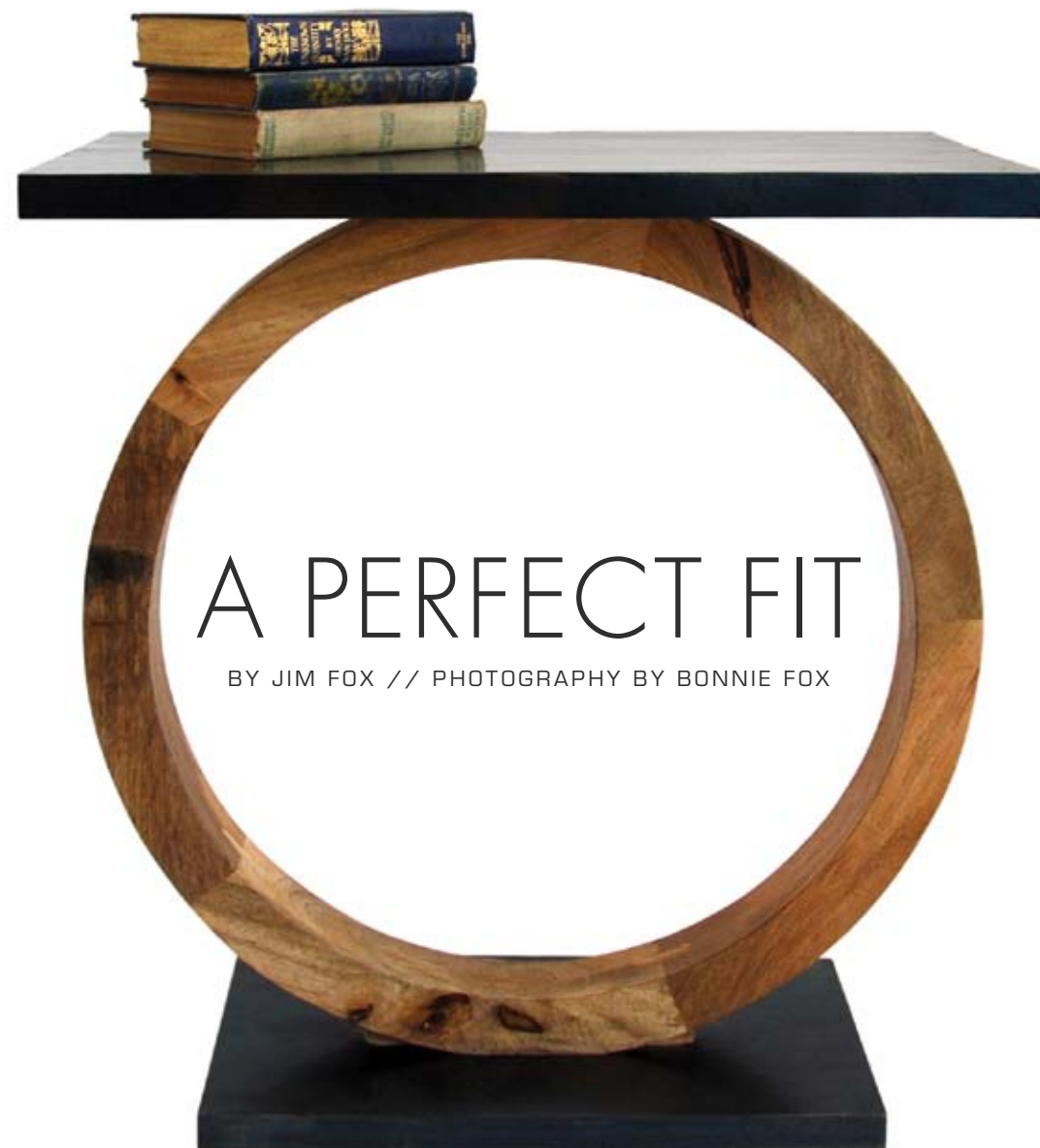
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**THE PLACE:** The refreshed heritage building on the main street of Collingwood lends itself perfectly to the collection of new, antique and reproduction furniture pieces on display at Lynn Porter's store, 3H Interiors, formerly Three Herons. The name has changed but the shop still provides customers with the same high quality furnishings for the home. The refreshed exposed brick and original glass of the heritage store are a perfect complement to the beautiful pieces on display.

**THE STYLE:** The shop, originally named Three Herons after Lynn's cherished painting, once owned by Jackie Kennedy Onassis, is one of the few places in Collingwood where customers can find

authentic antiques. "I encourage people to explore their downtown core," says Lynn. "There are always things happening on Hurontario Street." Lynn's boutique is a standout destination. "All of the antiques, reproductions and new upholstered furniture are usable," she says. "The style of the shop is elegant eclectic – a blend of genuine old pieces with the contemporary. It's a user-friendly look that lends itself to the people in the area who have a second home or retirement home here. Maybe they're downsizing and want to incorporate their present pieces in a fresh, new way. The modern and the antique can live comfortably side-by-side." *Continued on page 64*

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**WHAT'S HOT:** 3H Interiors appeals to a wide range of customers, everyone from those looking for a special, small accessory to those wishing to furnish an entire home. The store specializes in objects that are unique and constructed of natural, sustainable products. Nothing is mass-produced. As Lynn says, "Antiques are the ultimate recyclable!"

**SEASONAL:** For the winter season 3H offers hooked pillows and other chalet-themed items like custom leather pillows featuring your photos and rustic artistic creations by local artisans and craftspeople.

**FAVOURITES:** Asked what she enjoys most about her work, Lynn

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PHOTOGRAPHY BY BONNIE FOX

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## ◀ Stan Dalley

**COMPANY:** Creative Painting

**SPECIALTY:** Interior and Exterior Custom Finishing

**MY FAVOURITE WAY TO SPEND A WINTER WEEKEND...**

is appreciating the simple pleasures in life. I'm in a wonderful location overlooking the Beaver River and the Feversham Gorge, so I have a great view of the beauty in nature. I love living in the Georgian Triangle because of the diverse and wonderful landscapes that surround me; not to mention the numerous opportunities to get involved with local events, concerts, festivals, trails and ski hills. If I'm not out hiking, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, bird watching or enjoying the splendours of nature with family and friends, then you'll find me appreciating the winter from indoors - laughing, talking, enjoying homemade vegan delights and relaxing by the fireplace with my favourite gal!

## Dave & Sandi Switzer ▶

**COMPANY:** Georgian Custom Décor

**SPECIALTY:** Upholstery, Custom Bedding and Window Treatments

**SANDI'S FAVOURITE WAY TO RELAX:**

Our business revolves around two basic skills: upholstery and sewing. Both of these require attention to detail and are physically demanding. When the workday is over, I find relaxation is what I seek most. Reading a good murder mystery by the crackling fire works just fine for me.

**DAVE'S FAVOURITE WINTER MEAL IS...**

rolled pork tenderloin with bread and mushroom stuffing. It's my mother's favourite so she taught me how to cook it and the whole family loves it. *Continued on page 70*



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**FAVOURITE WINTER FAMILY**

**MEAL:** Roast pork, roast potatoes and salad with Oma's dressing.



## ◀ Rob Hobson

**COMPANY:** Hobson Masonry Ltd.

**SPECIALTY:** Working with natural stone from whole stone houses to creating unique indoor and outdoor fireplaces, chimneys, kitchens and dry-stone walling

**THE BEST WAY TO SPEND A COLD WINTER'S NIGHT IS...**

cooking for my family and friends and relaxing in front of a roaring fire.

