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WIDE OPEN SPACES

A 1995-BUILT HOME IS OPENED UP TO ACCOMMODATE FAMILY-CENTERED LIVING

BY KARA ISHAM

When Randal and Donna Estes built their home in 1995, they stuck mostly to the standard plan for the times. But, over the years, they found themselves wishing for more of an open design with extra space – plus, a clean, productive layout. They considered building again, but instead opted to see if they could get what they wanted by making a few changes to their existing home.

“Primarily, we wanted to open up the kitchen and add an island,” Donna said. “But we also wanted to make sure that we opened up the interior of the house so that if one of us was in the kitchen and the other in the living room, we could still carry on a conversation.” The couple wanted a space where their entire family could gather for holidays and special family celebrations.

The Estes family partnered with Tim Jackson of Jackson Construction and Design and Andi Stephens of Kitchen Distributors to accomplish their goals. Andi said the design



called for a clean, crisp and open space with the island as a centerpiece. As part of the project, walls were removed in order to open the dining room up to the living room and kitchen. The dining room now doubles as a breakfast room, and the island provides additional seating. The hallway leading to the master bedroom was also removed so the new kitchen could have additional space.

“I think that opening up all of the rooms really helps with the flow of the house,” Andi said. “It is amazing how much larger a space can be when you just move things around.”

Donna said she took an active part in the choice of materials and colors used in the remodel. “I am creative by heart, so I love putting things together and ending up with a very eclectic, warm style,” she said. “My career has allowed me to travel around the world, and most of the color palette came from a pillow covering brought back from India.”

The project began by selecting the cabinets and they chose the beautiful distressed antique-white cabinets and the distressed slate color island, all with a very clean style that included simple recessed doors and antique silver handles and pulls. They also chose the new appliances, including a refrigerator with armoire styling, 36-inch built-in clean design cooktop, Avantium microwave, convection and baking ovens and a dishwasher.

The kitchen is now large enough for two sinks, each with its own unique style. The large sink is a fireclay bisque farmhouse sink and the prep sink is a stunning Cobo in Alegre hammered stainless steel. The pull-down faucet features a distinctive, nature-inspired silhouette.

The kitchen also features granite tile from Brazil, natural travertine flooring and a simple subway tiled backsplash.

"We are really happy with the outcome (of the project), and so thankful for the amazing folks that we worked with," Donna said.

HOME PROS USED

Kitchen Designer: Andi Stephens,
Kitchen Distributors
Contractor: Tim Jackson, **Jackson Construction and Design**
Countertops and Flooring: Joanna McCusker, **New Century Counter Tops & Tile**
Plumbing: **Allied Plumbing & Drain Service**
Fixtures: **Anderson Electric and Plumbing Supply**
Lighting: **Lighting Emporium**
Electrician: **Mike Rowe Electric**

THE ROCK HOUSE

A DILAPIDATED OLD HOME GETS COMPLETELY MODERNIZED WITHOUT LOSING ITS CHARACTER

BY KARA ISHAM



Local architect Michael Bauer enjoys creating spaces that are functional but that also have a certain aesthetic appeal for the people within them. A memorable project that reflected these goals was the complete remodel of an abandoned 1913 farmhouse in Springdale. Anyone who drives by this home, appropriately nicknamed "The Rock House" by those familiar with its transformation, can see from its remodeled exterior what the fuss is all about.

Bauer was first approached about the home, which is located off of Highway 412 near the Naturals stadium, in May 2004. The owners wanted the home to be improved, modernized and turned for a profit.

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