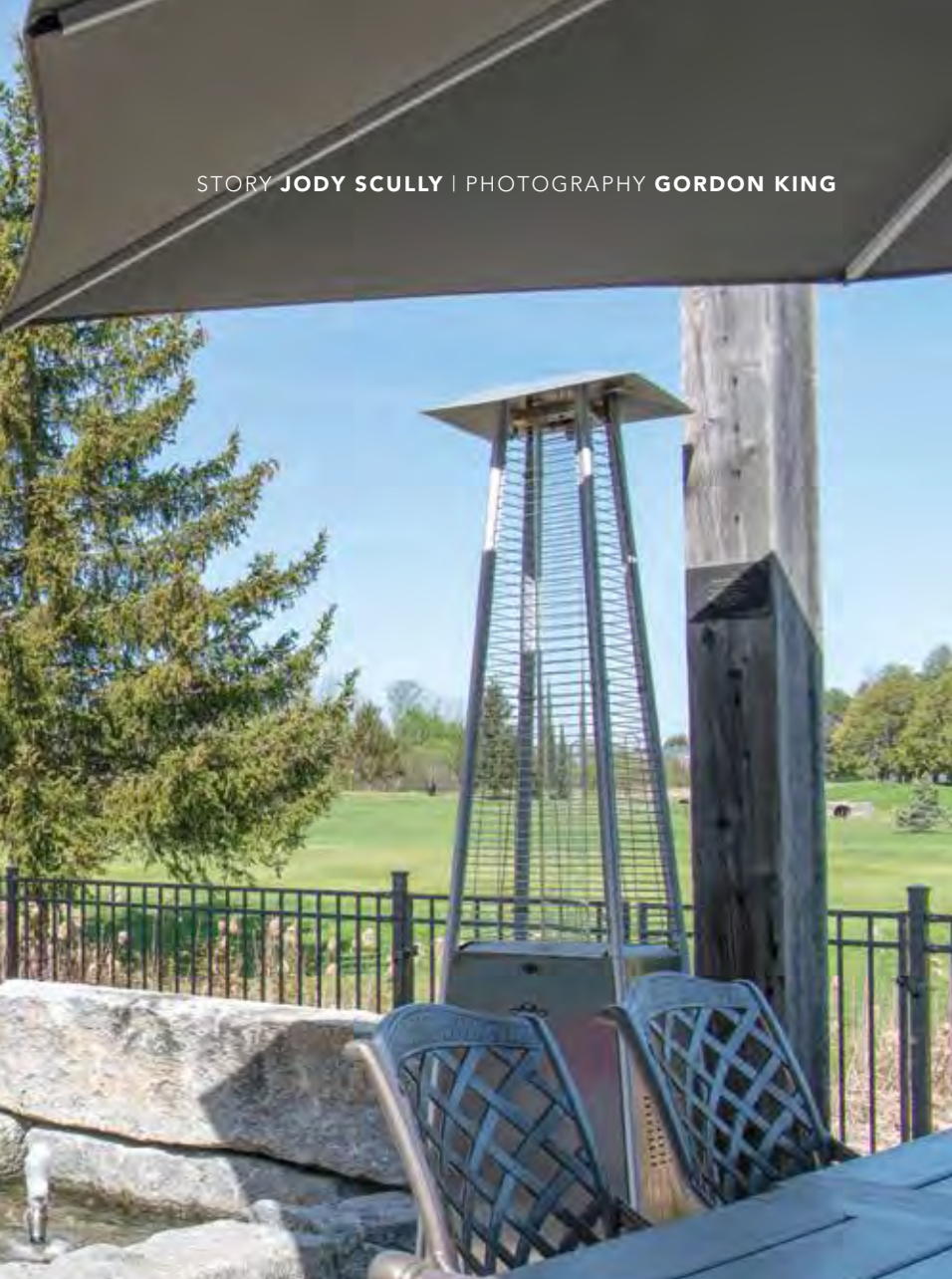




AWARD-WINNING DESIGN



When you find a home you love and never want to leave, you develop a lasting relationship with your designer so you can fall in love with your home over and over again.

Homeowner Maureen Graham fondly remembers her first meeting with designer **Catherine Pulcine** of **CPI Interiors**. “She came to my home and we just clicked,” Maureen says. Many years and many, many design projects later, their relationship has grown to one of mutual respect and admiration. It’s that relationship that keeps Maureen and her partner Scott Elson coming back to Catherine and CPI for each new project. “She knows my style and I love the variety of things she brings to us. She takes ideas that I have and makes them better,” says Maureen. *Continued on page 36*



ABOVE: The beautiful backyard overlooks the neighbourhood golf course. **RIGHT:** Homeowners Maureen and Scott enjoy relaxing in their tranquil backyard.





