

WINTER 2015/16

STYLE ■ COMFORT ■ IDEAS ■ REAL ESTATE

ourhomes

D U R H A M R E G I O N

Nesting

HOME
AT LAST
IN WHITBY
& OSHAWA

A PLACE TO
PLAY

INSPIRATIONAL
CREATIVITY

Thinking of Building?

We can design your new home
and build it anywhere.



YOU^{NI}QUE
KITCHENS & BATH
your ideas meet custom design.



Linwood offices, dealers and builders across Ontario.

Contact Us for Your Free Consultation

Discover the fastest, easiest, safest and
most cost-effective way to build your
custom home, cottage or cabin.

*Proud Designer & Supplier of the Princess
Margaret Lottery Prize Cottages since 2008.*



linwoodhomes.com
1-888-546-9663

DESIGN. BUILD. RENOVATE

- Custom Builds
- End to end renovation
- Stress free renovations and builds
- Onsite project management, full office
administration and support
- Design services tailored to your specific needs

Call us for a complimentary design consultation

905.372.4250

bethany@yuniquekitchensandbath.com

yuniquekitchensandbath.com

Address:

4741 County Rd 45

Baltimore, ON K0K 1C0

Showroom Hours: M-F 9-5

Roof Problems Rarely Start With Your Roof



It's Not Too Late
To Be Ready
for Winter!

Almost every element in your home could be a contributor to moisture, shingle wear, mould and potential water damage. If you think you've got a roof problem, let us get to the root of it. We are dedicated to finding and fixing any underlying problems before you go to the trouble and expense of a new roof. **And if a new roof is what you need, we're experts at that too.**

Don't just fix your roof. Solve your problem!

- Roof repairs & roof-life extension solutions
- Emergency tarping & leak diagnosis and mitigation
- Skylight installation & repairs
 - Velux trained
 - Fully insured
- Experienced crew
- Respect for your property

BEDROCKTOBUNDLES

905.447.1281 | www.bedrocktobundles.com

ourhomes
D U R H A M R E G I O N

REGIONAL PUBLISHER Jamie Jefferson
jamie.jefferson@ourhomes.ca
Georgette McCulloch
georgette.mcculloch@ourhomes.ca

MANAGING EDITOR Annette McLeod
annette.mcleod@ourhomes.ca

REGIONAL PRODUCTION MANAGER Lynn Derrick
lynn.derrick@ourhomes.ca

MARKETING & ADVERTISING Annette McLeod, 647.330.3634
annette.mcleod@ourhomes.ca
Jamie Jefferson, 705.730.3827
jamie.jefferson@ourhomes.ca

OUR HOMES is a registered trademark of OUR HOMES MEDIA GROUP INC.
OUR HOMES Durham Region is published four times a year.

OUR HOMES is distributed to residents of Durham Region via direct mail.
Copies of OUR HOMES are available for free pick up at high traffic locations throughout the region. OUR HOMES is distributed to select business leaders via direct mail.

Please send all letters and/or feedback to OUR HOMES Magazine, 25 Elgin St., Collingwood, ON Canada L9Y 3L6. Or email us at editor@ourhomes.ca. All letters received are subject to editing for grammar and length. If undelivered, return to above address.

OUR HOMES MEDIA GROUP INC:

EDITORIAL

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Georgette McCulloch
georgette.mcculloch@ourhomes.ca

ASSOCIATE & WEB EDITOR Laurel Fortin
laurel.fortin@ourhomes.ca

MANAGING EDITORS Nancy Belgue,
Adrienne Brown, Laurel Fortin,
Walter Franczyk, Mary Hatt, Sarah Hoy,
Gina Makkar, Tiffany Mayer,
Georgette McCulloch, Annette McLeod,
Melissa North, Jennifer Schleich,
Melody Wren

ART

ART DIRECTOR Tara Chattell
tara.chattell@ourhomes.ca

ASSOCIATE ART DIRECTORS
Sheila Britton, Georgie Donais

PRODUCTION

PRODUCTION DIRECTOR Lynn Derrick
lynn.derrick@ourhomes.ca

PRODUCTION MANAGERS
Julia Dempsey,
Kelly Donaldson, Marilyn Reid,
Abby Reynolds, Tracy Shuttleworth

OPERATIONS

MANAGING DIRECTOR, SALES & MARKETING
Jamie Jefferson
jamie.jefferson@ourhomes.ca

MANAGING DIRECTOR, OPERATIONS
Georgette McCulloch
georgette.mcculloch@ourhomes.ca

ACCOUNTING Donna Duggan

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Lisa Merrell

CONTRIBUTORS

Brandon Barre, Stephanie Brown, Melissa Hare, Jason Hartog, Shelby Hilson, Jenelle McCulloch, Annette McLeod, Stephanie Redmond, Yanic Simard, Ted Yarwood

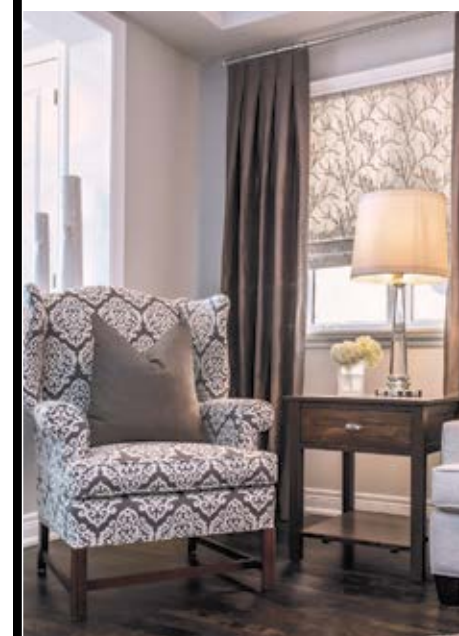
Advertisements and the content, including photos, of advertisements published within OUR HOMES magazine are supplied solely by the advertiser and neither the publisher nor OUR HOMES Media Group Inc. accept responsibility for opinions expressed in advertisements or for copyright issues with regards to photos, advertising copy and advertisements, nor shall they be held liable thereby. By act of reading this publication, all advertisers and readers agree to indemnify and hold harmless both OUR HOMES Media Group Inc., and the publisher thereby. Copyright ©2015 OUR HOMES Media Group Inc. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is prohibited.

OUR HOMES CAN BE FOUND IN THE FOLLOWING MARKETS:

Barrie • Durham Region • Grey Bruce • Hamilton • London
Mississauga • Muskoka • Niagara • Oakville/Burlington/Milton
Ottawa • Peterborough • Southern Georgian Bay • Vaughan
Region of Waterloo • Wellington County/Orangeville/Caledon • Windsor



Come Shop with us!



Furniture • Accessories • Custom Drapery • Interior Design • Lighting • Area Rugs • Shopping Destination

ENDLESS
Ideas
SHOP. HOME. DESIGN.

10
YEARS
SINCE 2005

3 Cassels Rd E, Brooklin, ON 905-655-3722 endlessideas.ca





T **TSUNDOKU IS A JAPANESE WORD THAT MEANS** buying books and letting them pile up unread on shelves, floors and nightstands. (Actually the definition I read said shelves “or” floors “or” nightstands, but who are we kidding?) I actively pursue the art of *tsundoku* and have since I was a kid, and I used to beat myself up about it. Then I got older and wiser and realized one of the fastest ways to make yourself unhappy in life is to spend it swimming upstream. We’re not salmon. We need to embrace who we are. I’ve had to admit to myself that I take pleasure not just in the reading, but in the purchase, ownership and stockpiling of glorious, idea-filled, wonderfully aromatic books.

Once one admits the truth, it becomes easier to accept. Instead of looking for ways to curb the habit, I started looking for ways to incorporate it into my home. I have an inordinate number of bookshelves. There are books on my desk and sideboard, a stack on the living room hassock, and three piles next to my bed, arranged so they vary by size and colour to create a pleasing, abstract, sculptural quality that suits my penchant for a bohemian look.

I’ll guarantee you my home is not to everyone’s taste; one woman’s boho is another woman’s clutter. The bright colours that make it easier for me to get up every morning might make someone else wince. But I’ve made my peace with it all.

The three People we introduce you to in this issue have devoted their careers to helping homeowners embrace who they are, and realize a home environment that suits them uniquely. I just wish I’d known them before I wasted all that time feeling bad about never even opening that red-leather-bound edition of Don Quixote in the den. Tilting at windmills has never been my strength.

Annette McLeod
Annette McLeod, Managing Editor
annette.mcleod@ourhomes.ca

 Follow us @OurHomesMag



Maintaining effective work-life balance

The nature of my business, as an insurance broker, allows me to meet new and interesting people every day. Our combination of personal lines, commercial business and specialization in truck fleet insurance, introduces us to all walks of life and the many challenges families and business owners face in today’s fast paced environment. Change is constant and work-life balance is a constant struggle.

I love what I do and enjoy belonging to the Durham business community. We are in the “helping” business and by insuring our clients appropriately, we help protect them against unforeseen perils with their personal, home, auto and business requirements.

I would like to share a few thoughts that have helped me to strike a better balance as a mother to 2 teenagers, a business owner who has just expanded to a second location in Brooklin and after nearly 20 years of marriage, have just completed building our own home. It makes me exhausted just thinking about it!

Tracy’s 5 TIPS for better work-life balance

- 1** I keep a positive mindset and remind myself daily of everything I have to be grateful for. I try very hard not to allow negativity to be part of my life – at home or at work. I highly recommend the book “A Complaint Free World” by Will Bowen as a guide to the power of positive thinking.
- 2** I walk to free my head of clutter and read books like “Thrive” by Arianna Huffington, who stresses the importance of getting enough sleep, meditation and making small gestures of kindness. I listen to Brene Brown, a research professor who speaks to the importance of embracing who we are.
- 3** I plan trips with my family in order to physically get away from our day to day surroundings, rediscover and enjoy each other’s company... no interruptions including cell phones, emails etc.