*Continued on page 72*

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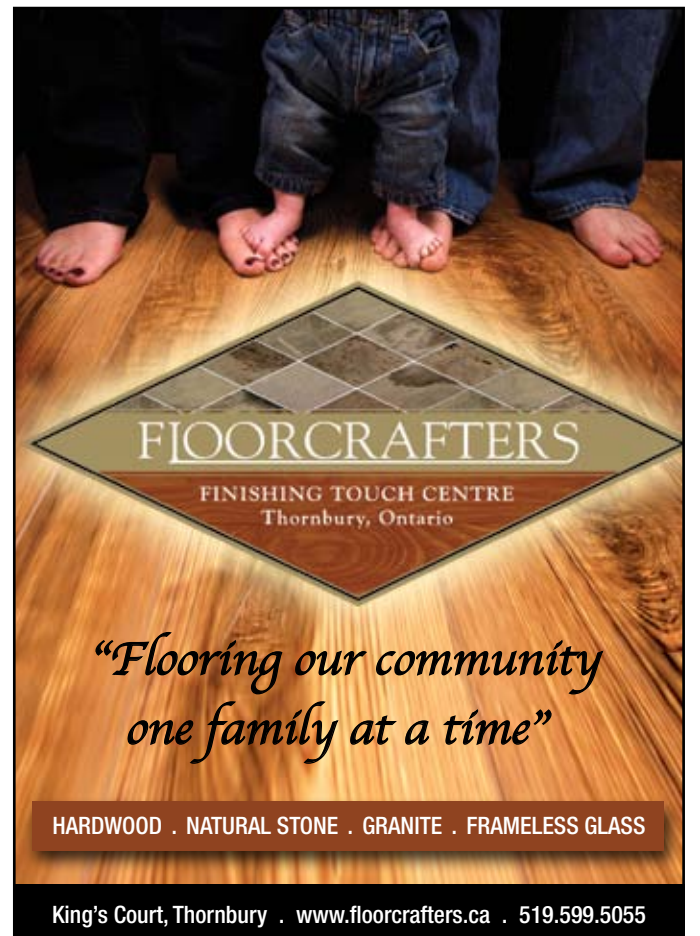
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Diane Scott (right) and ►  
Jo-Ann Patterson (Left)

**COMPANY:** Cedarport Window & Door Centre Inc.  
**SPECIALTY:** Quality windows and doors, new home construction and replacement, sales and installation  
**FAVOURITE WINTER ACTIVITY:**  
Jo-Ann: Cross-country skiing, knitting by the fire and heading south  
Diane: Skiing with my family, staying in, cooking and keeping warm



◀ Glen Michon

**COMPANY:** Huronia Alarms & Fire Security Inc.  
**SPECIALTY:** Programming your remote so anybody can operate your system  
**WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?**  
Montreal smoked meat on rye  
*Continued on page 74*

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## people

### Steven Sean-Seamus O'Farrell ►

**COMPANY:** Wood Up Custom Exterior Accents Inc.

**SPECIALTY:** We are fortunate enough to have a great team with a very diverse skill set, which allows us to offer a variety of services to our clients. Our specialty is ensuring our customers receive the end product they envisioned. Custom decks, glass railings, pergolas and much more.

**FAVOURITE WINTER MEAL:** A spicy homemade chili and a cold Creemore



### ◄ Michael Curtis

**COMPANY:** River Craftsmen Co.

**SPECIALTY:** Designing and building custom interiors and heirloom quality cabinetry using fine concrete, wood and steel.

**SKIER OR SNOWBOARDER:**

After spending a lifetime growing up under the lights at Blue Mountain competing in FIS races, I ask myself: "Why would I snowboard and have to sit down before every run?"

*Continued on page 76*

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# people

## Mark MacLeod ▶

**COMPANY:** MBM Stone Works Masonry  
**SPECIALTY:** Custom stone work  
**FAVOURITE WINTER ACTIVITY:** Hanging out with my wife and two kids in Costa Rica, hiking and checking out parts of the country we haven't seen.

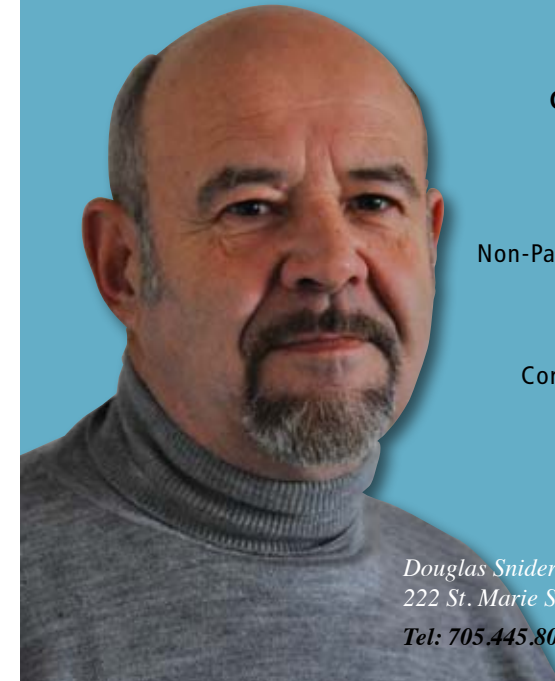


## ◀ Harvey Parkes

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**FAVOURITE WINTER DESTINATION:** Florida

*Continued on page 78*

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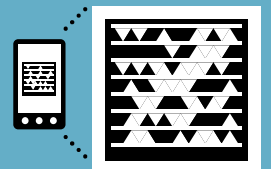
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## David Cook ▶

**COMPANY:** Quanbury  
Flooring Centre

**SPECIALTY:** Coordinating  
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and vinyl installations

**BEST WAY TO SPEND A  
WINTER WEEKEND IS...**

out on the ski slopes with  
friends and family or on the  
trails with my two dogs and  
beautiful baby boy, Levi.

And who can forget  
*Hockey Night in Canada!*



## ◀ Trevor Freeborn (right) and Evan Reid (left)

**COMPANY:** Valleyview Construction

**SPECIALTY:** Custom home building and renovations using  
exceptional craftsmanship and delivering superior results.  
Trevor is a site manager and Evan is a carpenter.

**SKIING OR SNOWBOARDING:**

Trevor: Skiing

Evan: Snowboarding **OH**

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*—Jana Temple on the second home recently built for  
her and her husband by Paragon Carpentry.*

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## Doing it right





PHOTOGRAPHY BY SANDY MACKAY

# KITCHEN makeovers



## 10 INGREDIENTS FOR A *deliciously designed kitchen*

Jennifer Bramwell and Missy Sharp of Bramwell Sharp Design have designed a lot of kitchens. Here, they share their top 10 elements of design that work every time.

1. **Start with the larger picture and create a plan.** A home is an expression of you and your lifestyle. Can the dining room become the new kitchen? The old kitchen a great room? Do you need a mudroom? Your plan is a roadmap that shows you where you're going with every improvement to your home.
2. **Make sure the plans for your kitchen are harmonious with the rest of the house.** The quality of the materials you pick, the style and palette must blend seamlessly into the rest of your house to increase your enjoyment and protect your investment.
3. **Keep a file on what you like** and note the things that are working well about your current space. Include the little annoyances that you would like to improve upon.
4. **Your research helps create a budget.** The project scope will dictate the budget. An interior designer can advise you on where you can recoup your costs and where to spend to lift the look of the house, and protect your investment.

