

FROM House TO HOME[®]

APRIL/MAY
2009

VIEWS & Style

This Indian Home
Has It All

Q&A WITH
CHRISTOPHER LOWELL

FLOOR ME!
Rug & Carpet Magic

AREA METAL ARTIST
INSPIRES JOY

ANCHORAGE DAILY NEWS' HOME & LIFESTYLE MAGAZINE

With The **VIEW** In **Mind**

Indian home captures
spectacular views
in style and comfort

TEXT CHRISTINE HOLM IMAGES JESSE STRIBLING

These homeowners wanted to build a new home nearer to the marina and dock that houses the boat they love to enjoy, and they decided that Indian was the spot. So beginning in January 2007, they worked with Bill Wilkinson of Wilco Contractors and broke ground in May that year. Now, nearly two years later, they are settling in and enjoying the rewards, among which are the fabulous views their home affords, nestled as it is among Bird Ridge Mountain, Indian House Mountain, and the Turnagain Arm.

"Besides the great mountain views," says the lady of the house, "we love all the wildlife here. There are Dall sheep, grizzly bears and black bears, moose, birds, and rabbits."

But outstanding views of the Alaskan flora and fauna aside, the interior of this home offers a stunning array of views in its own right. A curve theme, suggested by the builder, ties much of those views together and is repeated in windows, fireplaces, the kitchen island, furniture arrangement, cabinet glass, and interior doors.

The homeowners say, "You'll especially see that design showing up in the windows and fireplaces throughout



› The wood-burning fireplace adds another element of comfort to the living room, which is topped by cedar tongue-and-groove ceilings.

›› Spectacular views of Bird Ridge Mountain play a major part in the roomy, lodge-like living room.







“The views and privacy...make it so peaceful.”

—The homeowners



the home.” They added plenty of their own design ideas, including the different hues and types of marble and granite—many of which are imported from India—used on countertops and fireplace surrounds in colors from Rainforest Brown to Bordeaux to Blue Pearl.

The living room ceiling is of impressive height and pitch and is made of rustic knotty cedar tongue-and-groove. The home boasts Brazilian cherry hardwood floors in the main areas. The kitchen is a showstopper with two different types of maple cabinets—honey and spice—and Ivory Fantasy granite countertops from Northern Lights Granite Company. It also features a Jenn-Air drop-in downdraft range with gas cooktop and an electric oven and a Sharp drawer microwave oven set in the island within convenient reach.

But their pride and joy is the media room; for it, they turned to Pyramid Audio & Video in Anchorage. “This was a very satisfying job because the homeowners described what they wanted done, gave me a budget, and let me run with it,” says Tony Leadbeter of Pyramid Audio & Video. “Creative people love that!”

The homeowners hired master carpenter Brent Dunn to craft the custom wood to house all the audio

▣ The kitchen, with its downdraft Jenn-Air range, is an open and airy space for cooking and entertaining.

▲▲ The media room, designed by Pyramid Audio & Video, comes with an invitation to relax and enjoy a great movie in grand theater style.

▲ Master craftsman Allen Veys, who is the owner/operator of the Pybus Bay Lodge in southeast Alaska, handcrafted the massive dining table especially for the homeowners. Granite and two different types of wood, mahogany and cherry, combine in the impressive design.



equipment and to finish the walls with columns and panels in the Craftsman style. From the crown molding on top to the molding on the bottom, there are no visible joints. The homeowners added Daltonian carpeting in Serengeti gold and black for the finishing touch.

That project alone took more than five months to complete, but the homeowners, along with their family and friends, are thrilled with the results and enjoy the view from those cushy seats in the media room.

Family and friends can also enjoy the new apartment that was created over the garage, which brings the total living space of this beautiful mountain retreat to 7,000 square feet.

The homeowners are clearly happy about being nearer to their beloved boat, but the real reward has been the feeling that they're at a beautiful lodge retreat year-around. "It's so comforting," they say. "The views and privacy on 2.5 acres make it so peaceful." ■

▲ The homeowners asked for the curved window above the alcove so that they might capture the views of the surrounding area. The curvature of the seating area echoes the shape of the window.

▼ Cashmere Gold granite, imported from India, graces the vanity top in the master bath.

▤ The curves on the fireplace bottom and on the detailed metal facing were designed by the homeowners.