Tracy Makris
President, Bryson Insurance

Tracy Makris is the President and owner of Bryson Insurance and has offices in Ajax and Brooklin Ontario. Her firm has developed a strong niche in truck fleet insurance throughout Ontario and carries a full line of personal and commercial insurance services. To find out more about Bryson Insurance visit their website at BrysonInsurance.com



- 4** Maintaining a healthy lifestyle is high on my priority list. Personally, I have a movement specialist and a nutritionist I reach out to weekly. I also encourage our team to partake in annual community events we help sponsor like relay marathons, duathlons, Tough Mudder, Muderella and multiple 5 KM walks.
- 5** I surround myself with people who have strengths in areas I don’t. I delegate tasks that I simply don’t have time to do and align with those who I trust and have confidence in. We are not alone and as part of the Durham community there are those we can help and can help us. It’s extremely rewarding in both directions.



Consider Bryson your partner in success

brysoninsurance.ca
1.800.661.5196



Bryson & Associates Insurance Brokers Ltd.
Head Office: 541 Bayly Street E., Ajax, ON L1Z 1W7
Branch: 10 Roebuck Street, Brooklin, ON L1M 1B2

contents

winter

14

ON THE COVER

Dining With Heart.
Story, page 18.
Photography by
Stephanie Brown.

36



departments

- 6 EDITOR'S NOTE
- 10 PUBLISHER'S NOTE
- 12 ADVICE
Choosing Trim
- 14 STYLE PICKS
Let the Games Begin
- 36 COMFORT ZONE
Bathworks
- 42 PEOPLE
Art For Home's Sake
- 45 HOME RESOURCE DIRECTORY
- 46 FINISHING TOUCH
Stunning, Sculptural Marble

features

- 16 DOUBLE TAKE
Arts & Crafts
- 18 FEATURE HOME
Small Space, Big Style
- 26 DESIGN IDEAS
Cosying Up To White
- 28 COOKING AT HOME
Eggplant Lasagna
- 30 HOME & DESIGNER
Oasis In Grey
- 38 DECORATING
Dining Lighting
- 44 GOOD TASTE
Ciders



The Luxury Log Home Lifestyle... Without the Maintenance



Complete Project Management
Log, Timberframe & Conventional Log Sided

1.800.661.1628
info@truenorthloghomes.com

Follow True North on the following Social Media Outlets...



www.truenorthloghomes.com

Media Sales Opportunity

OUR HOMES magazine is a premium, glossy magazine, available in **16 regions across Ontario**. **OUR HOMES** is the regional authority on home décor, home building and design, real estate and home service businesses.

› THE OPPORTUNITY

OUR HOMES Media Group Inc. is looking for a dedicated Multi Media Advertising Sales Representative for Durham Region and other **OUR HOMES** regions. Our Advertising Sales Representative will sell primarily print ads to local small and medium sized businesses in the region, while achieving aggressive revenue targets. Minimum 2+ years' experience selling across multiple media platforms is required.

› KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES

- Responsible for ongoing sales with both new and existing clients
- Prospect for new accounts, source leads, cold call and research to generate sales
- Create proposals for prospective advertisers
- Attain or surpass sales targets
- Address client concerns in a timely and professional manner
- Ability to present a variety of opportunities to all clients, and to support all special initiatives

› WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR

- Superior customer service skills, creativity, and ability to be resourceful, expedient and work to deadline
- Positive attitude, flexible nature and excellent communication skills
- Strong organizational skills with the ability to multi-task
- Ability to work in a fast-paced, deadline oriented environment, with strong attention to detail
- Access to reliable vehicle

› WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU

- Motivating compensation
- Opportunity to be part of an exciting company
- Work for a well-established and respected company that is connected to your communities

If working for a highly energized, competitive team is your ideal environment, please email your resume to jamie.jefferson@ourhomes.ca or call 705.445.5065 x 211.

ourhomes

Your local magazine about everything home.

ourhomes.ca

publisher's note



THIS MAGAZINE HAS COME A LONG WAY. OUR HOMES Durham Region has been celebrating all things home for two years, and I want to take this opportunity to thank our loyal readers and advertising partners for helping us build a strong foundation in the region.

Our hungry readership is proving wrong the predictions that the Internet would wipe out the printed word. For our local magazine, readers still prefer to read articles and see pictures in print. Magazines create something permanent. Our readers keep OUR HOMES magazines as a reference and resource because our only focus is celebrating life at home. And there is no sign of that slowing down.

OUR HOMES provides inspiration, ideas and information on how to create the home you've always imagined. We take you inside homes in your neighbourhood, built by local companies who employ local trades. These beautiful homes are designed by local experts and furnished with products from local stores.

We are part of the digital world as well. We publish online at ourhomes.ca. Our website offers downloadable versions of our print magazine (and individual articles) plus our business directory. It complements our print magazine and is another tool for local readers to find the sources and businesses they're looking for.

In this season of giving, I encourage you to shop local and seek out these home-related products right here in this incredible region. When you do, don't forget to let those local companies know that you found them in OUR HOMES.

Happy Holidays to you and all the best for 2016.

Sincerely,

Jamie Jefferson, Regional Publisher
jamie.jefferson@ourhomes.ca

Follow us @OurHomesMag





Designer **Stephanie Redmond** shares her ideas.

TRIM DETAILS

Architectural details are an important part of your home’s aesthetic, whether they stand out as a dominant feature or remain minimal and inconspicuous. Crown mouldings, door and window casings and baseboards all aid in defining your home’s overall style. But what are they for anyhow? Does your home require trim or can you do without it? Let’s look at the purpose of trim and how styles can change the look of your home.

The Basics

Traditionally, moulding serves a purpose. It is not just “make-up” for your home. Take baseboard (or skirting) for instance. A baseboard covers the gap between the bottom of your wall where it meets the floorboards or carpeting. Baseboard is traditionally composed of three parts – the base, the shoe and a cap. Using a more contemporary approach, the baseboard is one part and then a small shoe to cover the gap is applied. The more modern you go, the fewer parts you tend to use. Personally, I prefer a baseboard without a shoe mould, but in some instances it’s unavoidable.

Casing is applied around a window or door and covers the gap between the window and the wall, or the jamb. Typically, this area is insulated and the casing is a decorative piece of wood that can be assembled in several parts to include a



- 1. Crown
- 2. Architrave
- 3. Casing
- 4. Panel Mould
- 5. Chair Rail
- 6. Baseboard

PHOTO COURTESY OF METRIE

sill and a header, or as a simple picture-frame style. The casing that surrounds your windows would also follow through to the interior doors. A general rule of thumb is that a more decorative casing means a more traditional style.

Crown moulding is the piece that covers the seam between the wall and ceiling. It generally rests against the ceiling and wall with a space in between. A crown (or cornice) is typically plaster or wood, but more modern materials like plaster and foam are also used. In a traditional Victorian home for example, the living and dining rooms would have larger-scale cornice in stained wood and the second floor would use a smaller scale. This gave the main entertainment space a sense of grandeur.

Architectural details go way beyond trim. They include wainscoting, ceiling beams, plate rails, chair rails, plinth blocks, or any piece of trim that you would apply to walls or ceilings to enhance or define a particular look. You need an architectural dictionary to learn all of the terminology!

A Modern Approach

So if all of this trim work has a purpose, how are modern homes going without? It actually takes (arguably) a lot more work to use NO trim than it does to use case, crown and base. And cost-wise, you may save on materials, but you will pay your drywaller much more for the finishing. And fair enough, because it’s a lot of work!

A term that is very common in modern architectural detailing is a “reveal.” A reveal is a small gap that is used in place of a trim detail. Rather than adding pieces to your wall (casing), a reveal looks like an indent into your

wall. This means that where the drywall ends, there is a small indent or reveal. All of this is finished in drywall with corner beads and a painted finish. This allows for a completely clean and simple look.

If you want to achieve a modern look, you have a few things to consider. First of all, budget! You may save on materials if you choose to omit casing, but you will likely spend more on drywalling. Don’t assume that less detail equals less cost.

If the budget is tight but you still want modern, a common choice is simple flat stock. A simple three-inch board can make a very nice trim piece if done correctly. It is cost effective and has a contemporary look. Get quotes first before making a decision.

Choosing these details is tedious and does require a certain amount of thought and expertise. The scale of everything has to coordinate with the scale of the house and with other architectural details. The style should be continuous. Having a contractor bring samples to a site and create a mock-up is the best way to actually see what your choices will look like in your home. This is where hiring a professional has value! **OH**



Reveal

INTRODUCING

Colour of the Year 2016

SIMPLY WHITE

OC-117

“White is transcendent, timeless, its versatility unrivalled. From weathered wainscoting to crisp canvas shades, porcelain tile to picket fences, white is everywhere in every form - that’s why we chose it as our Colour of the Year. Turn down the noise and celebrate the simplicity of white. Simply said...Simply White.”

- Ellen O’Neill
Creative Director
Benjamin Moore



Benjamin Moore®

The Paint Store Plus 701 Rossland Rd E, Whitby 905.430.3398
Oshawa Paint & Wallpaper 894 Simcoe St N, Oshawa 905.721.2854
Whitby Paint + Decorating 605 Brock St N, Whitby 905.430.6543

GAME ON!

When the weather outside is frightful, cosy up in the rec room.