Okay, you have a budget and a plan. What other things should you consider?

5. **Be realistic about your space.** Unless you increase the actual square footage, your want list will have to be prioritized. For example, do you want an island or a walk-in pantry? Be realistic in what your space can support and still function. A range needs about four feet of clearance in front and a barstool requires three feet of clearance for comfortable seating. A fridge needs a landing spot nearby. Your range can't be too close to a turn in the countertop, and the range-hood must be a certain height to ensure proper ventilation.
6. **Use quality materials and select strategically to support your budget.** Drawer sliders and door hinges get the most wear and tear in your cabinetry. Marble may be beautiful but impractical. Materials have to stand up to the use it will get over the life of your kitchen. A high/low strategy can keep you on budget. Design experts know where to invest and where to save to stay on budget without jeopardizing the look.
7. **Maximize the available space.** Cabinets to the ceiling or floating shelves can capture vertical space that would otherwise be wasted. The measure of efficiency means planning your space around the work triangle – the pathway between the refrigerator, range and sink and the distance between them.
8. **Lighting helps a kitchen function.** For example, a log home, despite its charm, can be a sponge when it comes to sucking up light. Positioning, type of lamp and wattage all play a role in effective lighting plans. Consider the occupants. A gourmet chef, a caterer, a hobby baker, a person who entertains frequently, a mature adult with vision challenges all need great lighting to carry out their tasks comfortably and safely.
9. **Your kitchen is a reflection of you, not a showroom.** Designers create functional, beautiful spaces that reflect budgets, lifestyles and tastes. Classic elements protect your investment and are timeless in feel. Great design is not trendy. It is a reflection of function and timeless style.
10. **Choose your professionals wisely.** A kitchen is an investment and will add value to your home. Taking the time to hire the right professionals will ensure the success of your project. Ask for referrals and examples of their work. Competitive bids will reflect the price of the job within a close range and can help you understand the cost of the project. Your team should be selected based on reputation, professionalism and quality of workmanship over small differences in price.

*Continued on page 85*





Square pendant lights

Cabinetry hung horizontally

Apple green backpainted glass backsplash

Eat-at island, Raised butcher block at one end



before

## EUROPEAN

This kitchen has a European flair fit for a gourmet. The owners moved to Collingwood from Europe and knew exactly what they wanted in their new kitchen. They totally gutted the space and started over. Their want-list included a large island with a cooktop, lots of open storage for the chef's ingredients and an eat-at island for the whole family.

**Contractor:** Porter Skelton & Associates

**Cabinetry:** Clearview Woodworking

*Continued on page 86*



Lots of shelving for dry ingredients

Stained cherrywood with a horizontal grain



Maximize storage

Honed black granite with a clean edge



Large floor tiles with grass-cloth design



## kitchen & bath



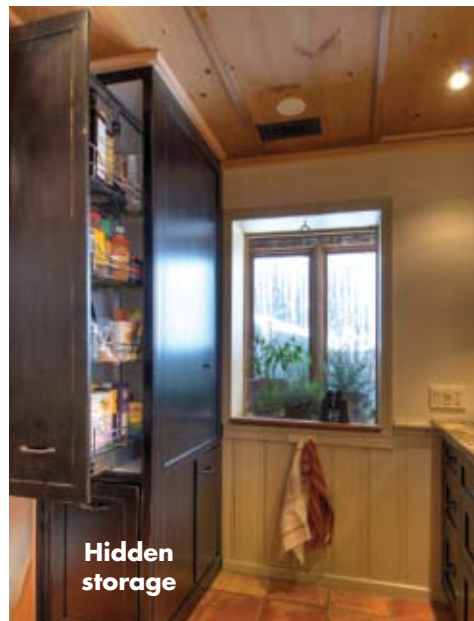
Double oven with warmer



Calm and quiet view of farm



Replica of the farm in handmade tiles, by Anika Lex, built into backsplash



Hidden storage

## FRENCH COUNTRY

The kitchen in this century-old stone farmhouse needed a major redo. The homeowners and the designers agreed on a French Country look that honoured the integrity of the home. "The tile floor reminded us of Provence, France and was our jumping off point," Sharp explains. The wife wanted calm and quiet while the husband wanted loud and bright. The compromise looks magnificent.

**Contractor/Cabinetry:** Chris Franks of Georgian Bay Enterprises and Jamie Watson of JCB Woodworking Fine Carpentry. Cabinets painted by Deborah Masters  
**Countertops:** City Stone *Continued on page 88*



before



Shaker-style cabinetry with putty uppers and black lowers

Wet bar

Beautiful granite counters

Brightly painted chairs and refinished antique harvest table

Mexican tile flooring inspired the design



## kitchen & bath

Perfect pendant lights  
over small island

Custom Benjamin  
Moore red paint

All new  
appliances

Refinished pine  
flooring with  
clear stain



before

## CONTEMPORARY LOG HOME

The owners of this dated log home wanted a dramatic new kitchen without breaking the bank. They loved the colour red. Bramwell Sharp suggested a striking new design using IKEA red, high-gloss cabinetry. An industrial stainless steel backsplash, grey Caesarstone counters and new appliances turn a small inefficient kitchen into a fabulous space that screams WOW.

**Contractor:** McIntyre Brothers & Associates  
**Countertops:** Caesarstone Concrete Model 2003  
**Paint:** Benjamin Moore custom red  
**Accessories:** 3H Interiors *Continued on page 90*

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# BATHROOM makeovers

## 5 STEPS TO A beautiful bathroom

Make a splash with your bathroom renovation. Bramwell Sharp Design offers some simple advice to make any bathroom sparkle.

1. **Install in-floor heating if you can.** Keeps mildew at bay and is luxurious to stand on!
2. **Layout pointer: toilets should not be seen head on when the door is open.**
3. **Moving plumbing adds costs to the job. Work with the existing layout if you can.**
4. **Good ventilation is a must.**
5. **Select your fixtures according to your needs.** A vanity will give you more storage than a pedestal sink. A built-in shower caddy is extremely handy and useful. Always make room for towel racks.



