

Janette's art is a dramatic focal point in the living room. **RIGHT:** The main floor hallway is lined with empty frames - a stunning transition to the new addition **FAR RIGHT:** Bookcases, favourite carpets and a rustic table make dining a cosy experience.



# EMPTY NEST SOLUTION

BY MELODY WREN  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY JASON HARTOG

As empty nesters, John and Janette recognized the limitations of where they were living and realized that they didn't need to downsize but required more space.

Janette Hayhoe, an artist/designer and her partner John, a University Professor, joined their lives a few years ago. It was last Christmas, when their combined four daughters were home, that the need for more space was emphasized. Like most working couples they are busy people, and adding to their busyness is a second home in France, the influence of the French country style evident in their home. They have also just purchased a sailboat for summer enjoyment. What they don't need is more upkeep, but the need for more space was a priority. *Continued on page 74*



Realizing they didn't want to leave their renovated century house in Guelph, Janette, an interior designer specializing in space planning, quickly put pen to paper and designed a second floor addition. Integrated into the house, it looks like it's always been there and works perfectly when one or four daughters are home. With the addition of two bedrooms and a full bathroom, they also took the opportunity to open up space on the main floor for a large laundry room/pantry.

According to Janette, "I came up with a sketch of the initial concept for the addition and explored its feasibility with **Dave Smedley** of **Colvin Contracting & Design**. Dave had a look at the foundation and support, ran the plan by an engineer, reinforced a beam, figured out how to transfer the weight of the roof beam, and made the whole project sound easy.

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**TOP:** The beautifully crafted kitchen has everything Janette wanted, including lots of open storage to showcase dish collections. **ABOVE:** Collections from trips to France enhance table settings. **RIGHT:** The kitchen addition opens up the space and makes cooking easy in this organized space.



Collections of rustic furniture warm up the spacious dining room.



A European vintage vibe is evident in the main floor bathroom. **OPPOSITE TOP LEFT:** The back mudroom is an ideal drop spot for boots, dog leashes and shopping bags. **TOP RIGHT:** European inspired tiles, a farmhouse sink and espresso maker make laundry a delightful task. **RIGHT:** Warm tones in the main floor den are accented by stunning art by Janette.



The major issue was our need for a larger and more private guest area for visitors or children. Before proceeding, we compared the cost of renovating to the cost of moving. We wanted to remain in an old neighbourhood, which limited our choice. Everything else in the house, including the landscaping, had been redone to our liking in a 2006 renovation. It was difficult to find anything on the market that appealed to us as much, so we decided to stay and expand.

We felt it was best to confine the new second-storey addition to the footprint of the previous addition because the original part of the house was built in the 1880s with a rubble foundation and crawl space, so building on top of it didn't seem like a good idea."

After getting quotes, Janette did the working drawings for the city to get the building permit. "We wanted to do something in keeping with the character of the home," she explains. "From the front, it isn't noticeable that there is any change, but inside the changes are numerous."

The only change in the master bedroom is the ceiling, which moved from a cathedral to a flat ceiling. A closet was added under the new stairway, where they cleverly recessed a flat screen TV across from the fireplace, making for cosy evenings in the bedroom. The fireplace in the bedroom was designed by Janette, and built by **Ross Phillips Contracting** of Guelph. The gas insert is from **Fergus Fireplace**. De-cluttering the bedroom of dressers was done by having bookcases

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# feature

**RIGHT:** Built-in bookcases in the master bedroom keep clutter at bay. **BELOW:** The en suite bathroom features a marble sink designed by Janette for a classic look. **BOTTOM:** The upstairs hallway is light with painted beadboard and the installation of a skylight, finished off beautifully with a natural oil pre-finished cherry floor.



built by **Old World Woodworking** of Guelph on either side of the bed for extra storage. Lights are from **Fashion lighting**, Guelph. Bedding is from **Homesense**.

The second bedroom on the main floor was converted into a laundry room/pantry. With built-in appliances, black and white European tiles from **Lowe's**, combined with a farmhouse sink and gooseneck faucet from **The Ensuite Bath & Kitchen Showroom**, Guelph, it completes the vintage European vibe.

Climbing the stairs from the laundry room takes you to a small hallway dividing two bedrooms and a shared bathroom. "We wanted to keep as much space as possible for the bedrooms and added a skylight to enhance the spaciousness," Janette explained. The back bedroom is painted in **Farrow and Ball Skylight**, a whisper of blue echoed in bedding and the painting by Janette. The second bedroom is painted in **Gray Mist** by Benjamin Moore, a perfect backdrop for the black and cream toile bedding. Janette purchased her paint at **Heer's Paint & Décor** and **Timeless Materials Co.**

The flooring looks like it has always been there, a natural oil pre-finished **Cherry**, from **Breeze Wood Forest Products**. Windows are **Marvin Windows** from **Bavarian Window**. "Details make the difference, such as matching the original door hardware with porcelain door knobs purchased online."

Combining furniture from two houses was challenging, but the look is cohesive. The dining room table is made from reclaimed wood and was originally used outdoors for barbecues. Accented with black **Windsor** chairs, the European flair continues into the living room with cream, black and antiques nestled into the original bay window. *Continued on page 80*

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feature



The kitchen, completely re-done in 2006, was previously a bedroom. It has a honed granite counter and the back opens up to the patio, now bordered by antique pine French doors from The Door Store. Cabinets are Ikea, shelving is custom built. Lights over the counter are from the Door Store as well. The antique cabinet (with toaster on top) and bookcase in the dining room, are both from Cornerstone. The stove is from **TA Appliances & Barbecues** while the fridge and dishwasher are from Home Depot.

The empty nest is now a cosy spacious nest. "The difference with the addition is convenience, very noticeable with extra guests recently at Christmas and much handier when we have multiple guests," Janette says. **OH**

### LOCAL SOURCE GUIDE

Janette Hayhoe, Ross Phillips Contracting, Colvin Contracting & Design, Fashion Lighting, Old World Woodworking, Creative Glass & Showers, The Ensuite Bath & Kitchen Showroom, Ceramic Décor, Hall's Heat and Cool Inc., TA Appliances & Barbecues, Heer's Paint & Décor, Fergus Fireplace

**ABOVE:** The built-in gas fireplace in the master bedroom is a perfect place to curl up. **RIGHT:** This newly added bedroom is a cosy retreat for guests.



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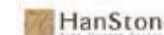


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