PHOTOGRAPHY **STEPHANIE BROWN**



1 DAYCO DISTRIBUTING LTD.

Barware
If you're old school, try a restaurant supply retailer for industry-worthy barware, glassware and assorted mixology gizmos. If you're a foodie, you'll be like a kid in a candy store.
933 Ritson Rd. S., Oshawa
905.436.5336 | daycodistributing.com

2 CANADIAN HOME LEISURE

Billiards Table
No games room is complete without a great table, whether it's foosball, poker or billiards. The Landon by Legacy Billiards has timeless style, all-wood corners and solid, one-inch slate for decades of playability.
1515 Hopkins St., Whitby
905.430.9965 | canadianhomeleisure.ca

3 BENJAMIN MOORE

Paint
Warmer than winter, the 2016 Benjamin Moore colour of the year is Simply White. Let it play off the natural light in your home for nuance, set it off with popular pewter, or amp up the colour with spectacular orange accents.
Authorized retailers throughout Durham
benjaminmoore.ca

4 OSSO LIGHTING & DECOR

Lighting
The look of reclaimed materials meets vintage-inspired industrial design in the Colerne chandelier. It's an outside-the-box choice for over the pool table that will become a focal point of your room.
209 Bloor St. E., Oshawa
905.404.6776 | ossilighting.ca

5 DODD & SOUTER FLOORING

Tile
If it doesn't get spilled on, you're not playing hard enough. Durable EverTile Premier floor tiles are as tough as they are beautiful, and they'll stay that way for years to come.
1624 Dundas St. E., Whitby
905.433.0080 | doddandsouter.ca

6 WILSON FURNITURE

Round Chair
Today's contemporary seating styles go beyond two or three seats across. This circular chair by Trend-Line, a Canadian family-owned company, proves that sometimes it's hipper not to be square.
20 Centre St. N., Oshawa
905.723.2255 | www.wilsonfurniture.com **OH**

double take

MODERN ARTS & CRAFTS

Recreate this look in your own home.

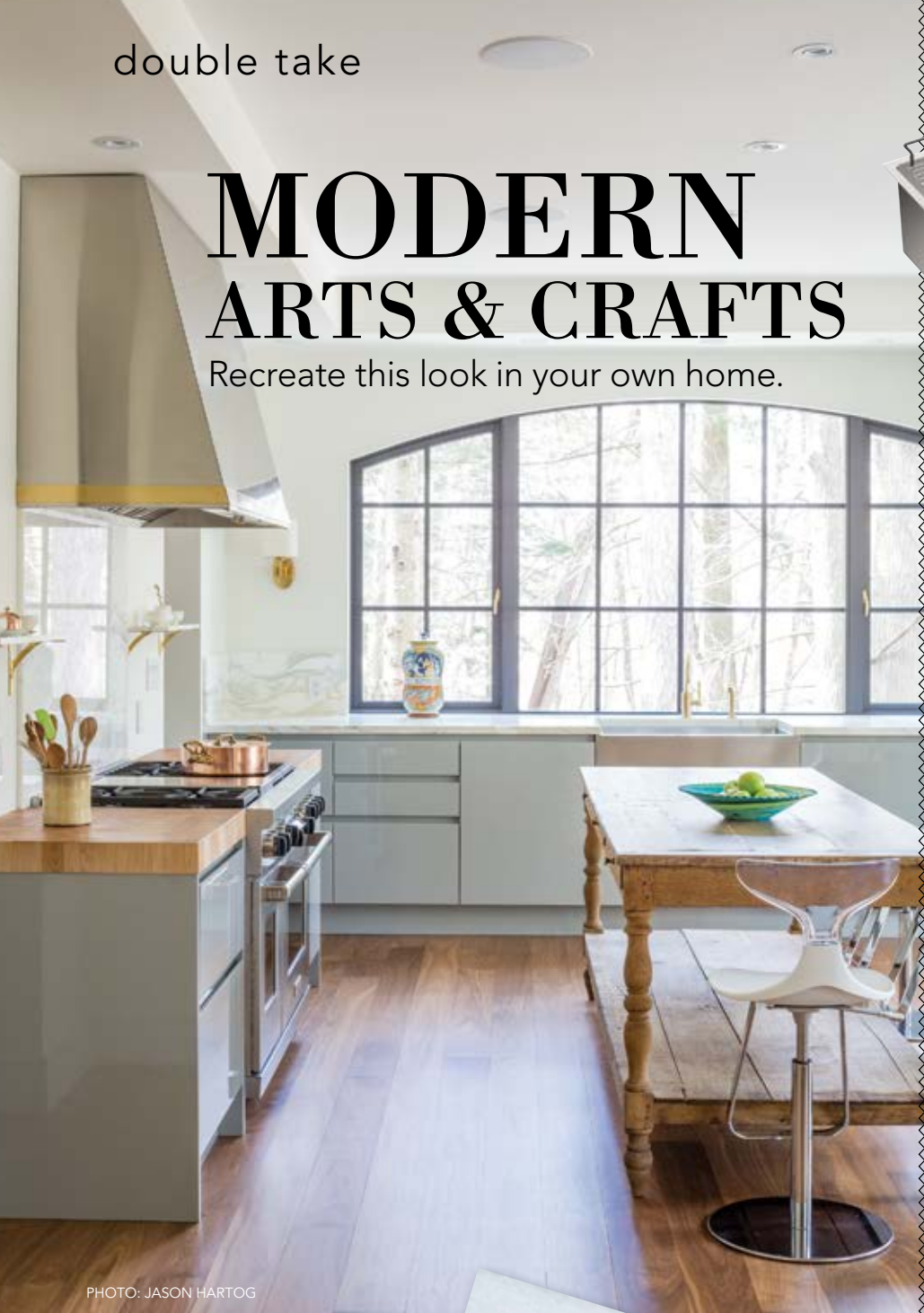


PHOTO: JASON HARTOG

1. KOHLER: Strive Apron-Front Sink 2. NEWPORT BRASS: East Linear Pull-Down Kitchen Faucet in Forever Brass 3. SUNPAN MODERN HOME: California Adjustable Barstool 4. AYA: Milano Light-Grey, High-Gloss, Lacquered Cabinet Door 5. THERMADOR: 48-inch Professional Series Pro Grand Commercial Depth All Gas Range 6. M NAEVE: 19th Century French Draper Table 7. ANTOLINI ITALY: Bianco Lasa Covelano Fantastico, Backsplash or Countertop 8. FALK COPPER COOKWARE: Casserole Pan



1



2



3



4



5



7



8



6



warm up with art this winter
exciting exhibits. classes for all ages. free family art days.
open seven days a week and always free to visit.

1450 Henry St.
Whitby, ON L1N 0A8
whitbystationgallery.com



art is for everyone





STORY **ANNETTE MCLEOD**
PHOTOGRAPHY **STEPHANIE BROWN**
FLOWERS **BRANCHING OUT**

THE FLAVOUR OF

Chefs know that good things come in small packages. An amuse-bouche can set the tone for an entire meal. A petit four can be a work of art. For Oshawa chef Deb Rankine, the old adage applies just as well to her home.

life

The kitchen is definitely the heart of Deb Rankine's home – with colour to match. It is filled with things she loves, like her milk glass collection, and centres on a narrow, rectangular, restaurant-supply table she uses for food prep or family gatherings. Warm grey walls make a seamless segue into the living room.



A 1927 two-storey on a leafy street not far from downtown, Deb's house is a sanctuary for one that embodies her life's philosophy: surround yourself with what you love, look at every challenge as an opportunity and never forget to add a dash of colour.

It took some vision to see what could be done here. When she purchased it five years ago, the house was dark and dingy, painted in kooky colours, with odd red-stained floors. "It was definitely a 'handyman's special,' but I could see its potential," Deb says. With the help of **Miranda Fox at Dan Plowman Team Realty Inc., Brokerage**, she had looked at more than a hundred homes in the year following a major life change. Somehow, she knew this was meant to be the place that helped her heal and helped her grow. "There were sponged-green walls in the front foyer. But when I walked in, I could see my ice box going there."

The ice box was bought at auction years ago, and in her old home was repurposed as a bar. Here, it stores her winter boots and bits and pieces like shopping bags. "I try to find pieces that can be reinterpreted," says the lifelong Durham resident and world traveller, whom you may recognize from her numerous appearances on Rogers' *Daytime* show.

Continued on page 20





"Surround yourself with what you love, look at every challenge as an opportunity and never forget to add a dash of colour."



"Something inside lets me justify a purchase only if I can use it in more than one way." Naturally, the kitchen was important. "It's such a great working kitchen," she says. "All the counter space, the cupboards. It's the only spot in the house that wasn't renovated. It had good equipment, a reliable stove and space to create."

The adjacent dining room got an overhaul, and provided the perfect space for Deb's restaurant-supply, stainless-steel dining table, which is central to the space. "I love this table," she says. "Even with eight or 10 people, you can lean forward a bit and see everyone. You couldn't do a round table in here, but this narrow rectangle is perfect. You get a sense of community when you're eating at this table."

The dining-room counter (whose materials are from **Peacock Lumber Ltd.**), additional cabinetry and details were done by **Jacko Renos** in Oshawa. "On the banister going upstairs, there was this little trim," Deb says. "They noticed it and trimmed out the kitchen columns to match. It used to have spindles. They weren't load-bearing, so they took some out and covered the others."

Where there is now a whimsical blackboard, there were glass shelves "that were just collecting dust," Deb says. "If it's an occasion, I'll put 'Happy Birthday' or whatever, perhaps a menu. It's my current affairs board!"