Lots of windows in the family room and adjacent sunroom let the natural light pour in. **TOP LEFT:** Leathered-granite countertops from TNT Tile and Marble Inc. add texture to the kitchen décor. **ABOVE:** The main-floor powder room gets a style boost from pretty patterned wallpaper.

Catherine has had a hand in designing every room in the Stittsville home to some degree. And a few of those rooms – like the eye-catching kitchen – she’s done twice. The first kitchen renovation included some “pretty significant changes,” says Catherine.

“We redesigned the whole space to remove awkward angles and give them a much more functional island and good throughfare.” Although the reconfiguration made better use of the floor space, Maureen and Scott wanted new quartz countertops, so they had

Catherine back to help select new ones. The new leathered-granite countertops (**TNT Tile and Marble Inc.**) Catherine found are one of their favourite features in the home.

In the dining room, custom built-ins (**CJ2 Custom Cabinets and Closets**) frame a

The built-in cabinetry in the dining room was designed around one of the homeowners' existing pieces of art. **RIGHT:** Catherine Pulcine of CPI Interiors has a long-standing relationship with the homeowners and has completed several projects for them over the years.

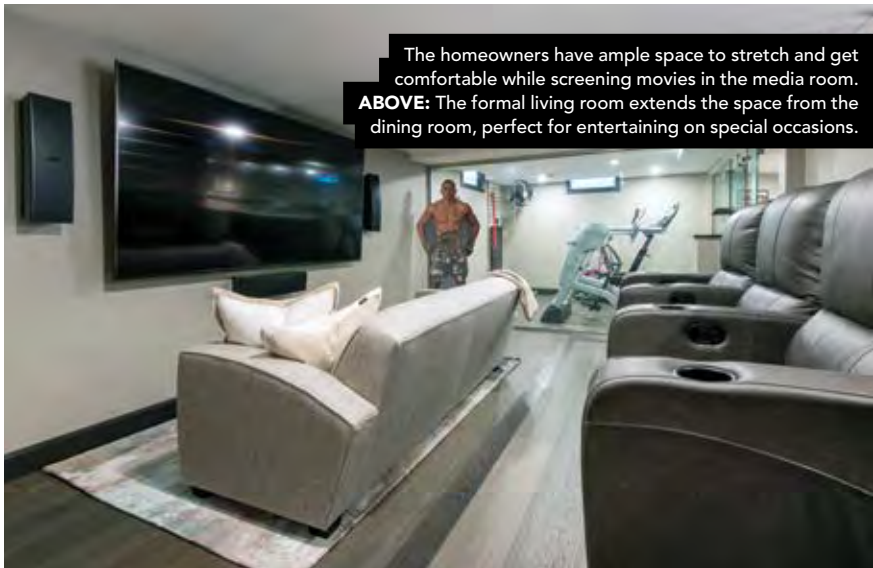


Catherine Pulcine

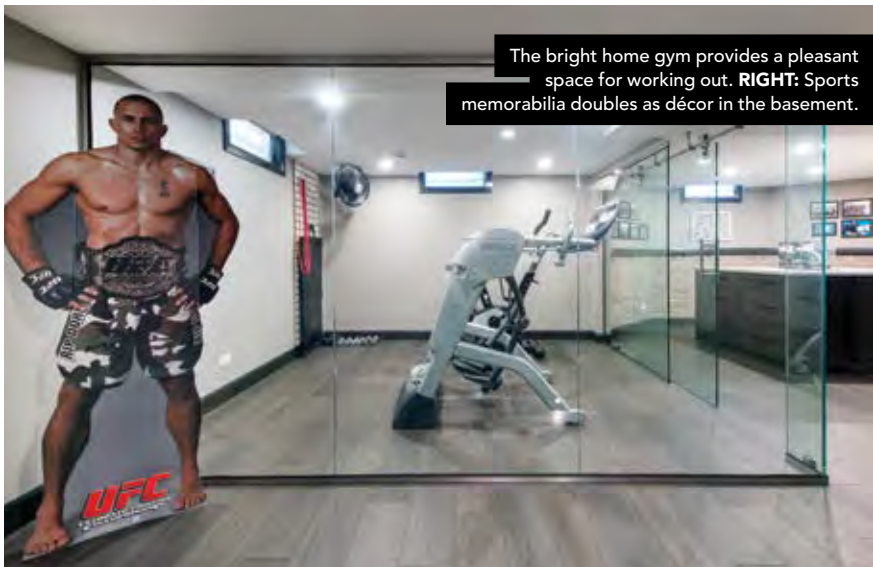
large piece of original art the homeowners already owned. “We love this picture and wanted to keep it in here. So, Catherine had the cabinets and shelving designed to fit around it,” explains Maureen. This type of cleverly-designed storage can be found throughout the home. Custom built-ins under the stairs, an incognito wrapping station and a completely redesigned storage room are just some of the storage solutions Catherine designed. *Continued on page 38*



