

# This adventure takes a village

By J. Stapleton Burch

**A**S THE ADVENTURE of Design Home 2013 continues, builders Rich and Stacey Rendon of Infiniti Custom Homes orchestrate the various components that must come together to transform a blueprint into a solidly built custom home. Selecting only the best, they work with a trusted cadre of professionals to bring their vision to life. And when Stacey envisions a kitchen, she thinks of everything.

"The kitchen is the heart of a home and it's so important to make it as warm and welcoming as it is functional," Stacey noted.

To warm things up in the "Heartsworth," she chose a rich, dark hardwood floor in the "pier" color from Rockford Flooring. "The six-inch wide planks have a wire-brushed, natural oil-rubbed finish that contains little to no VOC," described Brian Tobey, Rockford Flooring sales consultant. "The wire brushing process not only enhances the grain of the wood, but also hardens the surface, making it much more durable and creating a very distinct look."

Adding to that distinction is the beautiful custom designed kitchen cabinetry from Woodways Custom, whose sales and design consultant, Jessica Fitnich, worked with Stacey to bring a feeling of hominess to the space. The "Heartsworth kitchen is extraordinary in size," Fitnich reported. "With such a large-scale kitchen, it's easy to feel either overwhelmed or have designs that come off cold and lifeless. To

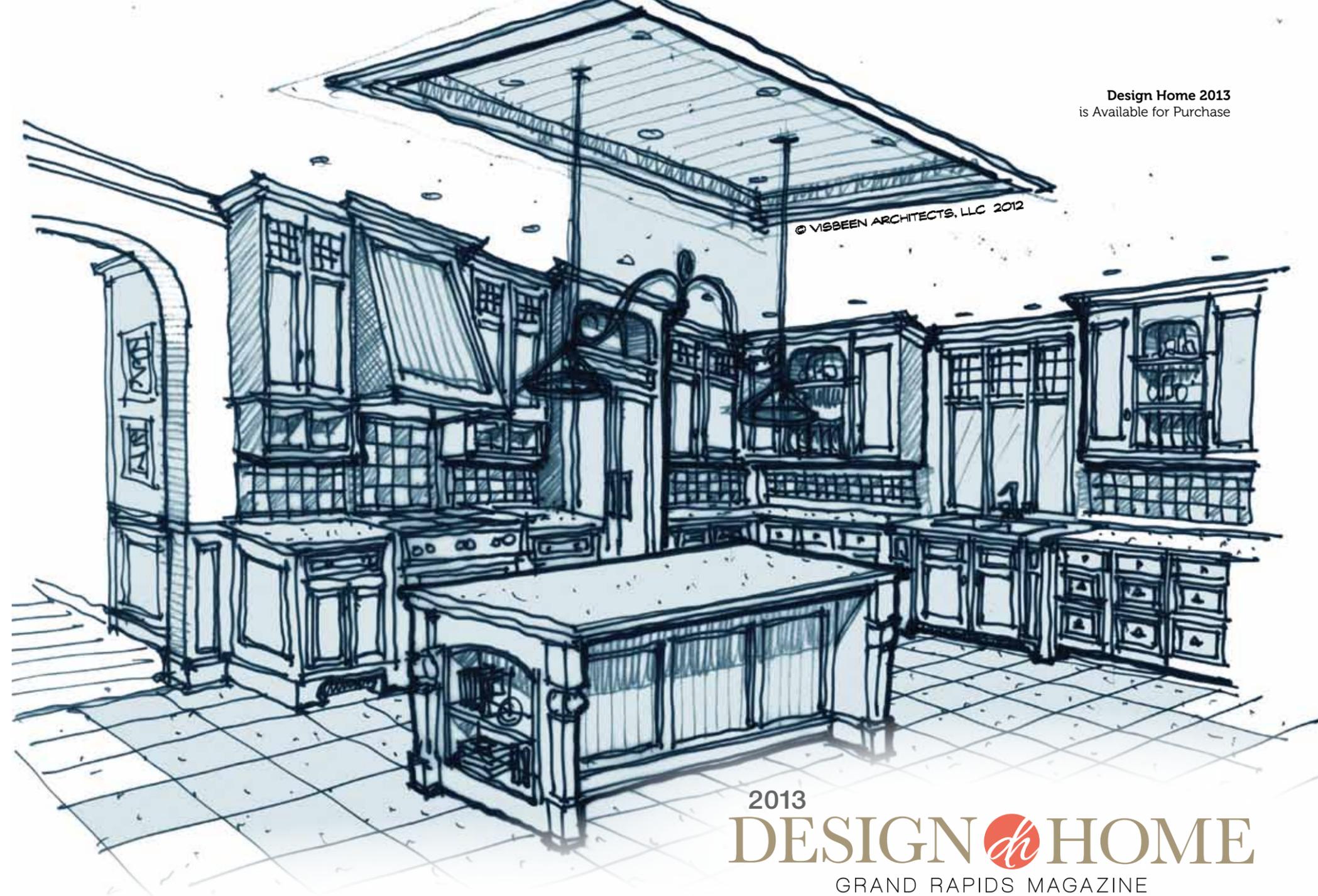
avoid this, we aimed for a traditional style overall, and implemented modern touches throughout the space to give it that warm, inviting feel with a well-balanced design."

