



Personal Touches

Kitchens by LoGrasso

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When Dan and Christy Pocke moved into their new-construction home, they purposely left the basement unfinished — a blank slate for Ron LoGrasso of Kitchens by LoGrasso to complete. “Ron has worked with us for years, remodeling so much of our former home that he may as well have built it,” Dan says. “We trust him completely.”

Their vision for the basement included an entertainment area, plenty of storage, an office for Dan and a sewing room for Christy. The challenge was to make it a seamless extension of the upstairs — to the extent that the door would be removed and the wide stairwell accessible and visible like any other level of the home. Christy says they wanted an area where family and friends can play games, a bar area for easy entertaining, plus a bathroom. “It needed to have an open, friendly feeling,” she says. “And it does.”

“It’s a walk-out basement, so that makes it seem even more like an extension of the house,” says LoGrasso. “And I was able to add decorative elements throughout the upstairs and downstairs, making it flow nicely.” Some of those elements include a Tuscan-themed palette, reclaimed wood from old Bedford institutions, antiques throughout and lighted display cases for decades of memorabilia of Dan having served as the mayor of Bedford for 14 years.

The Pockes add that the basement also has

clever storage and useful little spaces tucked in unexpected places. “Not only do I have built-in cabinets in my office, which hold so much, I also have a perfectly sized private area for my hobby — model building,” shares Dan. He says LoGrasso created a nook under the stairs for a 2-foot-by-2-foot workshop — just the right size to create and also to store materials. LoGrasso also tucked a “blue moon” closet under the stairs — for things you only use once in a blue moon.

The office is Dan’s favorite part of the project while the sewing room is Christy’s. Dan’s office is large with plenty of storage, and the sewing room is private, but not too closed off. It has a nice, large window for a view of the outdoors, plus an opening in the wall adjacent to the entertainment area, so Christy is not too isolated. When company comes, the Pockes simply hang a picture over the opening to hide projects in progress. Pocket doors throughout the basement contribute to the open feeling, and the walkout includes a covered porch where even the rainiest of days can be enjoyed. “We spend a lot of time down here,” Christy says. “Once people come down, they don’t go back up.”

In addition to LoGrasso’s work, tour visitors will be able to speak with experts from Ohio State Waterproofing about foundations and waterproofing. They will provide tips for fixing problems, especially with all the rain Northeast Ohio has received so far this year. — KF

Nuts and Bolts

● **HOME ADDRESS:**
6985 Walton Road,
Walton Hills

● **CONTRACTOR INFORMATION:**
Kitchens by LoGrasso,
24300 Solon Road,
Bedford Heights,
440-232-2366,
kitchensbylograsso.com

● **SUPPORTING SPONSOR:**
Ohio State Waterproofing,
365 E. Highland Road,
Macedonia,
330-467-1055,
ohiostatewaterproofing.com

● **PROJECT FOCUS:**
Basement Remodel



BEFORE: RON LOGRASSO; AFTERS: FRANKIE PRIJATEL