

Dublin

Tuscan feel in Tartan Fields



During the week, one homeowner admits that she and her husband don't spend a lot of time cooking in the spacious kitchen that sits as the heart of their nearly 11,000-square-foot Tuscan home.

"We're both pretty busy with our work schedules," she says.

In their early thirties and forties respectively, both spend a good chunk of their days in the car—she's in sales and he makes a daily 120-mile round-trip commute between work and home.

But on Saturday and Sunday, they make up for lost time. "We love to have our friends over on the weekend," she says. This is when the house gets used and appreciated.

That's what friends are for

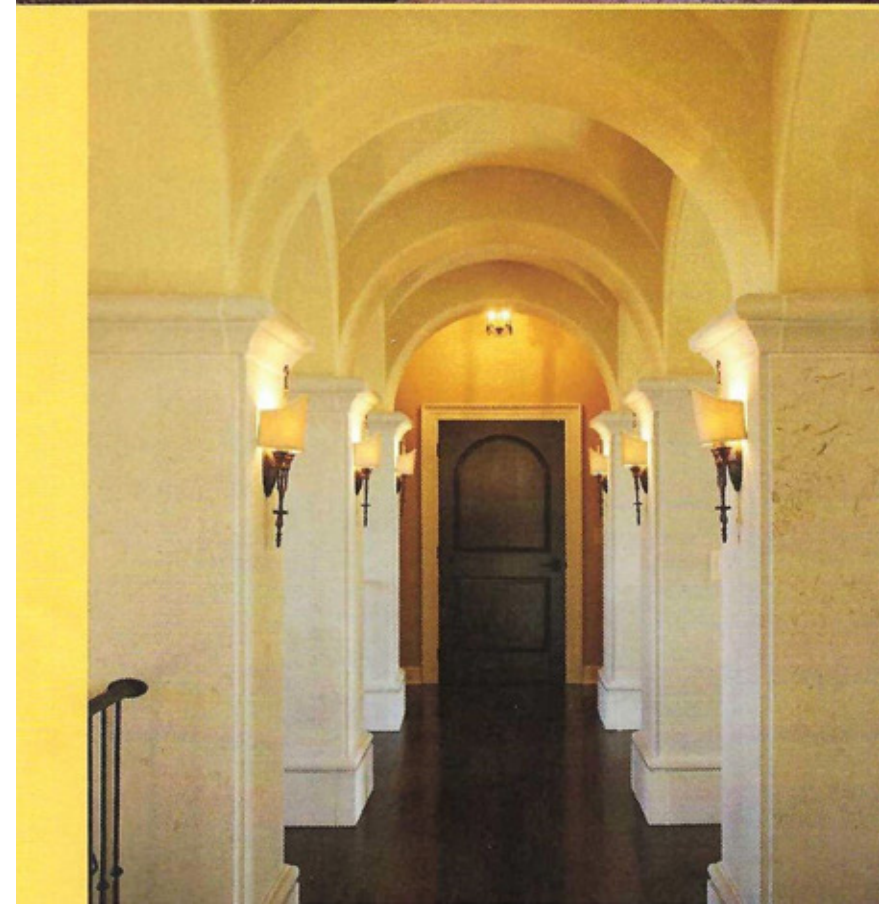
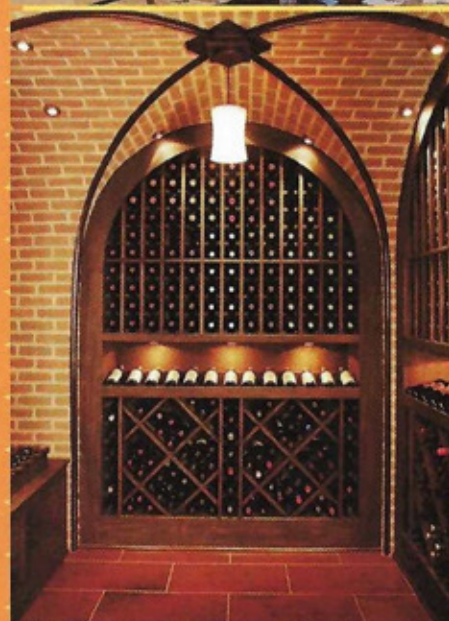
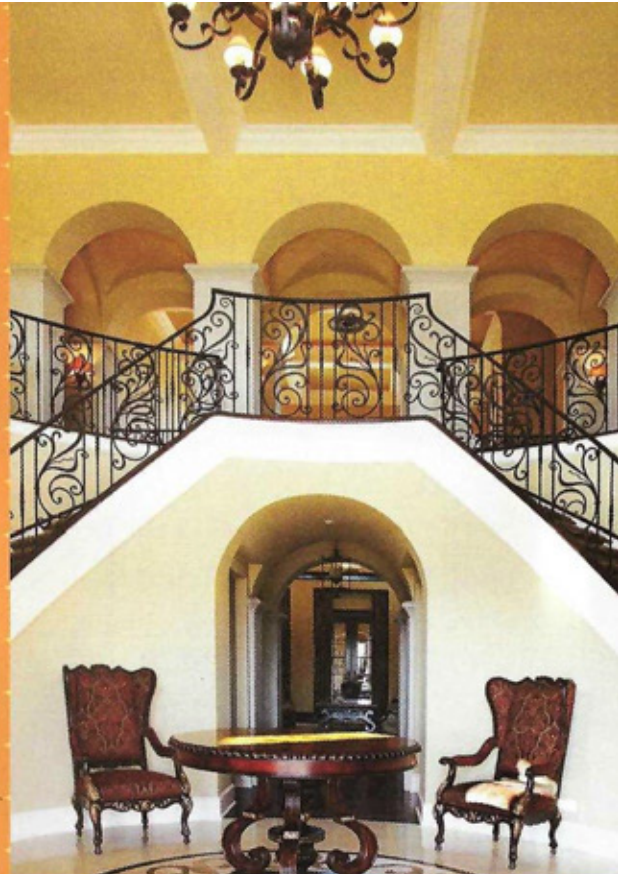
Until about a year ago, the couple lived in Chillicothe, but the desire to be closer to a core group of friends in Columbus was a major factor in their decision to move. Plus, he is originally from New York and she's from St. Louis, so they both were accustomed to a more cosmopolitan setting.