Built-In  
shower caddy

Labyrinth-style glass  
walk-in shower



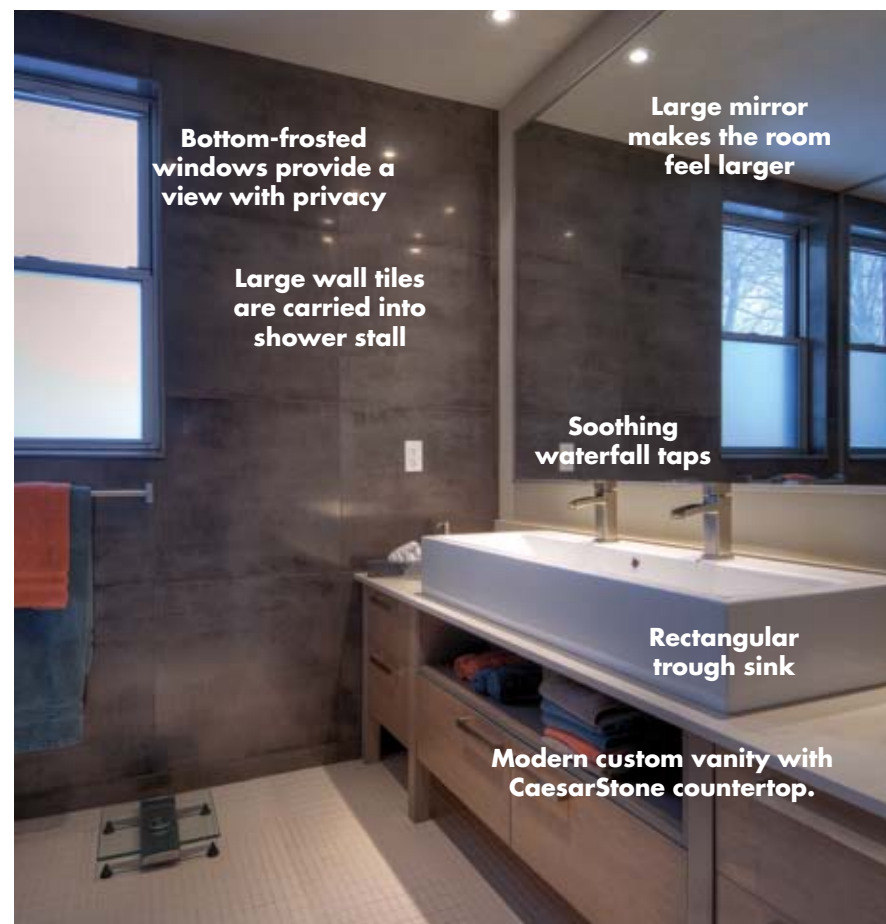
before

## EUROPEAN SPA

This bathroom is located upstairs in a Victorian home and is the main bath used by the entire family. The shower was a challenge. Bramwell Sharp incorporated a small step-up and beautiful bathroom tiles.

**Contractor:** Porter Skelton & Associates  
**Cabinetry:** Clearview Woodworking

*Continued on page 94*



Bottom-frosted  
windows provide a  
view with privacy

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are carried into  
shower stall

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**Contractor:** McIntyre Brothers & Associates  
**Cabinetry:** Clearview Woodworking  
**Window Coverings:** Dean's Rugland Carpet One  
**Flooring:** City Stone  
**Art:** Jen Wilkins  
**Paint:** Benjamin Moore Edgecomb Gray **OH**



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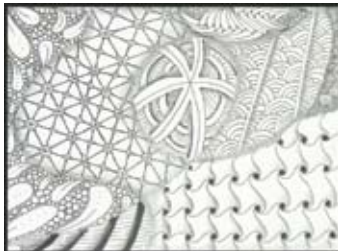
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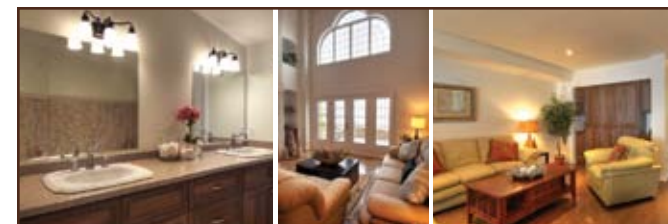
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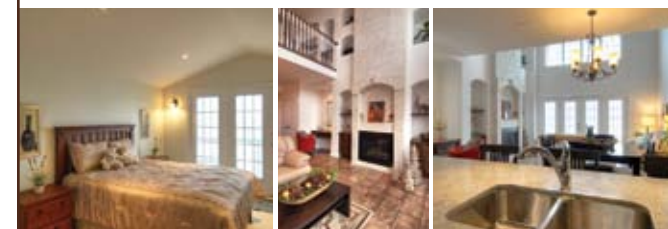
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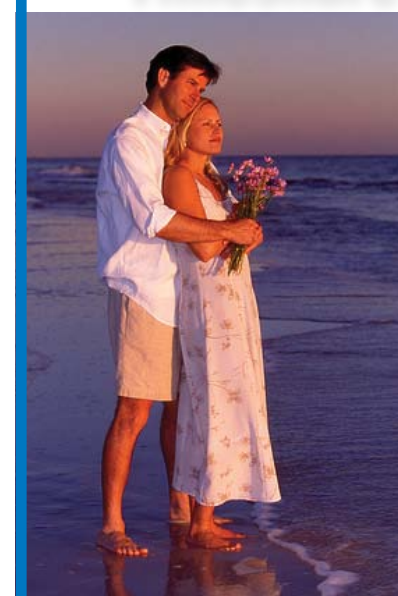
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A once vintage chalet received an addition and a total face-lift, inside and out. In this room, the fireplace was redone and all the windows were replaced. Owner Chris Morgis loved the location and decided a makeover was the way to go. **TOP RIGHT:** The kitchen is warm and inviting and wired for sound.



before



PHOTOGRAPHY BY SANDY MACKAY

# A RENOVATION *well worth it*



Sometimes it just makes sense to renovate.

Vintage chalets in prime locations dot the area around – many in need of a makeover.

The vacation home Chris Morgis and his family enjoy today is a perfect example of what can be done to a chalet built long ago.

Morgis bought the much-loved pre-fabricated home back in the early 90s, when Blue Mountain wasn't quite as popular as it is today.

“At the time, it was five years old and built for weekend use only,” the Toronto developer says. “There was no garage, no storage, no basement and just enough room for our young family, but the location was to die for and the view even better.” *Continued on page 109*





This fabulous recreation room was added to the back of the original chalet. **LEFT:** Brad Abbott's design included a new loft overlooking the rec room. **BOTTOM LEFT:** The games room includes a two-storey stone fireplace and lots of comfortable seating. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** The bunkie is upstairs in the loft and gives the kids a place to entertain their friends.



At the time of purchase, his daughter was three and his son just a year old. It was just a matter of time before they outgrew the chalet. That time came in 2008. Morgis decided it was time to renovate and hired **Brad Abbott of W.B. Abbott Design**, whose passion is designing quality single-family homes.

"Our place was always the drop-in centre," Morgis says happily. So I sat down with Brad to map out how to make it better, bigger and with two of everything so as to keep the boys from bothering the girls.

Abbott's design incorporated a new garage, mudroom and storage, which included a sub-basement with a utility room, plus an entertainment space for the whole family. He also designed a facelift for the exterior.

"We added 2,100 sq. ft., almost doubling the space," says Abbott.

The "playroom" is the real showpiece. It was added over the master bedroom and is one large open space, which includes a home theatre and a new stone fireplace. It has a pool table and an elaborate built-in bar. The home is fully automated – lighting, shades and audio video – thanks to **Red Brick Property Solutions**.

"During the design, we suggested that he add a loft on top of the roof of

the original house that would have an overview of this new games room," Abbott says. "It's very unique and works with the roof lines."

The home now has a place for the boys and a place for the girls.

All the ceilings were redone with false beam work and pine, which is the predominant interior finish. The old windows, which were triangular and trapezoid, were replaced with square Loewen Windows with unique copper cladding on the outside. A post-and-beam portico over the entrance and stone steps finish off the true mountain-chalet architecture.

"Brad was perfect because he understood the Alpine style and trends of that marketplace," Morgis says. "He also has an eye for real post-and-beam fir work."

**Wilson Project Management Inc.** (WPMI) was the contractor.

"I hired only the best people," says Morgis. "From Richard Wilson to Brad Abbott and all the best trades."

