



BARN OF INSPIRATION

STORY **JOYCE TURNER GIONET**
PHOTOGRAPHY **JASON HARTOG**

THE PLACE: It's hard to believe the property and whimsical barn at Rivercroft was deemed uninhabitable by the city just three years ago. "When you do what you love, everything else falls into place," says designer Diane Mackay, owner of **Rivercroft Interiors**. Everything falls into place with vision, and Diane was dreaming big when she and her husband Mark bought the property, determined to turn unlivable into unbelievable. "I just wanted to own a barn. What started out as a 180-year-old studio for my business is now, through word of mouth and social media, a thriving retail business," says Diane. She climbs a rustic ladder to her office every day. "I'm waiting for Mark to build me real stairs." The original house – renovated, rather than torn down – is now a showcase in the French Provincial style, but that's a story for another day.

THE STYLE: "Rustic glam" is the best way to sum up the style, says Diane. Pillows, original olive buckets, antique dough bowls, lighting and lamps, baskets, distressed Egyptian doors, old ship rope and iron work, chests and tables, metal hardware, and deliciously scented organic candles in French lavender and sea salt, oak-barrel apple or pear/cucumber; the list goes on.



WHAT'S HOT: Diane and her daughter Brittany travel everywhere to source one-of-a-kind finds. Much of the furniture and accessories, including refurbished barn doors, harvest tables, signage, rustic mirrors, live-edge tables, unique wood iPad holders and birch tic-tac-toe boards, are crafted by hand, by husband Mark.

WHAT'S HAPPENING: Rivercroft hosts a variety of workshops, interior design classes and more. Rivercroft works its magic in more ways than

one. Rustic glam is just the beginning. Rivercroft Construction can renovate a room, a whole house, build new or bring a heritage home back to life to suit your own personal style: traditional, transitional, contemporary, modern or even a rustic farmhouse. From consultation to staging and building a home from the ground up, Rivercroft is a one-stop shop for any homeowner.

WHERE: 885 Lower Base Line W., Milton 416.804.8738 | rivercroft.ca OH



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Mark, Brittany and Diane with Blaze.

