

# Staying Put After All

## A Bob Webb Canterbury unit convinces couple to stay in Ohio

By Duane St. Clair

PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRISTOPHER KEELS

The great room includes a window wall overlooking a wooded ravine and small pond.



now all grown, scattered and working.

The Davises discussed moving out of state. But in their casual search for another, smaller place to live, they found the Bob Webb condominium community and a partially-built Canterbury unit that had the promise of filling their needs.

"We thought we'd downsize, but we didn't," Bob says of the 3,600-square-foot unit. "After looking at the value of things and discussions with the Webb group, we signed."

The unit backs up to a deep wooded ravine and a small pond at the end of a cozy cul-de-sac. The Davises requested only minor modifications to the original plan.

Inside the front foyer to the left is an office Martha uses. It has a custom bookcase, one of two they added to the main floor for their sizeable collection of reading materials. Her office also has an attractive wood linen press from Ireland she uses to store silver and other dishware.

It originally was to be the dining room, "but it was too small. We entertain a lot," Martha explains. Instead, their dining area is in what was to be a seating area at the op-

**The Davises use a large seating area opposite of the adjoining kitchen as their dining room, since they entertain frequently.**



posite end of the adjoining kitchen. For those special occasions, they use a large dining table in the space, which has large windows on two sides.

The foyer leads to the great room, where the second bookcase borders both the main seating area and the hallway to the master suite.

The great room has a window wall overlooking the woods bordering the pond and a spillway that were built years ago by a former landowner Jack Antrim.

Bob says he particularly enjoys the abundance of first floor windows, which afford a pleasant view of nature at every turn.



"What's not to like?" Bob Davis asks about the condominium unit he and his wife Martha are enjoying. It's located in a neat and attractive Bob Webb community, the Village at the Bluffs, north of Worthington.

The couple lived 30 years in a six-bedroom home in Olentangy Highlands, far off the road on a large lot surrounded by woods. They raised six children there,

The great room has a corner fireplace with the signature Webb white wood finish work that's used throughout the home. Bob says the finished work "is top notch."

Because the home was well underway when they bought it, changes were kept to a minimum.

"Once we signed the deal, there were no change orders," says Bob, an architect familiar with building projects.

Construction was at the point the couple could opt not have a tub in their master bathroom, using the space instead for a vanity with a small table and mirror.

With a first floor laundry, they don't use the second floor much "except when the children are here," Martha notes. It has a large bedroom with a seating area, more bookshelves and a record player. Bob says he occasionally goes there to listen to his vinyl record collection.

A Jack-and-Jill bath connects the room to the second smaller guest bedroom.

The finished lower level is an informal entertainment center and play space for the family. Bob notes they had a kitchenette added with an under-the-counter refrigerator, dishwasher and sink.

The couple had a corner fireplace added, too. It's a pleasant niche in a room that also features 11 windows overlooking a deck extending across the rear of the home. An adjoining room, designed as a bedroom with a full bath, is Bob's home office.

Bob had a terrace fixed just below the deck so he could install a garden train, a G-scale model that runs on a track along part of the rear deck and around the corner. Water running continually over the spillway provides a pleasant backdrop to sounds of nature from the woods.

As they contemplated moving, "We thought the kids would be sad that their family home was being sold, but they



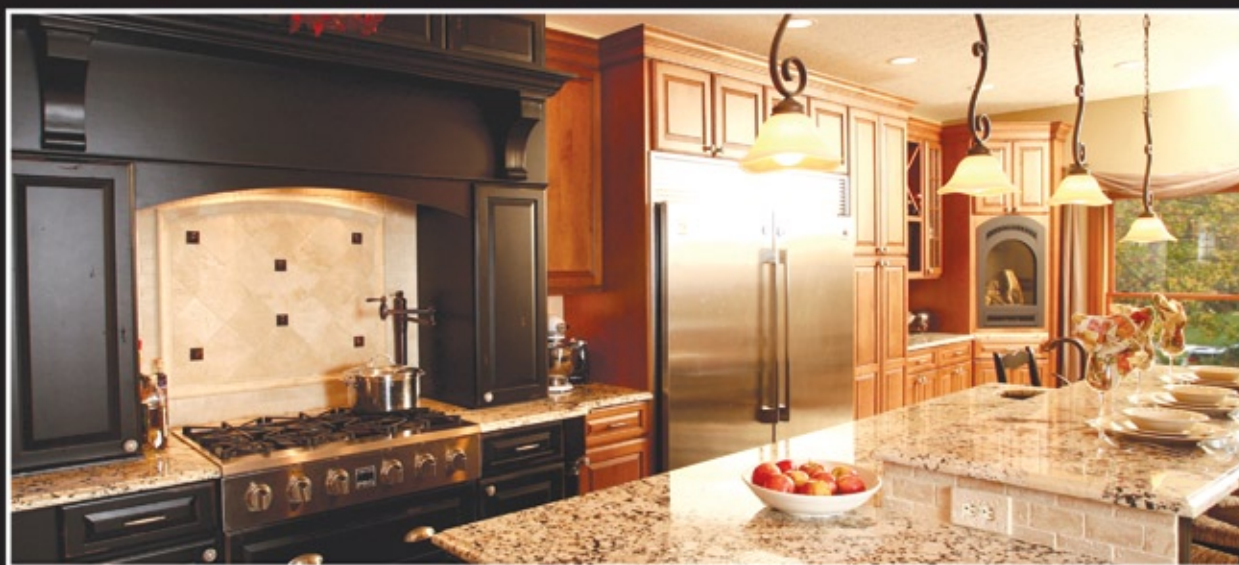
**The finished lower level includes an entertainment area, kitchenette and 11 windows overlooking a deck.**

were so glad we decided to move so they wouldn't have to pry us out," Martha says.

Now, they're in a place with a desirable location and amenities and everyone is happy.

"It all comes down to the community," Bob says, "which is perfect in terms of size, quality and similar backgrounds to neighbors." ❖

*Duane St. Clair is a contributing editor for Luxury Living.*



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