

House Proud

Richard Alexander is the epitome of a hands on builder

By Cindy Hodnett

HOMEPLACE WRITER

Less than five minutes after the interview for his Spring Festival Builder profile, Richard Alexander is helping his subcontractors remove construction trash from a gorgeous two-story traditional in Lewisville's Montrachet neighborhood. The home is Alexander's entry for the 2008 Spring Festival, and the meticulous builder is doing what he always does when completing a project---making sure that everything is exactly as it should be long before the first visitor walks through the front door.

"My emphasis with any home I build is on customer service," Alexander said. "On the front end, I enjoy doing the design and estimate, and trying to give the customer what they want for what they want to pay. And throughout the process, I am involved at every stage of construction. I am a low-volume builder, and my goal is to build five to seven houses each year and do them very well."

Anderson's Spring Festival entry in Montrachet is a dream home for busy families. Convenient to the shopping and restaurants of Lewisville, the neighborhood manages to maintain a nice rural feel,



Photo by Cindy Hodnett

With a construction-science degree from Clemson University, Richard Alexander has worked in construction since graduation and has owned his own business for more than three years. He believes his Spring Festival entry in Lewisville's Montrachet neighborhood is an ideal family home with its conveniences to shopping and restaurants, rural feel, and spacious lot.

and the spacious home sites provide plenty of outdoor living opportunities.

"Lewisville is such a popular area, and Montrachet is a great neighborhood," Alexander said. "This most particular lot is almost an acre, so it gives you a lot of privacy along with a nice yard. That's hard to find in this area.

Inside, there are several features that are worthy of inclusion in design magazines, including a kitchen that opens to a cozy keeping room with a fireplace. There's no doubt that this space will be the sight of many happy gatherings in the near future, and any parent who has longed for a comfortable

household hub will enjoy the open and airy configuration.

Another feature that will prompt "oohs" and "aahs" during the Spring Festival is the mudroom. A large built-in provides hanging space for jackets, cubbies for muddy shoes, and ample nooks for book bags and sport equipment.

The main-level master bedroom opens to the study, and ample windows flood the room with natural light. His-and-hers closets divvy up clothing storage space and double vanities in the master bath keep morning routines manageable. Also on the main level, a three-car garage provides parking space for mom, dad, and junior or a guest.

Upstairs, three additional bedrooms offer generous space for the kids, and each is anchored by the open study area, an important design element for parents who want to keep an eye on Computer activities. One of the bedrooms also includes a feature that will be remembered by the household's residents for many years---a secret storage room accessed by a built-in --bookcase.

In the basement, a fifth bedroom can be used as an exercise room or additional home office, and the playroom can be adapted to any number of uses. Whether used by visiting guest or teenagers,

this part of the home can be private retreat from the rest of the household activities.

A Clemson University graduate with a construction science degree, Alexander said that he thinks that the home is an ideal family home. He said that he will be at the Montrachet house on all four days of the Spring Festival, and he encourages people to ask questions about the home and his company.

"I've been in construction ever since I graduated, and I've owned my own business for three and a half years," Alexander said. "I'm really proud of this house, and I'd love to talk to folks when they stop by."