"In the end," he says, "we could have built cheaper on lots we own in Alta, but I loved this property and stayed with it. It is my favourite place to go, still to this day." **OH**



# NEW CHALET

PHOTOGRAPHY BY SANDY MACKAY

## Style



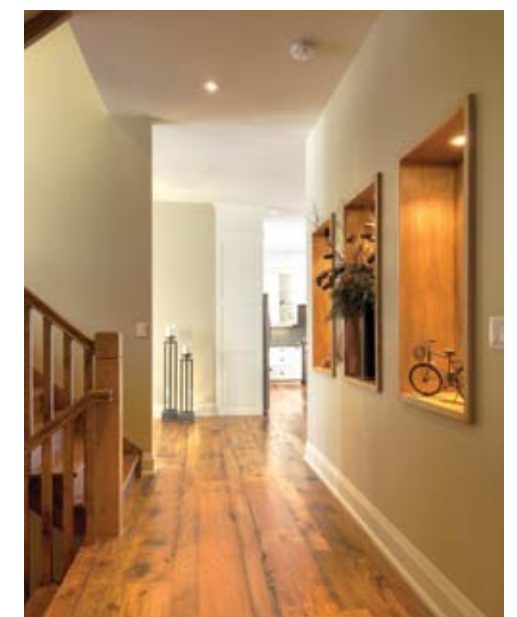
Fine homes on estate lots are a rarity these days, especially those located near the slopes at Blue Mountain and close to schools, shopping and gourmet restaurants.

If nature, four-season activities and a beautiful, sustainable home are what you crave, look no further than **Windrose Valley Estates** and this amazing home designed by **Stone Custom Homes**. It offers the very best in chalet living.

Gordon Stone's latest design is one of four he's building at Windrose, located at the corner of Osler Bluff Road and Sixth Street.

All home sites at Windrose are a minimum of one acre with views of the slopes, walking trails, ponds and tennis courts. *Continued on page 112*

The spacious, open-concept design includes a dining room close to both the contemporary kitchen and the inviting living room. The accent wall is a Gordon Stone trademark. **CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:** The large main entrance opens to the great room. Custom kitchen cabinets provide lots of storage. Windows flood the kitchen with light. Display coves can be found on the other side of the accent wall. A quaint powder room with a rustic vanity.





# home tour

This home offers just over 3,800 sq. ft. above grade and has an architecturally clean approach with simple lines and intelligent building practices.

Traditional offerings are updated in this lovely home, giving it a fresh new take on chalet living. Reclaimed hardwood flooring from sustainable sources, innovative finish details and smart home technology create an environment geared towards enjoyment.

The great room boasts 25-foot ceilings, a floor-to-ceiling stonework fireplace and dramatic two-storey windows showcasing the escarpment in all its glory in every season. There is a main floor master with a walkout to the 1.1 acre lot, and a luxurious en suite boasting radiant heated floors, three types of marble and a soaking tub.

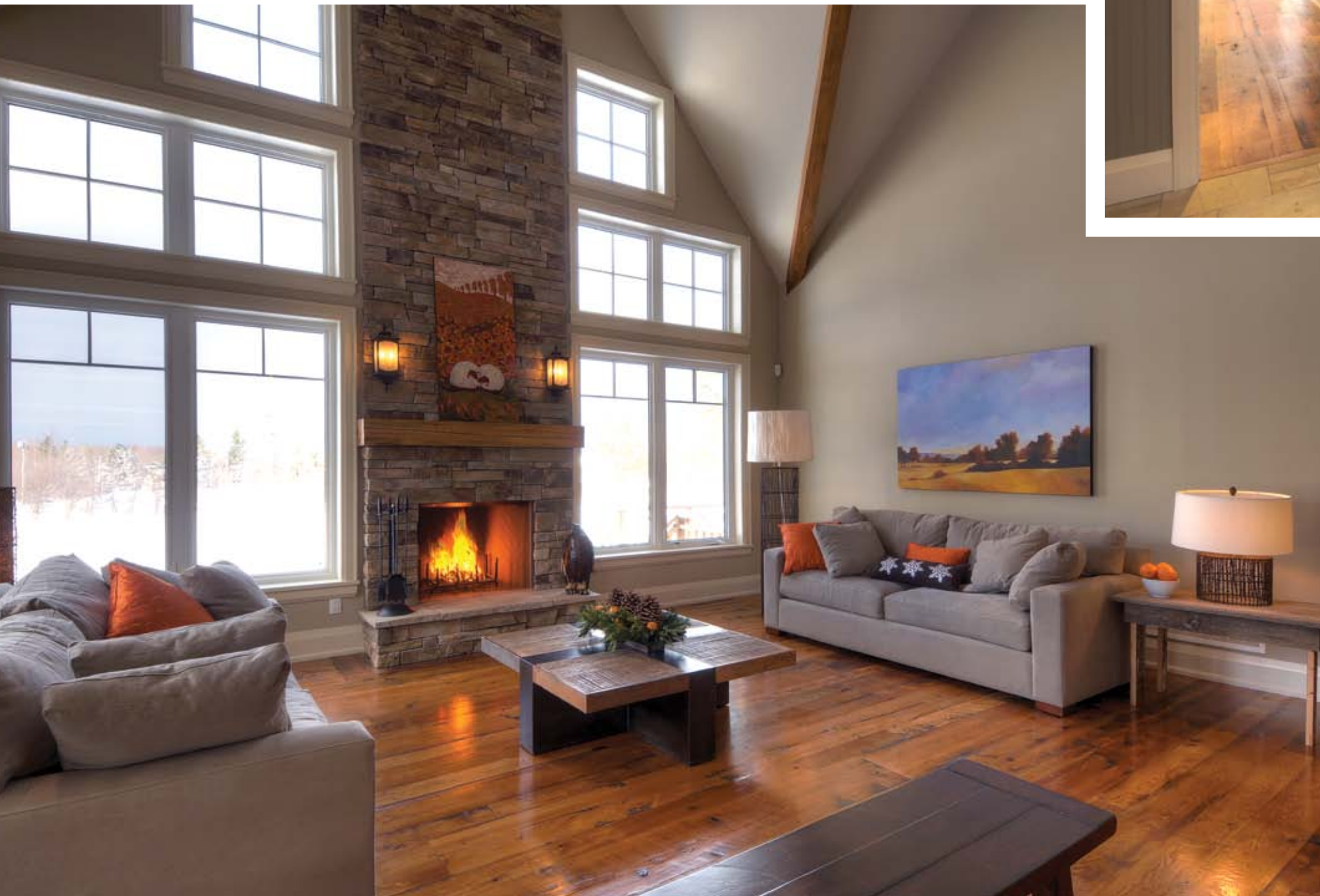
The unique kitchen design includes windows on two sides, taking advantage of both the morning and afternoon sun. This custom layout has two prep areas and a huge island for entertaining.

The gear room off the three-car garage also has radiant heated floors, custom stone work and all the space you need for everyone's equipment.

Upstairs, you'll discover a loft area, a generous guest room with en suite, two more bedrooms with shared bath and a wonderful 400 sq. ft. media room with fireplace.

With lot sizes ranging from 1.08 to 2.24 acres, Stone Custom Homes has offerings from \$879,000 to \$2,225,000 available at Windrose.

Original paintings courtesy of **Loft Gallery**, Clarksburg. Furnishings and accessories courtesy of **Dovetail Interiors**, Nottawa. **OH**



**ABOVE:** The gear room has access to the garage.  
**FAR LEFT:** The living room has a wall of windows, bringing the outside in.  
**LEFT:** The master bathroom has a fantastic vessel tub and a separate glass shower.