A cosy stone fireplace offers a lovely focal point in the open kitchen and family room areas.



The homeowners have ample space to stretch and get comfortable while screening movies in the media room. **ABOVE:** The formal living room extends the space from the dining room, perfect for entertaining on special occasions.



The bright home gym provides a pleasant space for working out. **RIGHT:** Sports memorabilia doubles as décor in the basement.

Other highlights include the main floor and basement powder rooms. Although they're small, they brim with wow factor. One features a gorgeous floating sink and textured wall while the other boasts an exquisite, petrified stone sink by Pearl. Catherine loves "when a client is willing to take a few risks and step outside the norm because you can have a lot of fun. And Maureen enjoys things that are a little bit different that you don't see everywhere else."

When asked if she has a favourite project in the home, Catherine mentions the kitchen but ultimately gives the honour to the award-winning lower level. "The basement renovation was just spectacular," she says. "That bar turned out to be everything that I'd hoped it would be." The impressive bar spans almost the entire length of the basement and features gorgeous, leathered-granite countertops from TNT Tile and Marble Inc. With custom dark oak cabinets, wide-plank





hardwood floors, leather club chairs, an old-fashioned bar clock and vintage-look beer fridge, the space is reminiscent of an upscale social club.

The complete lower-level renovation included the new bar, a home theatre, gym, craft/gift-wrapping station and a new powder room. "It was important to them to create something that was a little bit different from the rest of the house to have more of a sporty feel," says Catherine. Turning the formerly cramped basement into a complete entertainment space with defined areas that were distinct but didn't feel closed off was a challenge Catherine handled beautifully.

One of Maureen and Scott's requests for the basement included keeping as much of the original brick as possible. The brick not only adds to the rich character of the space, but it also has local history. "The gentleman who built the home owned a masonry company and he was working on the local McDonald's. He had leftover brick, so he put it in his basement," Maureen explains.

The lower level recently won the 38th Annual Dream Room Design contest in its category. This prestigious award receives over 300 applicants each year and is voted on by national journalists, editors and design professionals. *Continued on page 40*



The lower level recently won the 38th Annual Dream Room Design. The highlight of the space is definitely this expansive bar. **TOP LEFT:** This vintage fridge belonged to Maureen's parents. Not only is it the perfect décor accent for the bar, it still works to cool drinks.



THE BEST PART OF CATHERINE'S JOB IS "THE WONDERFUL EXPRESSIONS ON PEOPLE'S FACES WHEN THEY SEE THAT FINAL REVEAL."

Upstairs, the secondary bedrooms were among the first projects the pair worked on together. Formerly the children's rooms, they have been redone and now offer guests a luxurious hotel-like stay with striking headboards and beautiful linens. But there are still traces of the previous tenants if you look closely. In one of the rooms, a valance remains from the original children's décor, which Maureen couldn't bear to take down. Catherine skillfully blended the old piece with new elements to create a completely unique and personal look.

The primary suite also features some significant changes. They acquired extra space from a fourth bedroom and completely reimagined the original walk-in closet and en suite. Catherine relocated the now expansive walk-in closet to the other side of the bathroom to create better flow. The spacious new bathroom now includes dual vanities (CJ2 Custom Cabinets and Closets) as well as a massive glass-walled shower (**Mirror Works Inc.**).

Although awards are always an honour, Catherine says the best part of her job is "the wonderful expressions on people's faces when they see that final reveal. It's the satisfaction and excitement people have when they see the final product," she says. "That to me is the big reward." **OH**



The homeowners took advantage of space in a fourth bedroom to renovate and expand the primary en suite and walk-in closet. A glass-walled shower from Mirror Works Inc. adds a spa-like vibe. **ABOVE:** This secondary bedroom is plush and inviting for guests. It was one of the first projects Catherine tackled many years ago.