She credits the idea, like many in the home, including the colour palette, to her sister-in-law Kate, whose ingenuity she says is evident throughout. The living room curtains, whose design she loved but that weren't available in the right length, were sewn onto black broadcloth. Deb, who doesn't own a television, now gets to relax in a reader's

haven, complete with monkey lamp. "That lamp!" Deb laughs. "I call it the funky monkey. I bought it at HomeSense in Ajax, and it was in a broken box so I knew it was a return. Somebody had already unloved it, so I took it home." The spell wore off when she got it through the door of her previous house, though. "I thought, I can't have that monkey in

my life! That's not who I am! So I took it back, but I couldn't stop thinking about it. I didn't get any sleep that night. I went back, repeating to myself that if you love something, let it go, if it comes back, it's meant to be. It was still there, and now it's here. I don't know why I love it so much. I think it reminds me of India, although I bought it before I went there." *Continued on page 22*



LEFT: Author Deb's second-floor office is home to her many cookbooks. **ABOVE,** **LEFT TO RIGHT:** (1) A vintage sewing table is repurposed as an elegant bar. (2) Deb's "funky monkey" gets pride of place in the living room. (3) The Wright-reminiscent stained glass window is the work of an Ajax-based artisan. **OPPOSITE, TOP:** With a mostly-neutral palette in the living room, a pop of red on a cushion is the perfect tie-in to the dining room, as well as the foyer with its custom-made stained glass window (top right). **BOTTOM:** Family is never far away, with an over-the-sofa shelf devoted to black and white memories.



An antique sewing machine table, complete with treadle, now serves as her living room bar. Her only custom piece is a stained-glass window in the foyer by Ajax artist **Michelle Taylor-Slivinsky**. “I figured the original window was probably stained glass,” she says. “I think it has the spirit of Frank Lloyd Wright, very geometric. I wanted something that let in light, but wouldn’t let people see me when I come down the stairs in my bathrobe. And a little shot of red never hurts.”

Upstairs, the two bedrooms and home office are the perfect blend of cosy and minimalist, something she says she achieved after years of collecting. “You have no choice in a small house,” she says. “The closets are small. You have to be able to say goodbye to a lot of stuff. I was the queen of knick knacks. Everything had a memory. My stuff was like a charm bracelet.” Pared down, you have to really look to figure out where she might keep her blankets and linens (in a deacon’s bench at the foot of the bed) and closet overflow (on a bracket cleverly hidden behind a full-length mirror tucked behind her bedroom door and in the dresser that serves as her nightstand).

“I don’t feel like I’ve had to compromise on the things I really love,” she says. “The stuff that I let go of? I wasn’t as attached as I thought I was.”

She sums up her oasis in typical self-deprecating fashion: “It’s amazing what a lick of paint will do!” **OH**

ABOVE: Deb’s small bedroom is kept clutter-free with a repurposed wooden bench and a dresser that serves as a nightstand. **RIGHT:** She still managed to eke out space for a seating nook in the small space. Avid reader Deb has created numerous inviting spots throughout her home to curl up with a good book.



Bathworks
Love Your Space

250 BAYLY STREET WEST, AJAX • 905 427 4149

EXCLUSIVE DEALER OF DXV AMERICAN STANDARD PRODUCTS AJAX • BARRIE • BELLEVILLE • KINGSTON • ST. CATHARINES

We'd be so nice to come *Home* to



LUKE'S
for home

905-985-3011 | 207 Queen Street, Port Perry
info@lukesforhome.com | www.lukesforhome.com



We Build World-Class Homes

Wow! That's the first thing that popped into our heads when Log Home Living, the largest most widely read log home magazine in the world chose our Green Woods model, as one of the Best Homes for 2015.

In the log home industry, that's like winning the Stanley Cup, an Oscar and the Nobel Prize all at once. It just doesn't get any better than that.

Here's why we're so excited. For starters, it wasn't just a handful of people who decided our home was one of the best, but the magazine's following of close to 400,000 readers. These readers had a chance to look at hundreds of homes from leading log home manufacturers from around the world. And when the sawdust settled, they chose the Confederation Green Woods model.

The other reason we're so excited is Log Home Living just confirmed what our customers have known for years: we build some of the best log and timber frame homes you'll find anywhere, whether you're in Collingwood, Colorado or California.

To find out more about our award-winning *Green Woods* model and to see more than 70 other plans online, go to www.confederationloghomes.com or give us a call at 1-877-GO-2-LOGS (1-877-462-5647).





Benjamin Moore:
OC-23 Classic Gray

Benjamin Moore:
2124-70 Distant Gray

STORY YANIC SIMARD
PHOTOGRAPHY TED YARWOOD

BRINGING WHITE to life

PHOTO: BRANDON BARRE



Here's a trick question: How do you make a stark white space feel like a cosy home? My first step is to cheat with a near-white shade, like Benjamin Moore's 2124-70 Distant Gray. If you love this clean but welcoming look, read on for 10 more tips to take your space from blank slate to beautiful.

Sumptuous Neutrals

1 One of the best ways to emphasize the crispness of white is to give the eye something to compare it to. A dash of cream or pale grey will let the white sparkle by comparison, while also giving your palette some depth. Try Benjamin Moore's OC-23 Classic Gray for a subtle contrast.

2 Gold is a must-have metal, and a classic way to warm up a chilly space without resorting to hot hues like red or orange (which can go out of fashion much more quickly). Switch out aluminum-legged tables or plain black frames with a gold upgrade to add a bit of unexpected but inviting sparkle.

How To: Use an off-white paint for details in the space such as cabinetry, window trim or banisters (which will also help hide fingerprints), and hang a few gold-framed mirrors for double depth.

Touch-Me Textures

3 Breezy sheers are virtually essential to creating a light and airy white-on-white look: they evoke the feeling of beach-front resort residences. Hang them floor to ceiling, even letting them puddle just slightly on the floor, for an easy, casual elegance.

4 Every space needs texture, especially a monochromatic one. Contrast light and soft materials with heavier fabrics (like rich velvets or rugged wool) so the tactile palette is diverse, even when the colour scheme is simple.

How To: Hang sheers as wide as possible (covering a whole wall for the ultimate European resort effect) and pile on plush pillows to round out the fabric palette.

B



Natural Materials

5 Wood floors work for virtually any sort of space, but they're especially essential to making a white room feel like home. Don't have hardwood to show off? Add some in with accents like woodblock side tables, wooden picture frames, a butcher-block counter or some simple driftwood art.

6 Marble, quartz and other stones are a rich source of organic patterning that adds visual interest and even more texture to a space, further highlighting the crispness of white while adding some perfect imperfections to keep the look from feeling clinical.

How To: Use stone and wood for surfaces like flooring, counters, backsplashes and tile, or introduce these natural elements through stools, chests, tables and other small furnishings.

C



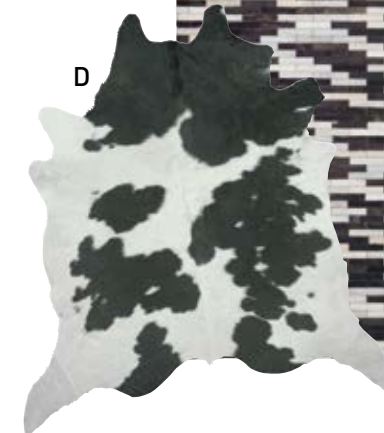
Undercover Colours

7 Navy is a special kind of colour: it's a true neutral, but also a radiant hue. It's a perfect go-to when you want to add some interest to your palette without overwhelming other colours – plus it helps make whites look extra clean and bright.

8 Leafy greens are another option that feels like a neutral "non-colour" while actually sneaking a new hue into the room along with a sense of natural life. Grab anything from an oversized fiddle-leaf fig tree to a small easy-care cactus to give a room a breath of fresh air.

How To: Add navy upholstery, pillows, or accessories – and a living plant – to cheat some colour into an all-white scheme without disrupting the breezy ambience.

D



E

Finishing Underfoot

9 Spreading your colour palette throughout a space creates cohesiveness, and this is true even for white. Use rugs, ottomans, or other low pieces to add hits of white into the centre of the space, so it isn't only found on the walls – this way the entire room will feel tied together.

10 As a final touch, a bold black and white rug can't be beat. Even a clean white space can use some graphic black to punctuate it, and a geometric pattern adds some dynamic energy that keeps the space engaging, no matter where you look.

How To: A timeless black and white stripe works anywhere, from the living room to the bathroom to the foyer. For an alternate option, try a classic black-and-white cowhide, which can fit into small or odd-shaped spaces. **OH**

F



A. CURREY & COMPANY: Delano Occasional Table
B. EQ3: Solid Teak Wood Stool – Rectangle C. THE PILLOW COLLECTION: Hertzel Solid Pillow in Sapphire
D. TANDY LEATHER: Hair-On Cowhide in Black and White E. ZUO: Arizona Rug F. EQ3: Pouf in Natural

online Get more design ideas at
ourhomes.ca/mag/design



EGGPLANT LASAGNA

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPHY **JENELLE MCCULLOCH**

Put a new spin on classic lasagna by replacing the noodles with eggplant, creating a low-carb and gluten-free comfort food. It's a perfect make-ahead meal for holidays and parties and will leave your guests satisfied and full!