PHOTOGRAPHY BY SANDY MACKAY

The 2,245 sq. ft. townhouse has three bedrooms and an open-concept main-floor living space. **TOP RIGHT:** The beautiful stone exterior of the model townhome, located just steps from the bay in Thornbury. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** The kitchen has creamy cabinetry with antique brown granite counters. There is plenty of storage and counterspace. **BOTTOM LEFT:** Each townhouse has its own private elevator.



# exclusive COUNTRY TOWNHOME LIVING

The developer of Eleven Bay Street, Leonard Godfrey of Harbour Vista Inc., has easily captured the essence of this incredible townhome destination. The marketing material says it's where "quaint meets sophisticated and leisure meets activity in the beautiful environs of Thornbury." How appropriate. *Continued on page 116*



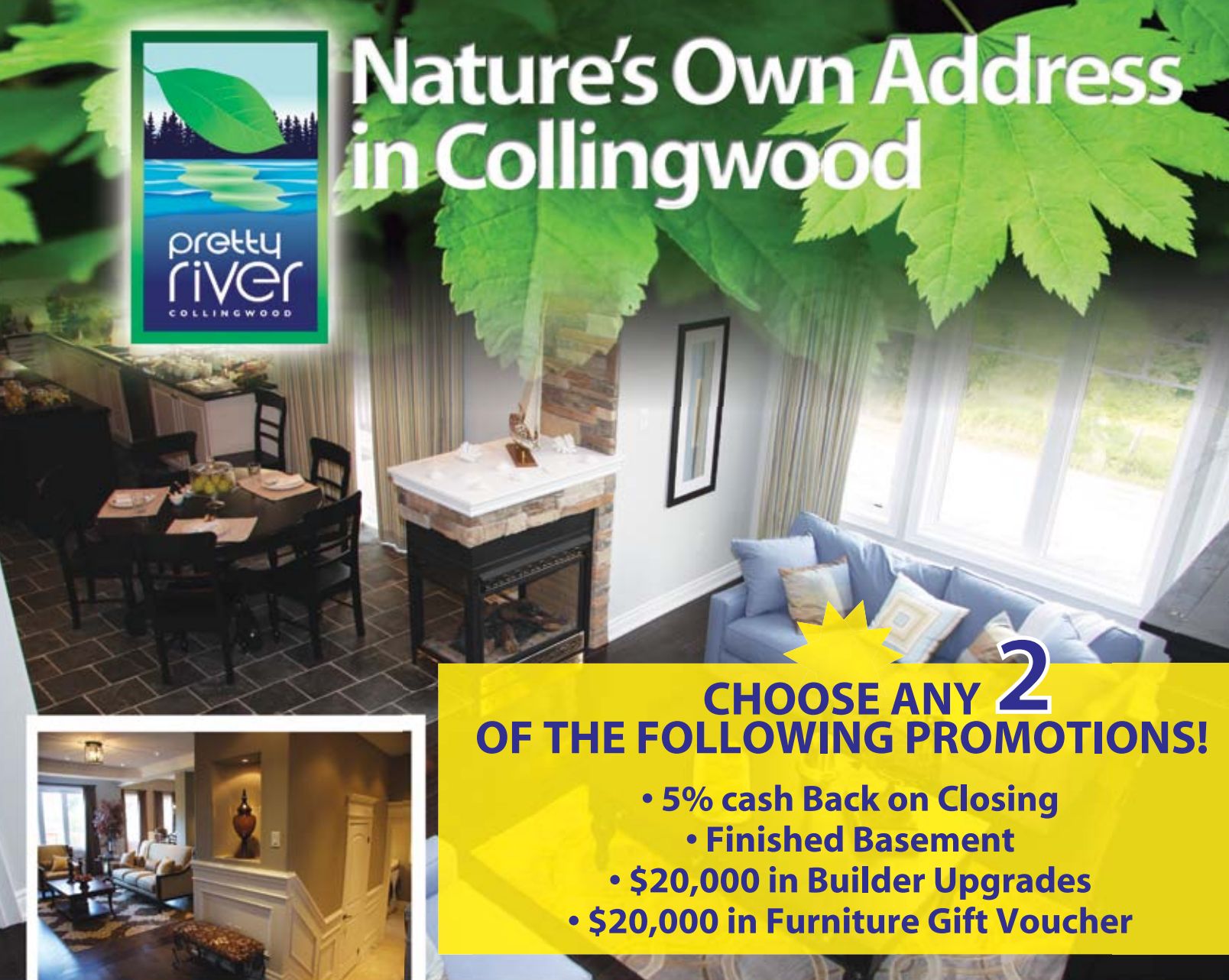




Baylyn Construction Ltd., CMID (Toronto), Grey-Bruce Construction Ltd., HCCLTD, Thornbury Home Hardware, Van Dolder's Custom Exteriors, Competitive Roofing, Gorilla Gutters, Bear Electric, Air Star Mechanical, MBM Stone Works Masonry, D+R Plastering, Chantico Fireplace Gallery, Steve Ryan Tiling.

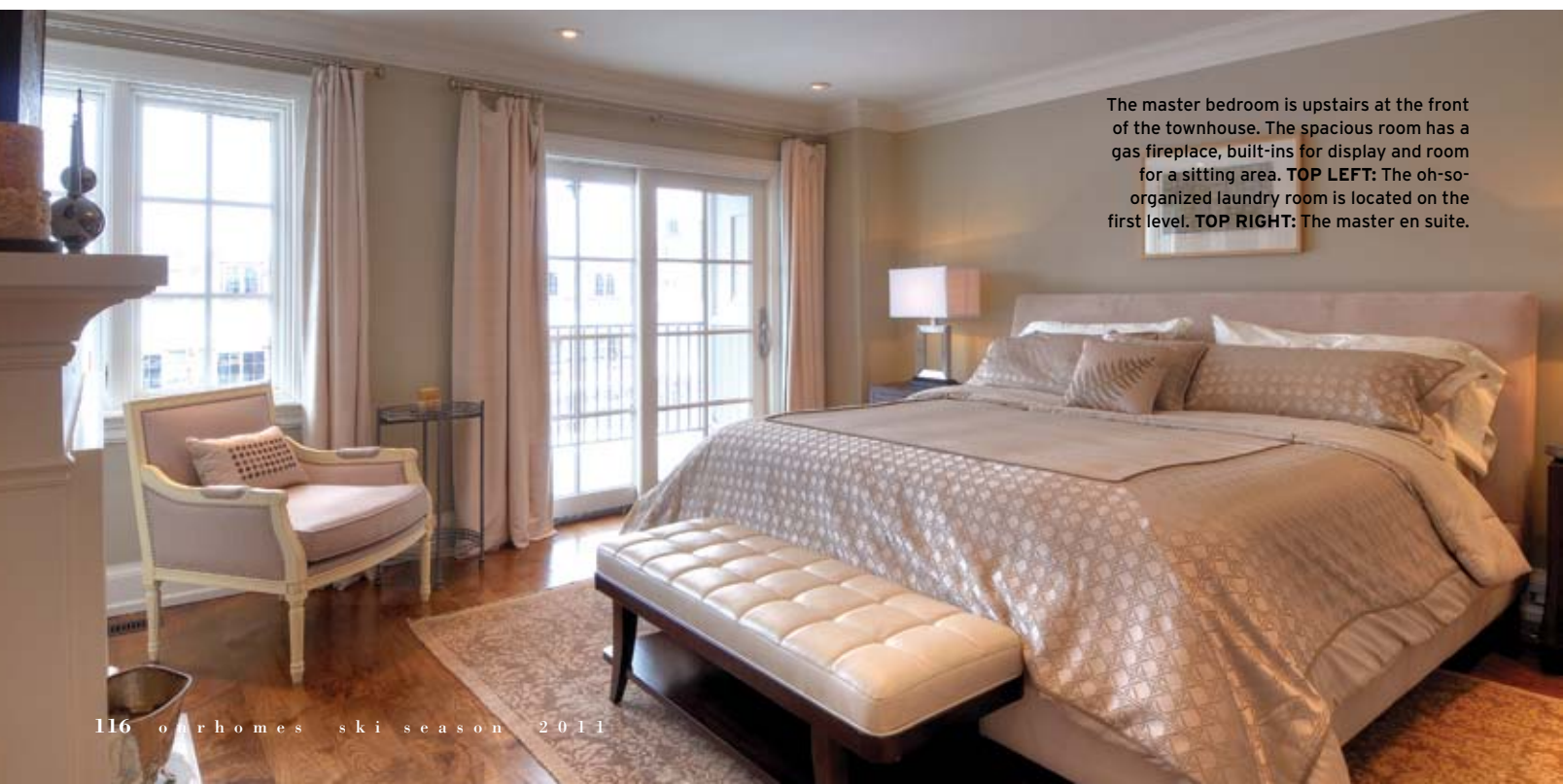
Godfrey fell in love with the site just steps from the water several years ago when another piece of land he was interested in wouldn't work. "I found out about this land from a town planner who suggested I look at it,"

