

ROOTS *Inspire* International FLAIR

The Overall Design Is Restrained and Simple
in Comparison to its Ostentatious European Cousins

WRITER KAREN VANDER WERP • PHOTOGRAPHER STEVE SIMPKINS



People have roots. It is through their roots that passions and appreciation are cultivated.

Rehan and Shireen returned to their roots in their homeland of Pakistan in order to make a difference. Opening two cardiac centers, one in Pakistan, and another in Dubai, gave the couple the opportunity to determine what type of home they wanted to have when they took up residence in the United States. It was these six years abroad that influenced their Freeland home with international flare. "Part of our inspiration was to build something like the houses we had inhabited abroad," shares Shireen. "That's why this home looks a bit different than most American homes."

The neo-classic styling with contemporary overtones boasts uniqueness and quality. It demonstrates that a reasonably-sized house can entertain features that we expect in estate size homes such as elaborate staircases, big libraries, a sizeable master suite and home theater. The foyer, the area most influenced by their travels, hones in on a patterned floor coupled with millwork showcasing clean, restrained lines and a deep layered look. Its staircase, an exercise in skill, ingenuity and creativity, was ordered and sent to the forger, then customized on-site for precision to angles and curvaceous styling. The medallions, with a custom finish, were also completed on site. The wood banister was also curved and manipulated to fit its severe angles.

The kitchen, breakfast area and family room make up the main living space. "This is an area heavily influenced by the Chicago Merchandise Mart and focused TV watching," explains Shireen.

The Chicago Mart offered a wealth of ideas for the tile design, lighting and vanities. After their extended stay out of the country, it also provided an avenue to understand the prevailing trends.

A fan of Christopher Peacock designs and cabinetry, the homeowners chose LJ Kitchens of Bay City to implement their vision. For some added glamour, wire mesh inset panels for the upper cabinets flanking the kitchen are adorned with a diamond pattern in polished nickel. The cabinets are finished with icebox latches in true Christopher Peacock style. Carrere marble is virtuous of Peacock kitchen design. However, that selection was neither practical nor a suitable choice for Rehan and Shireen's passion for cooking. After learning the virtues of quartz, a simple white palette was selected for the busiest areas of the kitchen. In an attempt to make the island a focal point, a white pearl granite was selected. They all work together complementing each other with a finished cohesive allure.

The breakfast table is a relaxing place for everyday meals, but for large family gatherings the dining room is crisply elegant with its traditional columns contrasting with the modern fireplace.

Another unique feature of this home is the library/reading area on the upstairs landing. It offers an area to display and store the homeowners' large book collection. It is accessible from all bedrooms, has ample light, picturesque views, and a generous seating and reading area.

Rehan and Shireen boast the ease of which their builder, Seymour Geiersbach, was to work with translating, implementing and channeling their requests. Geiersbach Construction is known for their superior finish work. They decided early on that they wanted their spaces immaculately finished. "Wally was able to do that for us and we are very happy," declares the satisfied couple. □



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This visually appealing space is a reflection of beauty, past and present.

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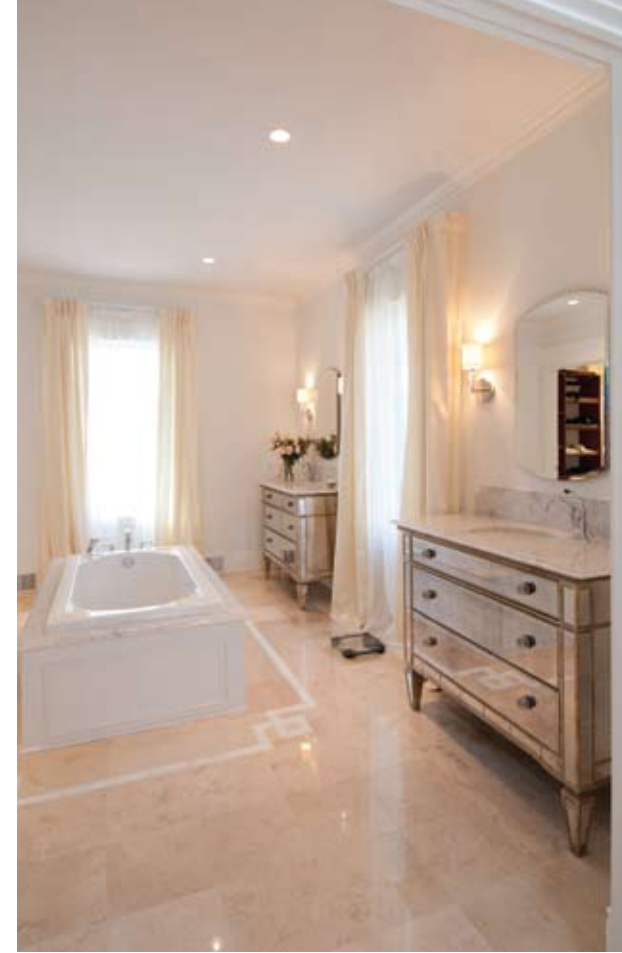
ABOVE: The library is accessible from all bedrooms, making late night reading a breeze.

BELOW: Elaborate iron work is the crowning accent to a sophisticated living area.

OPPOSITE: The intricate staircase had to be hand forged on- and off-site. The result was well worth the effort.



The freestanding staircase, with its ornate iron work, is a picture of artistry and ingenuity.



ABOVE LEFT: His and her vanities, adorned with sconces, highlight the master bath amenities.
 ABOVE RIGHT: The master suite offers a private office/living space.
 BELOW: A continuity of elegance is paramount in the master bedroom.



ABOVE: Along with a variety of finishes and countertop selections, the kitchen is accented with moldings and rope lighting.
 BELOW LEFT: The formal dining room elegantly combines traditional columns with a modern fireplace.
 BELOW RIGHT: Drapery panels add drama to elegance and a neutral color palette.





ABOVE: A veranda offers a scenic view of a manicured fairway.

BELOW: The homeowners love their theater room and enjoy many hours there.

Carpet And Flooring: **O'CONNOR'S CARPET ONE**
Electrical: **TOWN AND COUNTRY ELECTRIC INC.**
Lighting: **WHOLESALE ELECTRIC**
Plumbing: **CHAUVETTE PLUMBING INC.**



Geiersbach Construction Inc.

PRINCIPAL OWNER (S):

Walter Geiersbach, President and Seymour Geiersbach, Secretary/
Treasurer

NUMBER OF YEARS IN BUSINESS:

34

YEAR BUSINESS STARTED:

1977

EDUCATION:

Walter Geiersbach has an Associate degree in Residential Construction and Technology from Delta College. Seymour Geiersbach holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Central Michigan University.

BUSINESS PHILOSOPHY:

Geiersbach Construction's mission is to build a quality product, on time and within budget, with a commitment to professionalism, so the customer has a satisfying experience.

WHAT SETS YOUR BUSINESS

APART FROM OTHERS?

Our homes showcase craftsmanship, energy efficiency and attention to lasting value. Our motto is "we build sound investments."

HOBBIES, VOLUNTEERISM, ETC. :

Walter and Seymour take special interest in professional development. They are active in the Tri-County Contractors Association. Seymour has leadership roles in the local, state, and national Home Builders Associations. He has twice received the honor of Saginaw Home Builder of the Year. Geiersbach Construction owners and employees have volunteered for Habitat for Humanity, and other community activities.

CONTACT PHONE NUMBER & WEB ADDRESS:

For additional information, call (989) 695-2692 or visit
www.geiersbachconstruction.com.