

# DIVERSE EXPERTISE



STORY  
**TAMARISK MCNALTY STEPHENS**  
PHOTOGRAPHY  
**SARAH TACOMA**

Whether tackling a project inside or out, these local professionals have a wide array of knowledge and skills to provide solutions you've been searching for.

## **CORINNE ROBERTSON-BROWN** *J'Adorn*

**What makes J'Adorn unique?** We stay on top of trends in home décor and source really different gifts from all over the world, and we're fully trained in using Annie Sloan products to help our customers get great results themselves with her Chalk Paint™.

**What are your favourite trends for 2017?** Mixed metals, quirky lighting, soft neutral colours – and lots of green. Hand-crafted furniture finishes continue to grow in popularity. Downsizers want their furniture to do double-duty, and young people are thrilled to beautifully repurpose their grandparents' quality furniture so they can enjoy it for another 50 years or more.

**Do you have plans to celebrate Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> this summer?** We plan to hold a "reunion" of sorts for our Chalk Paint™ graduates, giving them a refresher and sharing all kinds of new tips and techniques. I will also participate in all of the fun going on in Kincardine and Hanover during the summer and enjoy living in this beautiful part of the province.



## **KATHY & RANDY CAMERON** *Kountry Kat*

**What makes Kountry Kat unique?** Kountry Kat features 100 per cent solid wood furniture that is 100 per cent Canadian made. All of our products are made locally. Some made in the Mennonite community and other unique wood creations by co-owner Randy Cameron. Randy's work features vintage accents and unique designs. Our wood carver is an international award winner.

**How would you describe your style?** For the most part, our style is rustic or rough-

sawn, although we have traditional and contemporary pieces available. Our makers have also added metal to their designs to capture the rustic industrial look that is so popular. We offer antique accents and chainsaw carvings in our store as well.

**Do you have plans to celebrate Canada's 150<sup>th</sup>?** We are proud to sell only Canadian-made creations in our store. We are planning to celebrate Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday with red and white store décor, sales and giveaways.

*Continued on page 74*



KYLE POST,  
PAUL STEWART,  
ANNE MCNALTY,  
MARK STEPHENS  
*Highland Supply*

**Tell us about Highland Supply:** Our business began in 1978 as a locally-owned fuel supplier to the Dundalk Community. In 1982, two businesses began to share the same roof when Highland Supply was introduced to enhance the products offered to our customers. Still family owned today, Highland offers some of the most acknowledged products and brands in the fuel and outdoor power equipment industry, including Shell, Stihl, Karcher, Toro and BCS.

**Why do you love living and doing business in small town Ontario?** Small town Ontario business is incredible. We offer a service close to our own community that keeps our local support positive. We give

back to over 15 local organizations yearly, and many of our staff actively participate in the planning or physical contributions to our community events.

**Any plans to celebrate Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> this summer?** Our staff traditionally enjoy local firework displays in Priceville, Shelburne, Feversham, Holstein and Creemore. Over the course of the summer, some of our staff will also be taking advantage of the Parks Canada Discovery Pass. In addition to Canada Day, Dundalk's Homecoming Reunion is August 4th to 6th. This grand three-day event happens every 10 years, and is full of visiting, fun and exciting activities.

GARY & BOB WILSON  
*Wilson Solutions*

**Tell us about your company:** My father Gary and I founded Wilson Solutions with a vision to serve the niche market of home extras. Building our personal homes has been a passion for us both and we strive to bring that same passion into our customers' homes. We offer friendly service, innovative design, quality and dependability with all of our products.

**What do people come to you for?** People come to Wilson Solutions to help make their life more organized and their home more comfortable. Whether it is an organized

closet or garage, a slip-resistant Rubaroc floor, concrete floor coating or a screened seasonal room, we offer our customers many possibilities.

**How are you celebrating Canada's 150<sup>th</sup>?** We love to camp and spend time with our friends and family. To celebrate Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary we have a Parks Canada Discovery Pass. This summer we will be camping and showing our two young children the beautiful scenery along the Bruce Peninsula.

*Continued on page 76*



**MIKE CHAMBERS**  
*Stoltz Sales and Service*

**Please tell us about your company:** Stoltz Sales and Service is a family owned farm/homestead equipment dealership since 1978, which is located between Walkerton and Mildmay on Highway 9. Mahindra is the newest member of our supplier family adding utility vehicles/XTVs, compact tractors, with a variety of attachments and options such as factory cabs, mowers and backhoes.

**Tell us about your popular utility vehicles:** XTVs are work savers and pleasure makers. Load up the grandkids, neighbours or friends (six passengers) and view the sites during your comfortable ride. Mahindra XTV utility vehicles

come standard with a 2,000-pound towing capacity, 1,200-pound payload electric dumping box and a top speed of 50 kilometres per hour. These features can make short order of work from hauling fire wood, topsoil, mulch or whatever needs to be moved. Use the front receiver to launch the boat and add a front blade to move snow.

**What is your favourite Canadian summer travel destination?** We love spending time at our second home on Lake Rosalind and we also enjoy trips to the historic Ontario town of Niagara-on-the-Lake.



**COURTNEY & REAY HUNTER**  
*The Old Barn Polished Stone Creations*

**What services does your company offer?** The Old Barn is a full service granite and quartz countertop fabricator. We custom template, fabricate and install all of our projects. We stock granite at our shop in the full slab for selection. We are also the exclusive dealer of Designerstone Panels for the Georgian Bay area.

