

SANTA BARBARA NEWS-PRESS



Business News

JUNE 25, 2003

CONTRACTOR'S CORNER



STEVE MALONE / NEWS-PRESS PHOTOS

Richard Fortune, left, and Graeme Reid work on the master bathroom of a new home at 610 Cima Vista Lane. The glass doors provide ocean and harbor views.

Builders beat a deadline

By MARIA ZATE
NEWS-PRESS STAFF WRITER

General contractors Giffin & Crane of Santa Barbara are putting the finishing touches on a \$15.6 million showcase house in Montecito, which will be featured in Traditional Home magazine as one of America's most luxurious weekend residences.

The builders had the challenge of completing the 8,000-square-foot home, plus a separate guest house, two garages and a structure to function as a type of "gardener's headquarters," in less than 365 days.

"Meeting the deadline was the big challenge," said Bruce Giffin, who co-owns Giffin & Crane with Geoff Crane. "We never had to build a house this size within that time frame before.

"There was incredible cooperation between the trades and the local subcontractors to get this project finished to meet that deadline," Mr. Giffin said.

He said more than 300 construction professionals worked on the project. All subcontractors were based on the South Coast.

Groundbreaking on the three-story house began on Jan. 15, and interior decorators will begin their work on Jan. 1, 2004.

Located at 610 Cima Vista Lane, the home will be featured in a Traditional Home spotlight called "Weekend Living at Montecito."

The house will be open to the public from Feb. 24 to March 14. Ticket sales from the event and a gala opening party will benefit the nonprofit CALM (Child Abuse and Listening Mediation), in Santa Barbara.

Giffin & Crane was chosen from among 10 general contractors on the South Coast to lead construction of the project. Architecture firm



Harrison Design Associates, based in Atlanta, Ga., designed the house and other structures and also selected the general contractor.

The home will have four bedrooms and five full bathrooms, plus two half baths. The site is close to 11 acres and has views of the ocean and the Santa Barbara Harbor.

After the showcase public viewing in March, the house will be put up for sale with an asking price of nearly \$15.6 million. Laura Collector of Pitts & Bachmann in Montecito is the listing agent.

Reprinted with permission from the Santa Barbara News-Press.