Entertaining was front and center when the two began planning the home with architect Lee Rumora and builder Tom Cua. This planning stage took a full year and was followed by two years of building. Since the couple didn't live in town, Cua would update them on a regular basis by sending photos and text via e-mail.

"Tom was great," she says. "You hear all these horror stories about building. We had none of that. Everything he promised us, we have. It was really easy for us."

Cua says he really believes that building your dream home should be one of the most enjoyable experiences of your life, and he aims to keep stress levels low. Plus, he says that building a home on such a grand scale was a welcome challenge for his team.

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OVERLEAF LEFT: Dublin home. Photo courtesy of Jim Driscoll and Paul Clutter, McCallister Photoworks
 OVERLEAF RIGHT: Bexley home. OPPOSITE: An expansive mantle frames in a dual fuel range in the 316-square-foot kitchen. TOP LEFT: Four heat lamps, hanging from the ceiling, extend the season for the outdoor space. LEFT: Brazilian Walnut hardwood floors and a limestone colonnade in the upstairs hallway provide the base for supporting "groin vault" ceilings, which the builder explains is the result of two intersecting barrel vault ceilings. TOP RIGHT: The double bridal staircase in the foyer is framed by an ornate ceiling that includes a circular beam wrapped around a central dome with perimeter beams and an inlaid marble floor. ABOVE: Another example of a groin vault ceiling framed with 1 1/2" round oak that was steamed to follow the radius of the groin vault.



Cua says that the craftsmen he works with enjoy the chance to showcase their skills on homes that have been designed for a particular client using a specific style of architecture.

Throughout the construction phase, Cua was in constant contact with Rumora and designer Pam Yost; both whom he credits as being critical to the end product.

In the zone

Ultimately, the stately residence would include five bedrooms, three half baths, five full baths, a decked out gym, a lower level bar area complete with an expansive wine cellar, a theater room and an outdoor entertainment zone.

It's this outside space where the couple and their friends gravitate toward most often. A covered pavilion houses a kitchen, fireplace, television and plenty of comfortable seating, while an inviting pool beckons from beyond. This is where the fun takes place when the weather is inviting. And just because the kitchen hasn't seen a lot of use, don't think guests ever go hungry—the man in the house happens to be quite adept at cooking up dinner on the grill.

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OPPOSITE: Master bedroom. BELOW: Lower level bar



Mark Your Calendar

Sunday, May 6 from 12 pm to 5 pm

Dublin Women's Club Spring Tour of Homes

Tour begins at the Tartan Fields Golf Club
8070 Tartan Fields Drive, Dublin

Advance tickets \$20 available online at
www.dublinwomensclub.com
or \$25 at the door.

Proceeds benefit DWC's general philanthropy.



Resources

Builder: Tom Cua, Cua Builders; **Architect:** Lee Rumora, Rumora Associates Architects; **Designer:** Pamela Yost, Grand Design Group; **Custom electronics:** Digital Home Designs; **Lighting:** Ferguson Enterprises; **Wine room:** W&M Carpentry, Darby Creek Millworks, Wyman Woodworking; **Flooring:** Marble Compositions & Flooring; **Kitchen cabinetry:** Schlabach Wood Design; **Kitchen countertops:** Solazzo Marble and Granite Imports; **Kitchen backsplash:** Marble Compositions & Flooring; **Kitchen sinks and faucets:** Carr Plumbing Supply; **Appliances:** hhgregg; **Painting/wall treatments:** Grand Design Group, Constance Mengel; **Furniture:** Grand Design Group; **Landscaping:** Cua Builders; **Windows:** Andersen Windows & Doors, A&D Building Materials; **Front door:** Darby Creek Millworks; **All other doors:** Andersen Windows & Doors, A&D Building Materials; **Wrought iron and aluminum railing:** Suburban Steel Supply; **Roof tile:** Ludowici Roof Tile Co., New Lexington, Ohio; **Foundation and concrete flat work:** Shepherd Excavating; **Lumber and exterior trim:** Cellar Lumber; **Interior trim:** Capital City Millworks; W&M Carpentry; **Swimming pool:** Envision Pool Co.; **Stone and stucco:** Queen Custom Exteriors; **Limestone:** Karlsson Design