

Stately BY DESIGN

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A grand staircase entryway, an elegant formal living room and an old-style cloak room of the sort you might find in fine older homes: these are among the features that elevate Stonecrest Manor beyond the expected. In fact, Mike and Milena Harasym and the **Harasym Developments Inc.** team were determined to build their Meadowlands of Sunningdale model as one that invites gracious living. *Continued on page 32*



Simplicity and symmetry inspired the living room's elegant conversation area and window treatments. The mirrored inset above the fireplace doubles the impact of classic crystal obelisks (Gielen Design) and a crystal chandelier (Living Lighting).

OPPOSITE, BOTTOM LEFT: The formal dining room opens to the terrace and displays art by Amanda Harasym (wall paint Benjamin Moore's Wood Duck).

BOTTOM RIGHT: The foyer's decorative, two-tone-stained stairway is a first for Harasym Developments.

TOP RIGHT: The grand piano and terrace doors on the back wall of the living room set the stage for a sophisticated soirée.





LEFT: Milena and Mike Harasym (left) with daughter Amanda, whose colourful painting adds visual interest in the dinette. **BOTTOM LEFT:** Furnishing the dinette and family room with a mix of traditional and transitional pieces creates a welcoming, lived-in ambience. **OPPOSITE TOP:** The integrated kitchen offers abundant work space as well as an additional gathering spot around the large, curved island. **OPPOSITE BOTTOM:** A pleasing counterpoint results from the sparseness of floating shelves and the tiled fireplace surround plus the cushy softness of the sofas.



Such is the ambience established by the dark English walnut stain of the double door entry to the home, as well as Gallery Collection garage doors by **Car Wal Door Systems Ltd.** The exterior doors and dark-trim chateau-inspired windows, supplied by **Dashwood Industries Ltd.**, make a commanding statement when integrated with the Arriscraft Renaissance stone of the front exterior (**Ferrell Builder's Supply Ltd.**).

Inside, the foyer is anchored architecturally by a two-toned stained wood staircase, built by **Roes Stair Company Inc.** and stained by painter **Mike Bogiakis**. The foyer leads to the home's main areas, including the sophisticated living room. While almost an after-thought in many new home designs, Stonecrest Manor's 26-by-12-foot living room is anything but and, most definitely, meant to be used on many occasions. The room features impressive, classic-style millwork (**Joe Conidi**), rich Benjamin Moore grey-tone walls (Pewter Promise), and stained maple floors (**Huron Flooring Ltd.**)

"We wanted a large, formal living room with a grand piano," explains Mike. Milena adds, "We wanted a space for the adults to enjoy."

Two sofas, symmetrically arranged, create an intimate conversation area and flank a Georgian-style white wood surround and gas fireplace (**S.W. Atchison Plumbing and Heating Ltd.**) over which an expansive mirror catches glittery light from the prisms of white-shaded chandeliers (**Living Lighting**). Big-scale art, unique accessories and a sturdy, chateau-inspired chest (**Gielen Design**), connect to the drama of the piano (**D&S Pianos**). Window coverings here and elsewhere in the home are from **Labadie Blind & Shutter Gallery** as well as **Creative Fabrications**.

Eight-foot french doors (Dashwood Industries) open from the living room and other rooms across the back of the house to a Rocky Top Concrete® terrace installed by **Classic Concrete** and landscaped by **John C. Young Design Ltd.** "It's great for entertaining," Milena says of the flow created by the multiple access points to the terrace.

Romantic and elegant yes, but the 4,000-plus-square-foot Stonecrest Manor also delivers on mod cons, functional layout and practical detail. A thermostat is Wi-Fi-accessible from your phone and a Wi-Fi kitchen camera lets you see what's going on from wherever you are in the world. And while the foyer leads to a stylish powder room with uniquely textured striped walls, by **Iain Turner** of **Goldstone Turner Decorative Artists**, as well as a windowed cloakroom for guests, it also connects to the garage through a mudroom and drop zone that's plenty big enough to accommodate a busy family's shoes and clutter.