INGREDIENTS

- 2 large eggplants
- 2 cups tomato or meat sauce
- 2 cups ricotta cheese
- ¼ cup Romano cheese, shredded
- 4 cups fresh spinach
- 1 egg
- Handful of fresh basil, chopped
- 2 cups mozzarella cheese, shredded
- Salt and pepper to taste

TO PREPARE:

- The first step is to prepare your eggplant. This process consists of salting the eggplant to draw out any bitter juices. Peel the eggplant and slice lengthwise into ¼-inch slices. Sprinkle each slice with salt on both sides and place them on a paper towel. Continue this process, layering the slices with paper towel.
- While the eggplant is sitting, preheat your oven to 400°F and then begin to prepare your ricotta mixture. Coat a pan over medium heat with a layer of olive oil. Begin to wilt the spinach in batches, adding more spinach as it continues to wilt. When all of the spinach is wilted, transfer it to a mesh strainer and press down on the spinach with a spatula to release all of the juices. Set the spinach aside to drain and cool.
- Rinse each eggplant slice with fresh water and pat dry. Layer the eggplant slices on a baking tray and coat with olive oil. Bake these in the preheated oven for about 20-25 minutes or until soft. Remove from oven and reduce oven temperature to 350°F.
- Place ricotta, Romano, egg and basil in a mixing bowl. Give the spinach one last good squeeze and chop roughly before adding to the ricotta mixture. Mix well and season with salt and pepper to taste.
- Once the eggplant is cool, it's time to begin assembling the lasagna. In a 9 x 13-inch pan, begin with a layer of tomato sauce, followed by a layer of eggplant, half the ricotta mixture and a third of the mozzarella. Repeat the following layer, ending with the mozzarella to cover the top of the lasagna.
- Cover with foil and bake for 45 minutes to an hour, uncovering the foil for the last 10 minutes, until bubbly and slightly browned on top. Let cool before slicing and enjoy! **OH**



ROADSHOW ANTIQUES SOUTH

*The Greater Toronto Area's
Largest Antiques Mall*

Roadshow Antiques South is located at Pickering Markets. Visit our 22,000 sq. ft. show-room with over 150 vendors. Take Highway 401 to Exit 399.

Find us at 1400 Squires Beach Rd., PICKERING

(905) 427-7902

Ontario's Finest
Antiques & Collectibles

**Roadshow
ANTIQUES**

*Also visit
Roadshow
North*

**OPEN
7 DAYS A
WEEK
10 AM - 5:30 PM**



Roadshow Antiques North is located at the 400 Market. Visit our 32,000 sq. ft. showroom with over 200 vendors at 2207 Industrial Park Rd., INNISFIL. RoadshowAntiquesMall.com (705) 436-6222

RoadshowAntiquesPickering.com

Decorator's touch

REGISTER
TODAY!

If you have a flair for making the simple into something elegant, or the ordinary into something extraordinary, you may have what it takes for a career as an Interior Decorator.

Imagine running your own business and the satisfaction you'll feel by working with someone to help make their vision a reality.

For information call 905.721.2000 ext. 2496 or visit our website.



CONTINUING EDUCATION
www.durhamcollege.ca/coned

MAKING MERRY

STORY **ANNETTE MCLEOD**
PHOTOGRAPHY **STEPHANIE BROWN**



Subdued Kelstef sofas provide a backdrop for stunning cushions that are the jewelry of the living room. **TOP:** Designer Kate Turtle of Endless Ideas made the homeowner's first professional design experience one she'll always treasure. **ABOVE:** Great accessories can come from anywhere – a Crystal Head vodka bottle is an unexpected touch that goes perfectly with other transparent details in the space.

For one north Whitby homeowner, what started out as a scary prospect has resulted in cherished memories of working with a professional designer for the first time, and a comfy home big enough for everyone. “When I come downstairs, I still get butterflies,” says the happy homeowner, but the process of getting here is still fresh in her mind.

While she says she was happy in her previous, much smaller home, her husband had other ideas. “He is six-foot-three, so maybe I can understand why he felt a little cramped, and yes, we couldn’t be in our en suite without elbowing each other or have more than two other people over for the Super Bowl. Perhaps our furniture hadn’t been updated in over a decade and maybe our basement ceiling wasn’t much higher than he is,” she says with a smile. Although they looked at many homes, it wasn’t until she saw this one that she started to embrace the move.

“We knew when we walked in. My husband walked around with his arms out as if to show me, ‘Look, I can move around in here with the wingspan of an eagle and hit nothing!’”

“Grey, grey and more soft greys on the walls with comfy couches and layered with more grey was all I could imagine,” she says of the vision that started to take hold.

With a wealth of new rooms to fill and very little furniture, the couple turned to Brooklin designer **Kate Turtle** of **Endless Ideas**. “I was excited and nauseous at the same time,” the homeowner says. “I called Endless Ideas because I truly needed endless ideas!”

She says she knew when Kate visited their old home that they’d get along famously, and had similar taste. “Kate understood exactly what I was looking for,” the homeowner says. “She’s a mom, a wife, and she understood all the necessities of family, but at the same time, she’s stylish, hip and fabulous. I knew she would know how to marry functional with spectacular.”

Because the home is so open, the dining room, living and great room needed a cohesive look, and the soft grey in the homeowner’s imagination was the ideal place to start.

The mix of cool and warm greys helps provide visual interest – cool paint throughout the space, with a warmer tone for the furniture. “Although the colour connects the living and great rooms, we had fun with patterns and textures,” Kate says. Dark touches are a smart way to add some punch while keeping the space neutral. “They’re something to draw your eye around a room,” she says, pointing out the same draperies used in the living and great rooms. “We bounced the fabrics back and forth, which helps create balance.”

In the living room, the wall colour is carried up onto the ceiling, then to the tray detailing craftily painted white to draw the eye up.

Kate used some of the homeowner’s existing furniture, but gave it an entirely new look, like the wing chair in the living room that was originally plaid. Kate’s love of things “organic and leafy” helped decide the plant motif throughout, another small touch that, when creatively sprinkled throughout the space, helps it feel cohesive. Her eye for fine details is apparent on the nailheads of the living room sofas. “And the cushions are the jewelry of the space,” Kate says. Luxurious touches like the embroidery on those in the living room, and the bead detailing on the great room’s velvet ones, elevate their design.



In the living room, draperies made with dark fabric draw the eye to the windows, so the television is a less prominent element.

The great room was of primary importance to the homeowner. “I told her it was where everything was going to happen,” the homeowner says. “It would be the room the three of us would flop in. Literally. I said it had to be cosy, a touch masculine and a place

where the three of us could converge and watch Shomi, eat popcorn, entertain, dance, have parties and nap. This was the hub.”

With its smart layout, fireplace focal point, and perfectly executed dark details, the television virtually disappears. “If you put

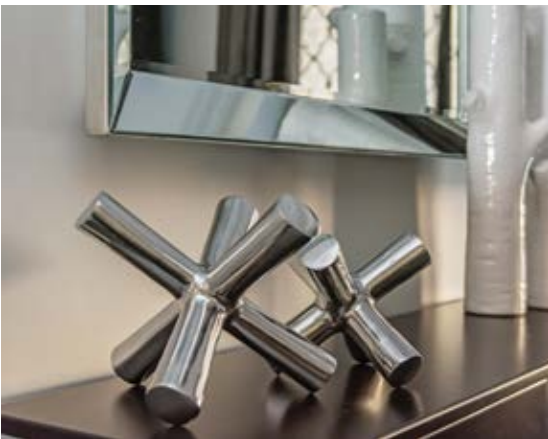
light drapery in there, the TV would really stand out,” Kate says.

Kate says she liked the antique-mirror-topped table so much, she drew inspiration from it when choosing the other accessories, a mix of items that keeps the neutrality of the

palette but brings a touch of whimsy, like the giant jacks on one sofa table. Because of the openness of the space, clutter control was top of mind, too, so the table features deep storage.

One of the most striking items in the entire space is the dining room light fixture.

Continued on page 34



TOP LEFT: A striking Robert Abbey chandelier over the dining room table becomes a work of art, as it should be, because the open floorplan makes it visible from the living room and great room. **TOP RIGHT:** Designer Kate Turtle used reflective elements to keep the grey-painted space neutral but still give some visual interest. **ABOVE:** A variety of patterns including organic, leafy shapes and geometrics like this one work well in this open-concept space because the colours are kept consistent.

Kate says because the house was so well-lit naturally, the fixtures themselves became sculpture. “If you’re looking at the wing chair, you can see through the pass right into the dining room, so you get this really nice piece of art to look at.”

The marriage of practicality and beauty were always on their minds. “They wanted something comfortable to sit on for hours,” says Kate of the upholstered dining

room chairs. “These are also extremely high-wearing.”

“I love every fabric, every finial, every throw pillow – everything!” the homeowner says. “I trusted Kate through the whole process. She gave me the home I never thought I’d have and that my husband says he always knew he wanted. Every free weekend now is an opportunity to invite a slew of friends over to eat, drink, be merry and enjoy this space.” **OH**

Royal Windows & Doors

Free in-home estimates

Serving the Durham Region area for 18 years

Canadian made products

Financing available

We have moved! Come visit our expanded showroom:
1380 Hopkins Street (Entrance from Industrial Drive)
Unit 2A . Whitby 905.427.1877 | 905.720.1818

Industrial Drive

Entrance & Parking

New Royal Showroom

Hopkins Street

Come see our wide range of windows & doors on display

TRUTECH DOORS

VWD Vinyl Window Designs Ltd.

www.royalwindowsanddoors.ca

Advertise in our Spring Issue & get noticed!

Give YOUR BUSINESS the benefit of premium exposure to our extensive targeted readership!