**What trends are you seeing in the realm of custom countertops?** Granite with a leathered finish (textured surface) has been a popular option lately. It works with both rustic and modern styling. Translucent stones are also an interesting option as you can add lighting under your counter

for a completely different look in your kitchen or bathroom.

**In the spirit of celebrating Canada's 150<sup>th</sup>, what are your favourite Canadian travel destinations?** You don't have to travel far from home for beautiful destinations. Our family makes frequent trips to Sauble Beach, which is a relaxing place to spend a sunny day or a week. Tobermory is also a great place to visit as you are close to nature everywhere you go and a tour on a glass bottomed boat is the perfect way to spend an afternoon.

*Continued on page 78*



PAMELA FARROW  
Architectural Technologist

**How did you become interested in pursuing a career in architecture?** From earliest memory I was fascinated with space, what it was and what it could be. With the unending encouragement and mentorship of my two uncles, Bev and John Plume (both builders), I found footing and advancement in my profession.

**What do you enjoy most about your work?** Imagining the spaces I am working on is a wonderful part of what I do, but the people I work for are the catalyst for this, many whom I really enjoy sharing the process with.

**What is your favourite Canadian travel destination?** I have been lucky to travel to each province in Canada. There is nothing like the shores near Peggy’s Cove, a road trip around Cape Breton, the tide creeping onto a PEI beach, a golden canola drive through the west, the mighty heights of the Rocky Mountains, or the amazing Sea to Ski of the B.C. coast. But if I had to pick one perfect spot it would be the summer shores of Lake Huron where we spend a restorative week each summer. *Continued on page 80*



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people

ALICIA &  
CHRIS JOHNSON  
*HighR Construction*



**Tell us about your company:** We are a family owned and operated company and between my father and I, we have over 60 years of experience in the construction industry. We specialize in constructing energy-efficient homes with an Insulated Concrete Form (ICF) system. We use Quadlock ICF, which is a Canadian company with some of the highest R-values in the world. We also do excavating and septic installation.

**What are the benefits of using your building method?** The advantages of a HighR home include: saving money year-round on heating and cooling

costs (we've experienced up to 80 per cent savings in heating costs). Resilient construction offers peace of mind from weather-related matters (and the added benefit that rodents cannot get in). ICF has great sound reduction properties and quiets noise from traffic, music, etc., and the design of the system allows for near zero panel waste in the construction process.

**Do you have plans to celebrate Canada's 150<sup>th</sup>?** Canada Day is also our anniversary. We usually celebrate it with family and have a fireworks show for the kids – they love it!

*Continued on page 82*



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people

MARK & KEN  
HUTTEN  
*Hutten & Co. Land and Shore*



**Tell us about your company:** Our business began in 2000 as a small excavating contractor and the product offerings looked nothing like what we bring to the table today. Seventeen years later, we are a team of certified horticulturalists, carpenters and stone craftsmen, and we build designed landscapes, install docks and boat lifts, and work on environmental restorations. This is all wrapped up in our new brand Hutten & Co. Land and Shore – and we’re excited about the future!

**What trends are you seeing in outdoor living?** We’re seeing a real interest in shore landscapes that encompass all of the functional spaces but also connect back to a naturalized

setting. Adding a long dock with a patio at the end and easy place to get onto the kayak is also a big plus for the paddler!

**What is your favourite Canadian landscape (or travel destination) and why?** Mark: Killarney is on my summer bucket list. I haven’t been there yet but I hear it’s pretty awesome up there and can’t wait to check it out. Ken: If you want a good experience I’d highly recommend Harbourville, N. S. It’s off the beaten path but it offers a fish market, restaurant and lots of hiking. Watching the Bay of Fundy tides come in and out, while enjoying s’mores over a driftwood campfire on the beach, was a delight for our young boys. *Continued on page 84*



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LOU MAIERON  
The Pond Professor  
Silver Creek Aquaculture

**Why should I consider investing in a pond?** There are many sporting and practical reasons to have a pond. Swimming, fishing, boating and skating or hockey in winter months. Pond water can irrigate your lawn and garden. Your pond becomes its own ecosystem – attracting all forms of wildlife. If you are considering adding a pond or currently own one that needs some help – consider our pond consultation service, it will assist you in achieving your objectives. We also carry a full line of pond supplies as well as all the trout you want!

**We’ve had a pond for years, lately it’s being inundated by algae and weeds – what can we do?** To reduce aquatic vegetation, sunlight penetration and nutrient loading must be minimized. Removing existing vegetation will reduce future growth. Light penetration is reduced by adding True Blue, which acts like sunglasses for your pond. Light reduction is most naturally achieved with a surface aerator (fountain), which ripples the water surface deflecting sunlight – limiting plant growth. Nutrient breakdown is greatly assisted by adding pond probiotics, Bacta Pur, which augments naturally-occurring bacteria.

**What travel destination would you recommend for avid fishermen:** The Forks of the Credit River. **oh**

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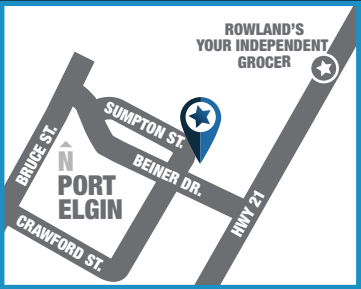
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