An expansive kitchen and family room comprise the rear wing of the house. This bright space is the heart of the home, as well as its transitional cue from formal to casual. Design work here, and throughout the home, was a group effort involving draftsman **Doug Stewart**, many of the Harasym trades, and sales staff members **Owen Price** and **Julia Friend**. Site superintendent, **Jon Scott**, and office manager, **Shannon Wells**, also contributed to brainstorming sessions. The team kept on track with a simple and practical vision. Milena explains, "We like things to be functional, but stylish." *Continued on page 34*





So while they set about making a practical and well-thought-out kitchen work-area with convenient accessibility to the terrace and formal living and dining rooms, aesthetics were important, too. **Woody's Custom Cabinetry** built white face-framed cabinetry with inset doors and a contrasting dark wood island, and installed Cambria

quartz countertops (**Progressive Countertop Systems**). Chris Brosnan of **Brosnan Construction** created a backsplash with glass tiles in muted shades of grey and brown (sourced by Gielen Design) and **Arva Appliances Inc.** supplied gorgeous, super-deluxe appliances.

The dinette, much more than a set of table and chairs, involves a cosy, cushioned banquette tucked into a windowed corner, and a colourful oil painting by Mike and Milena's daughter, artist Amanda Harasym, whose work appears throughout Stonecrest Manor. The Harasym's have another adult child, Matthew, an electrical technologist. The couple credits their son's personal vision and creativity to Matthew's grandfather, Michal Harasym, who launched the family building business in the 1950s and later took great pride in showing off his grandson to tradesmen on building sites. *Continued on page 36*

The luxurious, light-filled master bedroom connects to a large en suite bathroom and walk-in closet. **ABOVE LEFT:** Relax in the deep soaker tub or get squeaky clean in the large shower stall where a clerestory window offers sky views. **ABOVE RIGHT:** More like a spacious dressing room, the walk-in closet with ample built-ins also features plenty of natural light.





ABOVE LEFT: Cozy carpeting, drapes and sumptuous bedding are used to create an ideal teenage space, with colour punches from art by Amanda Harasym and a feature wall in Black Velvet (Benjamin Moore). The room connects to a large bathroom shared by another second floor bedroom. **ABOVE RIGHT:** Dramatic, textured stripes make the main floor powder room arty and interesting. **RIGHT:** Elegant Stonecrest Manor and its chateau-inspired windows light up the night.



In fact, creativity abounds in the Harasym family. Look no further than the graceful curved island, like a piece of fine furniture as well as a work surface, and beyond that to the family room with its Zen vibe. Mike and Milena agreed they wanted very clean lines in this space. Of the minimalist-style fireplace and shelving in the family room, Mike says, "We knew we wanted a monolithic look with floating shelves and recessed lighting."

Upstairs, where the main hallway overlooks Stonecrest's foyer, features like nine-foot ceilings and eight-foot panelled doors (**North Pole Trim & Supplies Ltd.**), deepen the home's overall level of luxury. The master en suite features a walk-in closet (**Nieman Market Design**), with walls of shelves, clothing racks and a large chest of drawers built into the middle of the windowed space that would make any fashionista proud (curved window coverings made by **Karlene Dale** of Creative Fabrications). The en suite also offers a tranquil and spa-like oasis for relaxation, with its private water closet, shower stall

with sky-view clerestory window, and fixtures such as the oval shape Maax Jazz freestanding tub (Atchison). Tile floors and shower walls were ordered from **Flooring Canada**.

Another upstairs bathroom cleverly features a water closet off the main hall, which opens through a pocket door to a larger bathroom that includes a sink, a bath, a shower and other toilet areas. Two carpeted bedrooms (furnished by Gielen) open off either end of this bathroom, making the three rooms an ideal sibling-style suite. There is also a laundry room on the second floor, a spare multi-purpose room (with adjoining bath) that's ideal for visitors or for use as a games room, and a room over the garage that the Harasym's turned into a mini-gym.

The Harasym's hope that Stonecrest Manor will inspire people with its elegant formal side, and wow them with the beauty of its casual, contemporary living spaces and modern must-have features.

"We get excited about each new design," Milena says of the company's latest creation. "If you love what you do, it shows." **OH**