ADVERTISING INQUIRIES & SALES, PLEASE CONTACT:

Jamie Jefferson • 705.730.3827
jamie.jefferson@ourhomes.ca

Annette McLeod • 647.330.3634
annette.mcleod@ourhomes.ca

ourhomes
D U R H A M R E G I O N

Branching Out

for all your holiday needs

Voted Port Perry's Best Florist

Cannington

14 Cameron St. E.

705 432-3340

Port Perry

158 Water St.

905 985-3033

branchingoutflorists.com

STORY **ANNETTE MCLEOD**
PHOTOGRAPHY **STEPHANIE BROWN**

pamper yourself

THE PLACE: With a long history of offering Durham Region residents the ultimate selection of beautiful bathroom fixtures – they’ve been at the same location for nearly a decade – Ajax’s **Bathworks** is well loved by those looking to create an at-home oasis. The store offers personalized shopping appointments, where a sales consultant takes the time to get to know your individual vision, and then applies their considerable expertise to helping you

realize it. Their wide selection includes well-known brands like Moen, Delta and American Standard, as well as luxury marques including Brizo, Hansgrohe and Villeroy & Boch.

THE STYLE: “We’ve got designer flair in our showroom,” says showroom manager Krista Davidson. “We think it

helps people visualize what they want for their own bathrooms, to not have harsh fluorescent lighting, to create a relaxing setting.” The store was designed to feel like a home, with vignettes that vibrantly illustrate how a given fixture might work in real life. They also have a lot of working displays, so customers can see and touch the selections instead of just trying to

choose from several boxes on a shelf. In some sections of the store, fixture options are grouped together – faucets for example – to give buyers a chance to comparison shop. In another section, a faucet might be grouped with a cabinet, sink, shower enclosure and toilet to offer a comprehensive picture. “We really want people to have a whole buying experience,” Krista says.

WHAT’S HOT: Skirted toilets, which have a streamlined appearance and the practical advantage of being easier to clean than traditionally-shaped commodes, are very popular with Bathworks’ clients right now, as are slimline tubs. Also front and centre are the little luxuries that turn a functional bathroom into a relaxing retreat. “Waterfall and massage showerheads, towel warmers – there are a number of things that don’t add huge expense to the

cost of a reno but go a long way towards helping our clients create something that really pampers them,” adds Krista.

FAVOURITES: “I like the new champagne bronze finish that’s gaining in popularity,” Krista says. “And anything that offers a new level of relaxation right in the home, such as steam units. With today’s trend

towards luxury, you really don’t need a gym or spa membership!”

WHERE: 250 Bayly St. W., Ajax
905.427.4149 | bathworks.ca **OH**

Inspire

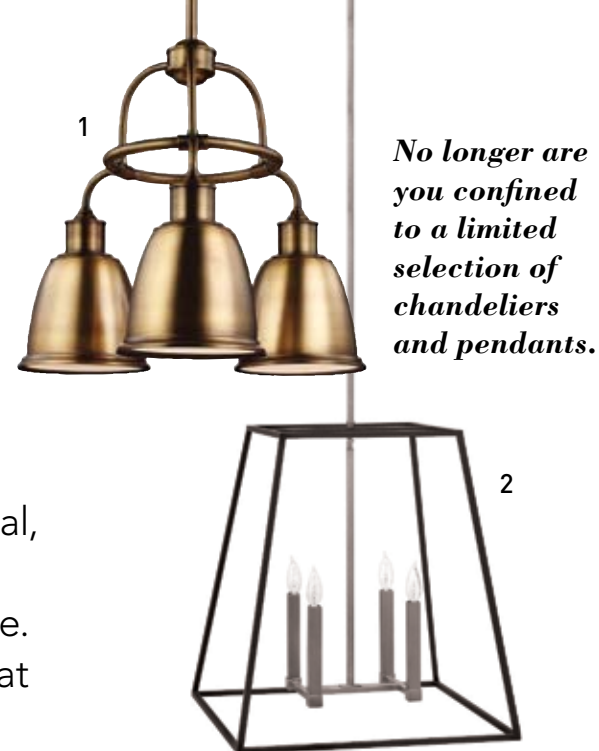
Molly Buckle, Karen Holmes, Donna Gleave (sales consultants), Krista Davidson (showroom manager)



Light It Up

STORY **MELISSA HARE**

Whether it's a dinner party or a weeknight meal, a formal dining room or a causal dinette, your dining space is an important part of your home. With holiday gatherings upon us, now is a great time to update your dining room lighting.



No longer are you confined to a limited selection of chandeliers and pendants.



Hide an off-centred electrical box by selecting a fixture with a long cover.

Choose a similar finish or style for other ceiling lights, lamps or wall sconces nearby.

30-36"

PHOTO BY JASON HARTOG

Choosing the right light will not only provide a visual focal point in your room, but will create the ideal atmosphere for each dining occasion. Before visiting your local lighting showroom, consider these tips to help narrow your search for the perfect light.

Measure

Before hitting the stores, consider the proportions of your room and furniture. The following three measurements will help determine the size of light that will best suit your room.

- **Ceiling Height:** The height of your ceiling will determine the approximate length of light you should be looking for. When hanging a light over your table, ensure there is enough space between the bottom of the light and your tabletop. Generally, this is about 30 to 36 inches.
- **Table Size:** A common rule of thumb is to choose a light that is one-half to three-quarters of the diameter of the maximum width of your table.
- **Room Dimensions:** If you're purchasing a light before picking your table, consider using the dimensions of the room to determine the right fit. A simple formula that many lighting experts use is to add the length and width of the room. The total of these two dimensions in feet will equal the appropriate chandelier diameter in inches.

For example: If your room is 12 by 14 feet, you will be looking for a light that is approximately 26 inches in diameter.

Locate

You've made your measurements, now it's time to find your electrical box. Ideally you want the electrical box centred over your table, but sometimes this isn't the case. Here are a few options to correct an off-centre electrical box.

- **Swag It:** For a quick and easy fix, consider installing a swag hook above the centre of your table. This means you should be looking for a light with a chain, so you can drape it from the electrical box to the hook. When installing the hook, don't forget to secure it to a ceiling joist.
- **Hide It:** In some instances, the existing electrical box isn't far from the middle of the table. It's possible to create the illusion of a centred light by selecting a fixture with a long electrical box cover. This will allow you to conceal the location of the box and make the light appear to be hanging directly over the centre of the table.
- **Move It:** If you're willing to invest some extra money, consider having an electrician visit to discuss the option of relocating your electrical box. You may even want to add extra electrical boxes to accommodate several pendants over your table. Consult with your electrician to discuss your options before choosing your fixture.

Style

No longer are you confined to a limited selection of chandeliers and pendants. Today's lighting options include lanterns, orbs and a variety of geometrical shapes, allowing you to truly incorporate your lighting into the overall style of your home. Consider other elements in the space, such as hardware finishes, accent colours and design style, before narrowing your selection. Are there other ceiling lights, lamps or wall sconces nearby? If so, you may want to consider choosing a light with a similar metal finish or style.

Illuminate

While style and aesthetics are important, you also want to ensure that the light you choose will provide the appropriate illumination for your space. If you're replacing a light fixture, check the current number of bulbs and wattage. Is it enough? Do you need more light? If you are satisfied with the amount of light you currently have, make sure you choose a light with equal wattage. When in doubt, choose a light with extra wattage. You can always install a dimmer switch that will allow you to control light levels for each occasion. Now is a great time to switch to energy-efficient bulbs if you haven't already. Speak to your lighting consultant about energy efficient lighting options for your dining space.

Budget

Dining room fixtures vary widely in price. It's a good idea to have a budget in mind when setting out to find the perfect light. A lighting consultant can help narrow down the options that fit both budget and style. It's also important to note that lighting showrooms will often offer a multi-product discount so it's a good idea to consider other upcoming lighting needs. **OH**

1. FEISS: Hobson 3-Light Chandelier **2. HINKLEY LIGHTING:** Fulton Chandelier **3. ARTCRAFT LIGHTING:** Castello Chandelier **4. HINKLEY LIGHTING:** Karma Chandelier **5. DVI LIGHTING:** Uptown Pendant **6. FEISS:** Chateau 8-Light Single Tier Chandelier **7. PROGRESS LIGHTING:** Trestle Four-Light Pendant



Add extra electrical boxes to accommodate several pendants over your table.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PROGRESS LIGHTING



DODD & SOUTER FLOORING

As Durham's premier flooring store, Dodd & Souter has been taking care of their valued customers since 1959. In 56 years, the store has expanded, moved and specialized, now selling virtually every imaginable type of flooring from their convenient Whitby location.

With a third generation of Souters now active in this family-owned business, a complete selection of carpet, hardwood, laminate, cork, leather, sheet vinyl and luxury vinyl tile and plank products is available to suit every lifestyle, décor and budget.

Choosing the right floor for your home doesn't have to be an overwhelming decision. Visit their expansive showroom where experienced, non-commissioned staff in a relaxing environment will help you narrow down your choices by first asking the right questions about your lifestyle needs – from traffic patterns to pets and kids to humidity, stairs and subfloors, even lighting, customers are always treated as individuals at Dodd & Souter.

Dodd & Souter offers free in-home estimates and will lend you samples so you can see the products in your home environment.

With a demonstrated commitment to customer service, quality workmanship from more than a dozen installation crews, and a full, two-year installation guarantee, your happiness is at the heart of this multi-generational business.

1624 Dundas St E, Whitby
905.433.0080 | doddandsouter.ca
(Please see ad on pg 47)



ENDLESS IDEAS

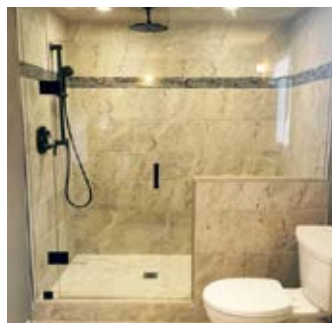
Now celebrating 10 years in historic downtown Brooklin, Endless Ideas provides a one-stop shop for homeowners looking for the perfect accessories, furnishings, lighting, area rugs, drapery and more in the ideal environment – a big, beautiful house purpose-renovated for their passionate and knowledgeable staff of nine.

