

PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Although the kitchen is still under construction, its beauty and attention to detail are becoming apparent.

**SHOW**  
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house last winter. That group discussed with a group of women what they wanted to see in a future dream home. Comments ranged from a place to "drop papers and mail when friends came over" to an "easy-to-operate home automation system."

Dominick Tringali Architects developed the house after discussing it with clients. Derocher, a third generation builder and owner of Custom Homes by Derocher in Royal Oak, was the builder. Standard Federal Bank served as a third sponsor.

Usually, Somerset is the site of a garden show to help charities, but this year Somerset's marketing officials wanted a different kind of event, said Leah Plotkin, marketing coordinator for Dominick Tringali Architects.

"We wanted to put together all the things that you would want in a dream home," Plotkin said.

"The only things that are

missing are a roof, foundation and live plumbing," Derocher added.

The home was built in Somerset when a vacant storefront became available. Derocher only had two months and no money to build the site, but volunteer builders and architects got to work, he said. Derocher completed the project in 2-1/2 months.

And what a home it is. Beyond the entry, there's a foyer, adult gathering room and a library. The home will be furnished with pieces donated by local stores.

A baby grand piano and 50-inch plasma TV are in the adult gathering room. Distressed, wide-planked oak floors add a comfortable feel to the formal dining room, and the cultured stone walls present an Old World, European look.

Bill Derocher, Doug's brother, also added distressed beams.

"It's a nice effect, it warms the room up," Bill said.

A butler's pantry features a yellow limestone countertop, and a wine room with a stone wall sits between the kitchen

and dining room.

The kitchen is John Scobie's work of Kitchen Studios in Birmingham. Maple cabinets with a glazed finish grace the walls, which are also distressed with cracks and wormholes. Glazed cabinetry is a new trend in kitchens, Scobie said.

"Utility is the most important thing in being a functional kitchen," he said.

There are hand-drawn carvings, appliance garages, a drawer refrigerator and an in-wall coffee maker.

A dual elliptical ceiling in the vestibule will greet visitors who are walking through the home. Brick veneers in the walkways add to the Old World motif of the home.

An outside courtyard features a fireplace and cultured stone. Brick pavers and blue-stone with the live plants create a balance of rock and greenery.

Plotkin credits Somerset officials with their efforts in working with Dominick Tringali and Derocher to make the Show House a success and raise thousands for the local charities.

"We'll try to top what's been done in the past," she said.

**OTHER EVENTS:**

**Charity raffles:** Somerset Collection and the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Suite Dreams Project, CATCH, Habitat for Humanity and United Way will sell tickets for the Ultimate Home Raffle. Tickets will be \$10 each or three for \$25. When purchasing raffle tickets, guests will have a chance (should they win) of a \$2,500 gift certificate from Crate and Barrel, Pottery Barn/Pottery Barn Kids, Williams-Sonoma or Restoration Hardware. One winner will be drawn on June 20, the closing of the Ultimate Home.

**Live Auction:** Saturday, May 17, an all-tie optional evening of live auctions and appetizers with all proceeds benefiting charities.

For ticket information, call (248) 643-6360 or visit [www.TheSomersetCollection.com](http://www.TheSomersetCollection.com).

**Concert:** A concert with the Detroit Symphony Civic Orchestra, Sunday, June 1. Enjoy an evening of music by the Detroit Symphony Civic Orchestra. Appetizers will be available.

For ticket information, call (248) 643-6360 or visit [www.TheSomersetCollection.com](http://www.TheSomersetCollection.com).



Builder Doug Derocher gives a tour of The Ultimate Show House at the Somerset Collection in Troy.

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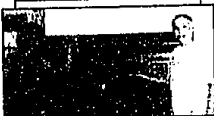
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