"I expect 2011 to be a very, very dynamic year for real estate all over Ontario," he says with exuberance, adding "I hope to sell a number of these townhomes so we can keep people on the job and steadily employed." **OH**



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The master bedroom is upstairs at the front of the townhouse. The spacious room has a gas fireplace, built-ins for display and room for a sitting area. **TOP LEFT:** The oh-so-organized laundry room is located on the first level. **TOP RIGHT:** The master en suite.



From winter sports to the golden beaches of Georgian Bay, Collingwood offers a rich fusion of heritage and culture, year-round festivals and great family living. Located in this breathtaking setting, Pretty River is a new community adorned with beautiful designs and exquisite finishes. A rustic trail runs behind the site, perfect for walking, jogging or just enjoying nature.

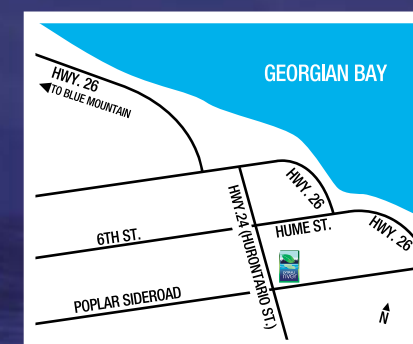
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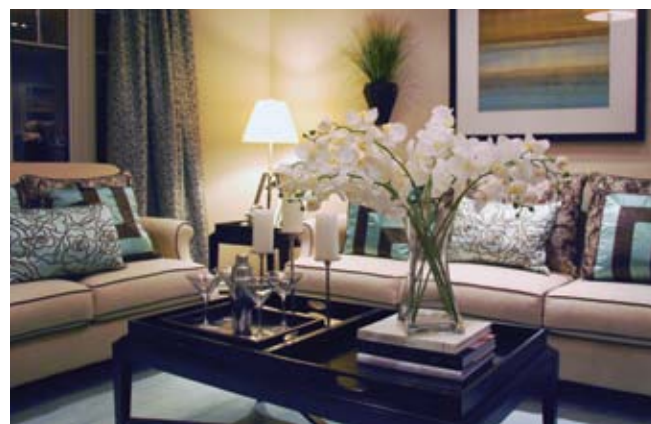
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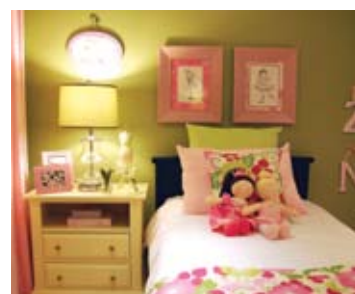
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The Delpark Team at Pretty River Estates:  
Rick Wozny, Andrea Ramacieri, Massimo  
Marotta, Freda Morden.



Chris Leach and  
Bonnie Cochrane

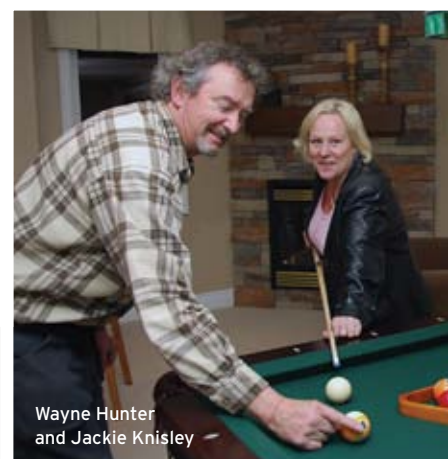


## WARM WELCOME PHOTOGRAPHY BY BONNIE FOX

Pretty River Estates is an ideal place to live in picturesque Collingwood. Located just minutes from the downtown core, this beautiful Delpark Homes community at Poplar Side Road and Hurontario offers Blue Mountain-inspired chalets that back onto trails and woodlands. The team at the beautiful model homes greeted visitors with an extra warm welcome on a cold night. OH



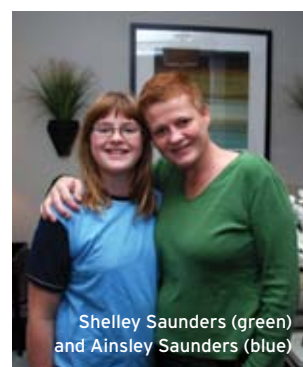
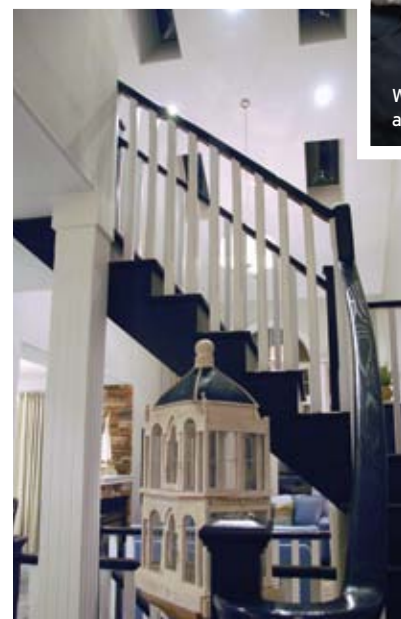
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BY IRENE TURNBULL

# HOW TO AVOID *choice overload*



Sarah and Mario set out on a Saturday morning with hopeful aspirations of choosing decorating finishes for their home. They began their day with specialty coffees and breakfast sweets at their local café. Not to be overwhelmed by the allure of choice, they each ordered something different to share. Little did they know, they had just scratched the surface of what was to be an eye opening experience into marketplace overload.