The kitchen's creamy, warm-glazed silk cabinetry really brightens up the space, and the ceiling treatment with its V-groove accents, which are also incorporated into the design of the cabinetry, lends a casual element. "Stacey is so much fun to work with because she is open to new ideas and very in-tune with current trends and designs," Fitnich added.

The look really comes together with the unique granite chosen for the countertop and island surfaces from Top of the World Granite. It has a marble-like appearance with veins of chocolate and flecks of gold, which makes the perfect companion for the fixtures and faucets Stacey located at Richards Plumbing with the help of sales and design consultant, Mary Cripe.

"We chose Kohler fixtures and faucets, which are well known for their high caliber quality and more unique design options," Cripe reported. "We also selected an apron sink in a deep, rich color that looks gorgeous with the new style granite. It's a single, extra large bowl, which looks great in an oil-rubbed bronze finish."

Stacey believes in supporting local businesses and relies on the family-owned and operated Gerrit's Appliance when selecting home appliances. According to third-generation co-owner, Curt Geers,



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Stacey chose top-of-the-line appliances to complete the kitchen. "She selected a built-in style, 42-inch wide, side-by-side Sub Zero refrigerator with a panel front that sits flush and blends in with the cabinetry," he said, adding that the same custom cabinet treatment will be given to the Swedish-made Asko dishwasher. "The kitchen will also feature profession-

al-grade Wolf cooking products," Geers continued. "The range has extra burners, and the Wolf microwave is a unique style, below-counter built-in that springs open like a drawer with the push of a button."

Other key furniture elements from Woodways Custom include an integrated display hutch for dish storage, valance toe kicks, and large-scale decorative legs in-

corporated into the design of the oversized island that not only provides plenty of workspace, but also serves as a magnetic gathering spot for casual family meals and for entertaining friends. "The kitchen is open to the adjacent hearth room, which brings a feeling of coziness to the space, while at the same time providing plenty of room to accommodate many guests,"

Stacey concluded. And with its expansive views of the beautiful nature preserve out back, the outdoor kitchen just steps away from the dining room — complete with its own Sub Zero refrigerator and a great Wolf grill — this spectacular kitchen will be the envy of everyone.

**DESIGN HOME 2013 PARTNERS:** Belden Brick & Supply, Eikenhout, Engineered Protection Systems, Gerrit's Appliance, Infiniti Custom Homes, Klingman's Furniture, Modern Hardware, Overhead Door Company of Grand Rapids, Richards Kitchen and Bath Showroom, Rockford Floor Covering, Top of the World Granite, Visbeen Architects, Wahlfield Drilling Co., Woodways Custom Cabinets

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