

Custom HOME OF THE WEEK

Custom home has special features

By Liz Bennett

Dan Montgomery and Mary Williams' country home is spacious and designed specifically for their needs. It has large rooms, wide hallways and extra-wide doors

enjoying the view and having conversation with visitors seated in the great room. The seating area of the eating bar is on the kitchen side for those same reasons, Mary says.

subdivision. The cabinets look like well-made oak furniture."

The friend also built counters and cabinets in the large utility room. In addition to plenty of space for doing laundry, the room also has a large sink for giving their dog a bath.

"It also has a soundproof door," Dan says. "Even modern machines make noise."

Another spacious room is the master bedroom, which has a special and much appreciated feature: a gas fireplace with a timer that automatically turns it off.

"The fireplace is up off the ground about 30 inches, so you can see it from the bed," Mary explains. "I saw it in a magazine and thought it made sense."

The room also has and a large storage room off to the right as you enter the room and sliding glass doors that lead to a private patio.

The bathroom has a walk-in shower that's wheelchair accessible, Mary says. "It's so big that I wanted something that was

easy maintenance. One fairly large area is glass block and the walls on three sides are cultured marble that's sky blue with white. The flooring is painted concrete and has enough traction for Dan."

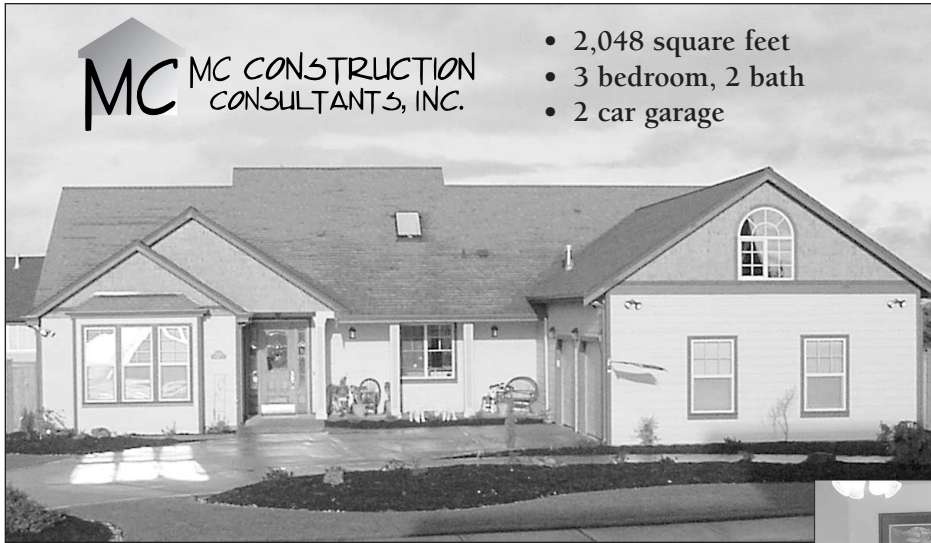
If relaxing in a bathtub is more appealing, the bathroom also has a tub with jets that heat the water as long as they are activated.

There's also a full bathroom that separates the two rooms at the other end of the 2,048-square-foot house. One of those rooms is the guest bedroom where the couple's grandson sleeps when he visits.

"The bedroom also has a wonderful window seat," Mary says. "That's the spot where our beagle loves to look out."

The other room is Mary's home office. Instead of the doors normally found on a closet, Mary had the builder install double doors. The space is perfect for two file cabinets and several shelves that hold office supplies.

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- 2,048 square feet
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that make the entire house wheelchair accessible.

Dan's favorite room is the great room with its panoramic view of the Black Hills and Olympic Mountains. The corner fireplace adds to the soothing atmosphere of the room, especially when the days are gray and rainy.

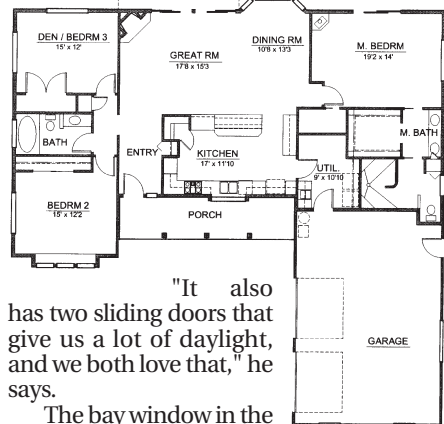
"On the great room side of the eating bar are cabinets that are used for storage. All the lower shelves pull out, like they do in the kitchen. It's nice for table linens because you don't have to wrinkle the table cloths and such by putting them in drawers."

The couple and the builder, Mike Cohen of MC Construction Consultants, Inc., spent many hours honing the kitchen design, Mary says.

"It took a lot of planning. Mike would have some ideas and we'd have ideas, and we'd go back and forth three or four times. Mike was never flustered with the new ideas," she says, then adds with a laugh, "I don't think anything ever rattles him."

The kitchen has extra counter space, a mix of granite and Corian counter tops, an integrated sink, a spacious pantry, a glass-fronted cupboard in the corner that houses special dishware and a built-in oak buffet and hutch with a glass front. The cabinetry was made by a family friend, who added his own special touches to the area.

The result is what Dan says "is one of the nicest kitchens we've seen in this



"It also has two sliding doors that give us a lot of daylight, and we both love that," he says.

The bay window in the dining room adds to the airy feeling of the space where the couple and their guests spend much of their time.

The kitchen is designed for both

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