With shopping time at a premium, the couple planned to nail down selections for flooring, tile for three bathrooms and pick faucets, sinks, tubs, toilets and shower controls. They plotted their route accordingly, expecting to visit two or three sources for flooring in the morning and about three others for tile and bathroom fixtures in the afternoon. However, by flooring visit number three, their early morning optimism was quickly turning into exasperated confusion as each visit presented new options, supported by enthusiastic and often contradictory testimonials as to why each product was better than the other. Nonetheless, after refreshing over 101 lunch menu options, they pressed on to investigate the world of tile and bathroom fixtures, only to find the same process repeated for each product category. While Sarah and Mario came home with samples and information, they were more confused than ever and discouraged by the thought that there were still so many more selections for their home to be addressed, including their furnishings.

It seems we're in the midst of a social phenomenon coined "Choice Overload," which is resulting in one of the most significant stress ailments for modern consumers. From fancy coffees to expensive cars,

our marketplace offers infinite choice in every product category. Nowhere is this abundance more visible than the home building, design and decorating markets. From light switches to wall paint, doorknobs to kitchens, flooring to furniture – there is no shortage of choice. But, isn't that good? Making choices is an important part of life's evolutionary process. However, psychologists say we are also at a critical point and have evolved to accept personal responsibility for our choices, even beyond our intimate circles. We now have to be partners on a larger global scale and our desire to make the right choice – whatever our personal benchmarks might be – have led us smack into a self-imposed cloud of indecision stress! Ironically, current research clearly shows that the more choices we have, the fewer decisions we make, and the greater our dissatisfaction is with the outcome of our choice.

So, how do you make good choices in a global economy where experts have been replaced with associates and the criteria for product selection is based on low cost, flat-pack shipping and quick turnover rather than lasting quality and comfort? How is one to know what is right from the inappropriate? Part of the answer lies in clearly defining our own


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values and expectations. The solutions will come when we ask the right questions before making our purchases. Here are some suggestions that work in every “snack” bracket when dealing with products for your home.

**1. Values** – Consider the environmental impact of your choices and their effect on your health and well being. Consider easy care, lifestyle quality, comfort and safety rather than just being influenced by the lowest price. How soon will your purchase need replacing? Is supporting your local and domestic economy of value to you? Clearly make these criteria known to suppliers serving you and be vigilant in demanding proper disclosure before making your decisions.

**2. Seek out real product experts** who have certifiable credentials to learn how and where to research and source goods. Professional suppliers make educational upgrading mandatory for sales and technical staff. They attend national and international trade shows and keep abreast of market innovations. Look for training and trade association membership certificates posted on showroom walls. Most major product groups have national and international trade associations that advocate for reputable suppliers and provide impartial research data. Ask for and check references and examples of actual product installations. Use the Internet for global sourcing but remember to qualify research sources. Don't confuse marketing hype for fact, or showroom assistants with product experts. Reputable manufacturers readily offer product specifications and tech support.

**3. Check product warranties and be aware of limitations.** Manufacturers' warranties are often restricted and subject to special

terms and conditions for installation, which if not strictly adhered to can render them void. Many discount suppliers subcontract installations to independents that have no warranty status with the manufacturer. Support for after-sales service should be a pre-purchase consideration. Experienced specialty stores often price products and installation as a package because they guarantee their products and workmanship, with the end cost actually being less expensive than those where supplies were bought on deal.

**4. Don't be misled by technical jargon and marketing claims.** While it is important to understand industry standards and the pros and cons of product composition, it is equally important to remember that most products for the home undergo some form of processing in order to render them usable. Bamboo is a good example. It's a product valued for its sustainability but still requires the use of glues in its manufacturing. So it may be extremely durable in a three-quarter-inch tongue and groove made with quality glues and a carbonized finish, yet may perform badly when milled with inferior glues and a top coat. Abrasion ratings for fabrics are important, but don't override the significance of resistance to fading, breaking strength and staining. Make sure you clearly understand what product claims and logos really mean. That's where real expertise is essential.

**5. When it comes to style and colour, don't underestimate your own feelings.** The biggest choice mistakes are often made when you defer your own gut feelings to a stranger. Make decisions based on researched facts and large samples that are viewed in your own surroundings – with your actual lighting in place. Trust your instincts. As I always say, “if it feels good it is probably right.” **OH**

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# cooking at home

BY MARIA DASILVA // PHOTOGRAPHY BY SCOTT HUNTER

## PIZZA party



I've yet to meet a person who dislikes pizza. In fact, I might be suspicious of anyone who makes such a claim. Pizza is the ultimate crowd-pleasing food, satisfying the needs of whoever may be gracing your table, from a lactose-intolerant vegetarian, to a discerning gourmet.

While take-out or delivery is just the thing for busy nights, homemade pizza is a simple and delightful treat. And perfect for a casual get together.

Whether it's family games night or your turn at the dinner club, consider a stress-free, do-it-yourself pizza party. Make the dough and sauce the night before. Grate, prep or cook any toppings before the guests arrive, even the night before if you've got a full schedule. Preheat the oven, lay the table with an array of toppings and a space for each person to roll out and dress their own pie. Open a few bottles of red wine and voila, the party is ready. Easy entertaining at its finest! Happy cooking!

### PIZZA DOUGH:

(Makes enough for eight individual-size pizzas)

2 tsp yeast

2 tsp sugar

1 Tbsp olive oil

1½ cups warm water

4 cups all-purpose flour

1½ tsp salt

In a bowl, combine yeast, sugar, oil and water; let sit until foamy, 10 to 12 minutes. Stir in flour and salt to make a shaggy dough. Turn out dough onto floured surface; knead until smooth and silky, 8 to 10 minutes. Cover and let rise in warm place until tripled in size, 2 to 3 hours. Or, cover and refrigerate dough overnight. Bring to room temperature before rolling.

### PIZZA SAUCE:

2 Tbsp olive oil

Half onion, diced

3 cloves garlic, chopped

1 can (28 oz) whole tomatoes

1 tsp red wine vinegar

½ tsp each salt and sugar

3 fresh basil leaves

Heat oil over medium heat; fry onions and garlic until golden, about 5 minutes. Add tomatoes, vinegar, salt, sugar and basil leaves; bring to simmer. Simmer until sauce is thickened, about 20 minutes. Let cool. Remove basil leaves and purée until smooth. Sauce can be made up to 3 days ahead.

### TOPPINGS:

- The beauty of pizza is that anything goes. Here are a few suggestions from the ordinary to the trend-setting.
- MEATS - pepperoni, cooked sausage, salami, cooked chicken, baby shrimp, crumbled bacon, cooked ham, prosciutto, anchovies
- VEGETABLES - mushrooms, tomatoes (fresh, sun-dried or oven-roasted), zucchini, roasted peppers, spinach, olives, cooked eggplant, thinly sliced potatoes, onion, marinated artichokes, pesto
- CHEESE - fresh or regular mozzarella, fontina, provolone, blue cheese, bocconcini, smoked cheese, parmesan, cheddar

### TO ASSEMBLE AND BAKE PIZZA:

- Divide dough into eight pieces. On lightly floured surface, shape dough by pressing down with fingertips then gently pulling edges to stretch. Let the dough rest, or relax, for a few minutes between stretching if it pulls back immediately. Place dough on cornmeal sprinkled baking sheet. Top with sauce (not too much or pizza will be soggy) and toppings (not too much or pizza will be water-logged).
- Bake on lower rack of 425°F oven until bottom of crust is golden, about 12 to 15 minutes. **OH**



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