Design consultation is the other cornerstone of the business, which lets busy homeowners create the perfect space without the time-consuming task of finding every piece themselves. After getting to know clients' tastes, lifestyles and budgets, these experienced professionals source elements down to the finest detail, and provide cohesive colour palettes quite literally from floor to ceiling.

The design process is overwhelming to many homeowners, but it doesn't have to be. Whether you're looking for a little help in creating a colour plan for your home, total design and installation services from top to bottom, or the perfect hostess gift for the holiday season, Endless Ideas has the solution. Come for a visit and walk away inspired and excited about transforming your home into the idyllic oasis you've always wanted.

Visit Endless Ideas on Houzz for dazzling holiday décor ideas and find out why their passionate team and sumptuous retail store earn five-star reviews!

3 Cassels Rd E, Brooklin
905.655.3722
endlessideas.ca
(Please see ad on pg 5)



YOUNIQUE KITCHEN & BATH

DESIGN.RENOVATE.BUILD. Delivering exceptional design, service, quality and products for over 30 years.

YouNique focuses on working with our clients to design, renovate and build their dream spaces. Be it kitchens and bathrooms or fully custom bars and entertainment units, our customer service and client focus is second to none. We provide a single point of contact for all materials that go into a clients' home by working with a broad partnership network, allowing our clients to keep up with their lives, while dealing with the worry and stress of builds and renovations.

"I have used the words 'renovation hell' in the past, and now I use the words 'renovation heaven.' YouNique's attention to detail, dedicated staff, and value-added services made the process simple and stress free. I cannot say enough about how amazing this company is and I recommend them highly."

Bethany Lightbown
President
YouNique Kitchens & Bath
bethany@youniquekitchensandbath.com
905.372.4250
youniquekitchensandbath.com
(Please see ad on pg 3)



DIANNA MANDZUK SALES REPRESENTATIVE RE/MAX JAZZ INC., BROKERAGE

Dianna Mandzuk is a top producing, award-winning Realtor with 29+ years experience as a full-time sales professional with RE/Max. Based out of Oshawa, Dianna and her Team service a large geographic area from Scarborough in the west to Peterborough and Port Hope in the east to Scugog and Lindsay in the north and everything in between! We really cover a lot of ground!

Whether buying or selling anything from vacant lots to luxury estates, The Dianna Mandzuk Team is capable of walking you through every step of the transaction. We strive to make the process as smooth and worry-free as possible. We are hands-on from initial contact to closing date and beyond!

Our extremely high level of repeat and referral clientele attests to our exceptional service and care. Please visit dmandzuk.ca and click on the testimonials link to see what others have to say about their experience working with us!

We offer free market evaluations and staging is always included when you list your home with us!

Contact us for a complimentary copy of our VIP Seller or Buyer Marketing Programs and see how we can help make your real estate dreams a reality.
Direct 905.433.2579
dmandzuk.ca
(Please see ad on pg 48)



ROADSHOW ANTIQUES

If you're looking for antiques or collectibles, you'll know you've made the right choice when you visit one of Roadshow Antiques mega-showrooms – Roadshow North in Innisfil, or Roadshow South in Pickering.

Roadshow Antiques is not your ordinary antiques store. Our bright, modern, and accessible showrooms have a total area of 54,000 square feet and more than 350 quality vendors. There's always something new – vendors restock their booths daily.

We've been in the antiques and collecting business for many years – both in Canada and England – and have the expertise to help you find what you're looking for. We supply movie studios and interior designers with our extensive inventory.

We accept cash, debit, Mastercard and Visa.

We began the Roadshow Antiques journey in Cookstown with Castle Antiques, Antiques and Art Centre, and Roadshow Antiques.

In 2006 we moved to a 32,000 square foot facility at the 400 Market – Roadshow North.

In 2013 we opened Roadshow South at Pickering Markets – a 22,000 square foot facility with 150 vendors.

2 Locations to Serve You:
Innisfil | 705.436.6222
2207 Industrial Park Road
Pickering | 905.427.7902
1400 Squires Beach Road
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
10:00 am - 5:30 pm
RoadshowAntiques.ca
(Please see ad on pg 29)



DURHAM COLLEGE

Whether you've got designs on a career in the field or just want to take your passion for home décor to the next level, the Interior Decorating Certificate at Durham College is a great way to further your goals. Recognized by the Canadian Decorators' Association (CDECA), this comprehensive program offers part-time evening classes that suit your schedule.

Interior decorators use their design know-how to help homeowners realize their dreams, but there's much more available to professionals than private homes alone. Decorators work with doctors, engineers, lawyers, property managers, architects and other professionals to create offices that suit their clientele. They decorate restaurants, retail stores, hotels, condo and new home showrooms, art galleries, spas, B & B's, and even yachts.

"I enjoyed each and every class offered within this program," says successful 2009 graduate Zoe Lucyk, whose Lotus Home Interiors now employs six full-time decorators, including one current student of the program.

The industry professionals who teach in the certificate program are success stories in their own right, offering their expertise in a range of courses that includes drafting, colour theory, lighting, furniture, illustration and presentation, materials and finishes, business practices and more.
2000 Simcoe St N, Oshawa
905.721.2000 ext 2496
durhamcollege.ca/coned
(Please see ad on pg 29)

STYLE IDEAS TRENDS



Local Homes,
Local Retailers,
Local Trades.

OUR HOMES helps you find exactly
what you need for your home
and it's **just around the corner.**

ourhomes

Your local magazine about everything home.

FINE ARTS

In their own distinct ways, these creative professionals bring homeowners’ dreams to vivid life.

STORY **ANNETTE MCLEOD**
PHOTOGRAPHY **STEPHANIE BROWN**



MICHELLE TAYLOR-SLIVINSKY

Stained Glass Artist, Mox ‘n’ Me, Ajax

What is it about working in stained glass you find so compelling? I love the endless possibilities and, believe it or not, I love the process. Each step teaches me patience and challenges me every day. I’ve been making stained glass for about 10 years and I’m still learning! I work in the traditional ways but I like to give each piece a modern touch.

What should homeowners know when commissioning custom work? The sky’s the limit and almost anything is possible! The price is based on the number of cuts, type of glass and, of course, the time it takes, so a budget helps ensure the designs and glass selections keep you on track.

What’s your favourite piece you’ve ever made and why? A helmet for True Patriot Love, an organization that raises money for our troops and their families. They send helmets to artists across Canada, who turn them into their own vision of Canada and the sacrifices. They are then auctioned off. I made in stained glass the official flowers for each province and intertwined them onto the helmet to represent our diversity and unity as a country.

ANYES MARGRAIN

Artist, Art With Heart, Ajax

How would you describe your business? I allow homeowners to use paintings in the same way decorators use textiles – through pattern, colour and texture. Whether it’s a beloved pet, your childhood home, your favourite vacation spot or a place you only know from your dreams, I hope to empower people to be a part of the creative process – it’s almost as if my clients are using my hands to realize their vision.

What would you like people to know about your art? I think everyone should have original art that speaks to them on a very personal level. It’s so much richer and more evocative than something mass-produced. I use acrylics because they have so much depth of colour, and their textural possibilities are endless. By using brushes, palette knives, even my fingers, I can really draw out the medium’s best qualities.

What are your favourite subjects? I haven’t yet had a subject I couldn’t appreciate on some level, but I am still drawn to the streetscapes of my native Paris and the countryside in Provence. I also love it right where I am. I’m fortunate to live near the lake in Ajax; it’s a setting I could paint every day and never tire of.



TAMMY IRWIN, Owner/Lead Designer

KERI KUZMA, Jr. Designer

Designing Durham, Port Perry

Why did you build your interior design practice here in Durham Region? I have lived and worked here for more than 20 years, and Durham has grown by leaps and bounds. Not only has the housing market exploded, but we have some wonderful retailers in Durham that I have great relationships with, and it’s that kind of unique and individual attention that makes my job easy.

What would you most like people to know about Designing Durham? Designing Durham is a passionate, full-service design firm made up of talented individuals who work together to ensure all our clients’ needs are met. We pride ourselves on our attention to detail, and we build relationships with our clients, making sure they are part of the process along the way.

What’s your favourite part of the design process and why? The design process can be an intimidating one for first-time clients. Putting people at ease while explaining the process is something we are good at. Each time we complete a project, it’s like the first time it happened – I am just as excited as they are! There is a great deal of satisfaction in what I do. **OH**

celebrate WITH CIDER

STORY **SHELBY HILSON**

Stock your bar with something a little different to offer guests this season. Served hot or chilled, cider is a great choice for entertaining.

Often referred to as “hard cider” to differentiate from its non-alcoholic cousin, cider is experiencing a revival in Canada. But make no mistake, it has been around a lot longer than you and me. Cider was the choice beverage for early North American settlers and is documented as being enjoyed in England as far back as 55 BC.

At that time, there was no such thing as non-alcoholic apple cider. The Temperance Movement of the 1800s and Prohibition Era of the early 1900s inspired the non-alcoholic alternative that many of us still enjoy seasonally. After the end of Prohibition, beer became the favoured drink due to the population moving into cities and away from orchards, as well as the longer shelf life and easy transportability of barley.

Quite simply, hard cider is made from the fermented juice of apples, but not just any apples. Cider apples are also referred to as “spitters” because of their bitter taste. High in

tannins, the fruit must also contain high sugar levels to encourage fermentation and raise the final alcohol levels, which generally reach five to seven per cent in North American varieties.

