

Custom HOME OF THE WEEK

New home fits couple's dreams, lifestyle

By Liz Bennett

Flowing lines, easy access and plenty of light make Mike and Patty Quimby's country home a place of comfort and pleasure. The open concept of the three-bedroom, ranch-style home is even more

sation and the view of an adjoining pasture and the forest beyond.

The kitchen cabinets were made from hickory, which was selected because the multi-colored grain of the wood complements the Vermont maple Pergo floor.

or of the 1,921-square-foot home.

The large arched window above the door further enhances the front of the rambler. Shimmering light from a chandelier in the entryway reflects through the window, creating a dramatic entrance.

The entire home is wheelchair accessible, including the exterior. A large, covered deck is accessed from the family room and continues around to meet the patio. A 4-foot-wide sidewalk begins at the rear of the home and continues to the back entrance of the garage. The 18-inch space between the sidewalk and house is filled with low-maintenance rainbow rock, both for color and ease of care.

Quimby says the building process was a good experience, thanks to Mike Cohen and his staff at MC Construction Consultants.

"Before we selected them, Mike suggested we knock on the doors of some of our neighbors and ask about their experi-

ence and get an idea of what we should expect."

The couple liked what they heard from the people whose homes were designed and built by MC.

"Mike prides himself with being flexible," Quimby adds. "With other builders, if

you want any changes it will stir up a bee's nest."

Cohen's designs begin with input of homeowners — listening to their dreams and responding to their specific needs. The couple gathered pictures and brochures, made notes, sketched rough ideas, then took it all to Cohen.

"He took our ideas and drew the plans for the house we wanted. What he put on paper was just what we had in mind."

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enhanced by a vaulted ceiling and plenty of large windows.

When asked to select his favorite room, Mike Quimby chose the kitchen.

"It's laid out to be user-friendly overall. People just gravitate to the kitchen island where there are barstools and a large space for gathering."

The room is illuminated by sunlight flooding in through a bay window.

Guests can sit at the table, enjoying conversation that wraps around the nook area.

The dark tan tile backsplash accents the natural wood cabinets and ties together the different wood types in the kitchen and adjoining rooms.

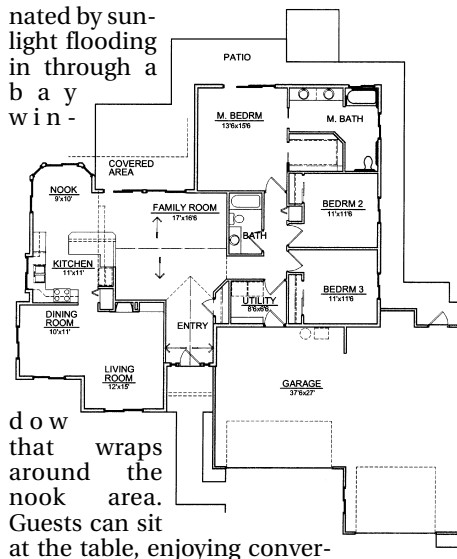
The kitchen isn't the only area used for get-togethers. The dining and living room arrangement was designed for holidays, Quimby explains.

"We entertain the relatives at Thanksgiving and Christmas, so it was built to accommodate large family gatherings."

Visitors also enjoy moving their conversation to the living room, where they can sit in front of the fireplace and enjoy the field stone fascia and roaring fire. However, the room isn't just for company.

"It's a great room because you're separated from the rest of the house," Quimby says. "It's quiet and a nice place to read."

When guests arrive, they walk into the home under cover of the hipped roof. A similar roof protects the back entry of the home, and both are finished with solid cedar boards on the underside. The cedar complements the natural wood tones used throughout the interi-



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