

An impressive landscape

for a magnificent home

By J. Stapleton Burch



NOW THAT OUR Design Home adventure is in the final stretch, the outdoor work is underway. According to builder Stacey Rendon, who owns Infiniti Custom Homes with husband Rich, the meticulous landscaping of the Skyevale property has been entrusted to Wade Vugteveen, co-owner of DeHamer Brothers Garden Center.

"Whenever you work with a great Visbeen design like 'The Heartsworth' home, it's all about making the plants highlight the unique features of the design," Vugteveen explained of the process. "Infiniti always does a great job building these houses, which makes our job very easy because its distinct design sets it up nicely for a really unique landscape. We're excited to be involved in the project." Vugteveen so enjoys the Visbeen-Infiniti collaboration that he temporarily hangs up his "owner's" hat to get involved hands-on.

"This is not work to me," he noted with a smile. "This is fun. When working with Infiniti on a Visbeen design, my job is just to accent the great work they are doing and bring focus to its beauty."

Besides the color of the home, one of the special design features Vugteveen has taken into consideration is the impressive stonework of the home's façade. He and Stacey worked together to select the trees, bushes, flowers and plants that would best enhance the stone's special characteristics. According to Heather James of Belden Brick & Supply, the initial color and stone scheme has since been reconsidered in order to provide a more harmonious flow from the outside, in. "We are really excited to bring a natural product to the outside of this house," she said. "We have chosen a mix of Sherwood and Willington from Rolling Rock. It is real stone rather than an engineered product

and it has lots of great variances in color. Its earthy tones of browns, grays and charcoal are so right to carry through to the warm colors used on the inside of this home."

"It's a brand new product that is a natural thin stone veneer with an inch or so of face cut off to reveal its rich colors. It's the real deal," added mason contractor Aaron Baeder of Ophoff Masonry, responsible for all of the installation and mason work on the home's exterior. "There are also some earthy rust colors and quartz stone adding a little bit of shine from flecks of mica." In the backyard, it will also be veneered to the stone-surround of the outdoor kitchen with its built-in barbecue.

A spectacular outdoor living space is another hallmark of the homes built by Infiniti Custom Homes. "We really wanted to add something special in the backyard to take advantage of the great views this

property offers," Stacey explained. "The buyer of this home will have an outdoor living space as beautiful as the home itself, complete with a fully functioning kitchen, expansive patio and fireplace." Top quality, outdoor-grade appliances from Gerrit's Appliance will complete the kitchen suite, with David Israels and our friends at Klingman's adding the final touches of comfort to the patio with a selection of coordinating furnishings to complete this inviting outdoor haven.

Don't miss the upcoming big reveal of The Heartsworth. This exciting charity gala on August 22nd will include food, wine, live music, an auction and of course, bragging rights that you were among the first to enjoy the environs of this magical home. Best of all, proceeds will benefit our friends at Bethany Christian Services. Visit 2013designhome.eventbrite.com for event details.

2013 DESIGN HOME GRAND RAPIDS MAGAZINE

you are invited

Limited tickets are available for purchase via 2013designhome.eventbrite.com

to attend the exclusive cocktail reception and tour at Grand Rapids Magazine's 2013 Design Home to benefit Bethany Christian Services.

Singer/Songwriter/Musician and Kalamazoo native **Brian Vander Ark** will be performing live for this Design Home Event. (His smash hit "The Freshmen" sold over 3 million albums for his band, The Verve Pipe.)



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