When cider fell out of favour with Canadians, many growers started producing cooking and eating apples rather than “spitters.” A few brewers persisted, and in the early 2000s, we began to see craft cideries popping up again.

The Ontario Craft Cider Association was founded in 2013 and has grown from seven to 19 members in less than three years. Not just for apples, some cideries brew with pears or other fruits to create unique flavours. Like every brew of beer and every harvest of grapes for wine, every batch of cider is different.

Its versatility makes it an ideal choice for entertaining. Try a sparkling variety in place of champagne at a celebration, add it to punch or use it to top up a cocktail.

We love to serve cider up hot on a cold winter’s day. This recipe will not only warm you, it will warm your home with the aroma of apple and spice and everything nice.

INGREDIENTS:

- 2L hard apple cider (not sparkling)
- 4 cinnamon sticks
- 1 tsp whole allspice
- 1 tsp whole cloves
- 1 orange, sliced into thin rounds
- 1 cup rum, apple brandy or whiskey (optional)
- 1 tsp lemon zest

DIRECTIONS:

- Combine all ingredients in a large saucepan and simmer gently for 30-45 minutes. Do not boil.
- Strain through a sieve and ladle into glass mugs.
- Garnish with apple slices, cinnamon sticks and/or star anise. **OH**



OUR HOMES attracts the area’s finest businesses to advertise in our pages, and utilize our unparalleled distribution and coffee-table appeal to market their products and services. We’re making it easier for you, our readers, to become educated as you plan your home- and real estate-related purchasing decisions. View these business ads online at ourhomes.ca/durham. The listings below are organized alphabetically by industry.

ART/ARTISANS/ART GALLERIES, STUDIOS & WORKSHOPS

Station Gallery, 17

GARDEN CENTRES/ GREENHOUSES/FLO RISTS

Branching Out Florists, 35

PAINTING & DECORATING

Benjamin Moore, 13

BUILDERS

1867 Confederation Log Homes, 25

Linwood Custom Homes, 2

True North Log Homes, 9

HOME ACCENTS/HOME DECOR/ FURNITURE/COLLECTIBLES

Endless Ideas, 5, 40

Luke’s For Home, 24

Penney & Company, 11

Roadshow Antiques Mall, 29, 41

PLUMBING

Bathworks, 23

REAL ESTATE

Dianna Mandzuk - Re/Max, 40, 48

EDUCATION

Durham College, 29, 41

INTERIOR DECORATING/INTERIOR DESIGN/HOME STAGING

Endless Ideas, 5, 40

ROOFING

Bedrock to Bundles, 4

FASHION/CLOTHING

Branching Out Florists, 35

Luke’s For Home, 24

KITCHEN & BATH

Bathworks, 23

YouNique Kitchens & Bath, 3, 40

WINDOW FASHIONS

Endless Ideas, 5, 40

Luke’s For Home, 24

Penney & Company, 11

FINANCIAL/INSURANCE/MORTGAGE

Bryson Insurance, 7

NEW HOME COMMUNITIES

Linwood Custom Homes, 2

WINDOWS & DOORS

Royal Windows & Doors, 35

FLOORING, TILE, STAIRS & TRIM

Dodd & Souter Flooring, 40, 47

OUR HOMES is committed to ensuring the businesses above appear under the correct headings. To make a correction, or to have your business listed under more than one heading, please email jamie.jefferson@ourhomes.ca or annette.mcleod@ourhomes.ca. To have your business listed in our Home Resource Directory, call Jamie Jefferson at 705.730.3827 or Annette McLeod at 647.330.3634 to advertise.

finishing touch



marble

noun | mar·ble | \ˈmär-bəl\

A hard crystalline metamorphic form of limestone, typically white with mottlings or streaks of colour, that is capable of taking a polish and is used in sculpture and architecture.

1. CURREY & COMPANY: Thompson Console Lamp, Brass 2. CB2: 2-Piece Marble Dip Server 3. KOHLER: Botticelli Vessel Sink 4. CB2: Marble Trivets 5. EQ3: Spot Wall Knob 6. CB2: Marble Wall-Mounted Shelf 7. ARTERIORS: Quirin Table 8. MADE GOODS: Caspan Stool/Side Table 9. JONATHAN ADLER: Brass Tic Tac Toe Set 10. WILLIAMS-SONOMA: White Marble Stand, Large OH



Cork Feels Good... ...In So Many Ways

Cork floors are exceptionally beautiful, naturally comfortable and remarkably warm. And TORLYS is the leader in cork flooring. Our styles feature on-trend colours, thicker and first-ever, extra-long planks. Our new, extremely durable smart finish is integrated into TORLYS Cork, making it 50% more durable than past finishes. Best of all, it's sustainable, making it a responsible choice.

D S Dodd & Souter Flooring

THE STAINMASTER
FLOORING CENTER

1624 Dundas Street East, Whitby
(905) 433-0080

HOURS: Mon-Wed: 9 to 6 • Thurs: 9 to 8 • Fri: 9 to 6 • Sat: 9 to 5 • Sun: Closed
www.doddandsouter.ca



The Dianna Mandzuk** Team

Dianna Mandzuk has 30 years of experience helping home buyers and home sellers with all aspects of real estate and works with properties from vacant land to luxury homes in Pickering, Ajax, Whitby, Brooklin, Oshawa, Clarington, Courtice, Bowmanville, Newcastle, Newtonville, Kendal, Orono, Pontypool, Bethany, Janetville, Cavan, Millbrook and surrounding areas!

* RE/Max holds the #1 Marketshare in Canada Based on closed Transactions. Source CREA, RE/Max



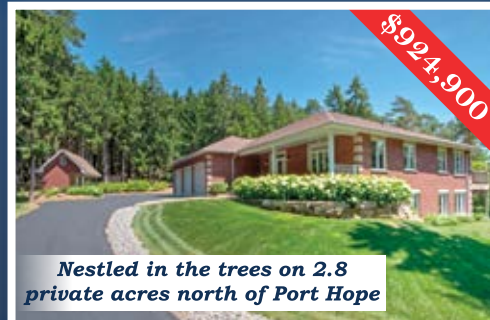
DIANNA'S SERVICES INCLUDE FREE PROFESSIONAL HOME STAGING!



Waterfront home on beautiful Crystal Lake



Panoramic country views on 23 acres near Garden Hill



Nestled in the trees on 2.8 private acres north of Port Hope



Located in prestigious "Westview Park Estates"! Custom bungalow offering walkout basement, 3 car garage + shed/carport. Open-concept great room with 13' ceilings warmed by a gas fireplace plus gourmet kitchen with high-end stainless steel appliances & walkout to deck with gazebo & hot tub. Quality finishes throughout with 9' ceilings, upgraded trim, hardwood & porcelain floors, granite counters, crown mouldings & extensive pot lights. 10 minutes to 401 & 25 minutes to Peterborough!

Immaculate 2,900 sf four-season home! Pristine shoreline with large docks & ample room to lounge & moor your toys. On one of the best lakes in the Kawartha's offering excellent boating, swimming & fishing. Enjoy all the comforts of home with 4 bdrms, 4 baths, gourmet kitchen with island, dining area & beamed cathedral ceiling in the great room with expansive windows. Move-in ready! Conveniently located between Bobcaygeon and Kinmount & only 1 1/2 hours from Oshawa!

Stately stone bungalow offering commanding views & the finest of finishes within walking distance to Ganaraska Forest! Energy-efficient ICF construction with expansive windows, California shutters, vaulted ceilings, wall niches, rounded drywall corners & radiant in-floor heating. Dramatic gourmet kitchen with massive centre island, soapstone counters & custom backsplash. Great room with floor to ceiling fireplace. Finished walkout basement with feature walls. Designer decor will leave a lasting impression!



Private 12.15 acre country retreat in Roseneath!

Custom-built, energy-efficient ICF constructed 3+1 bedroom home with wrap around deck & hilltop panoramic view! Open concept design with vaulted ceilings, expansive windows, double-sided 2-storey stone fireplace, historic reclaimed hemlock & Tobermory stone floors. Radiant in-floor heating throughout! 7 acres of groomed trails for all your outdoor hobbies plus 4-stall barn! Not to be missed!



- **\$149,900** - 2.59 acre building lot in Westview Park Estates, Port Hope in an area of executive country homes!
- **\$239,900** - 3964 Conc Rd 3, Newcastle. 10 acres with cabin & stream!
- **\$398,000** - 50 acres near Kendal with barn, paddocks, run ins & well!
- **\$359,900** - **WATERFRONT** building lot on Lakeshore Rd near Grafton!
- **\$799,900** - 48.8 acres on Enfield Rd, Clarington with potential savings in development fees!

If you're considering a move in the spring, now is a great time to talk with us! We can help you put a plan in place so that you're ready when the spring market hits in 2016! Professional market evaluations are always complimentary & staging is included at no extra cost when you list your home with The Dianna Mandzuk Team! Call or email today for a copy of our VIP Seller Marketing Program!

Please visit dmandzuk.ca for additional information on these & other great listings!

Dianna Mandzuk**

**Sales Representative

**Canadian Staging Professional

**Certified Luxury Home Marketing Specialist

**Circle of Legends Award; one of RE/Max's highest awards for performance achievement

**30 years serving your real estate needs!



RE/MAX

JAZZ INC.
BROKERAGE

... the rhythm of the Region!

Main Office 905-728-1600

Each Office Independently Owned & Operated

Not intended to solicit properties already listed nor Buyer's signed under a Buyer's Agency Agreement.

Direct **905-433-2579**

Toll Free **888-732-1600**

www.dmandzuk.ca