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### **PARADE OF HOMES It's more than just any old garage Move the cars, sweep a little, pull down the screens and party**

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Presto, chango — first it's a **garage**, then it's a party room. This double-duty three-car **garage**, featured at "The Retreat," a show home at the 2006 Metropolitan **Builders** Association Parade of Homes, is a drive-through with full **garage** doors at opposite ends. With an easy-to-clean, beveled floor and pull-down screens, it's quick to switch from car-parking to crowd-milling.

"It's a flex space. Dual purpose is the trend in smaller ranches," explained **Craig** Rakowski, president of **James Craig Builders**, which built the home in Mequon's Cobblestone Woods subdivision. Rakowski said he turned the **garage** sideways to the house and used paver stones and landscaping on the semi-circular driveway to provide more privacy and to better blend it with the adjoining house. Its design appeals to people who don't want a curbside view of their driveway and who don't like backing out of their parking space, he said.

"The Retreat" sold before the Aug. 19 through Sept. 10 show even opened, for "nearly \$1 million," Rakowski reported.

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