



**A FAMILY**

# *affairs*

By Anne Marie Ashley



WHEN THE SPIVAK FAMILY CAME TO designer Donna Davis of Design Works, they were ready for an overhaul of their long-lived-in Cary residence. Looking for a fresh update and a more open feel, they worked closely with Donna to create a space they could love for more years to come.

Teaming up with Desi McAlister of Kitchen and Bath Galleries in Raleigh, Donna came up with a plan that coordinated well with the construction process down to the new furnishings. “I was able to pull the spaces together through finish selections, colors and furnishings,” adds Donna. The goal of the home update was to use some of their current items, while adding new furnishings that worked together to bring style and individuality to the overall look. “The rule of thumb was to keep it unique as well as personal,” explains Donna. “The grey and gold color scheme was part of the freshen up and really completes the look.” Donna was able to happily combine the traditional and





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contemporary styles that split the Spivak family down the middle into an overall transitional appeal that spoke to everyone. Her favorite example is the piano room. “We created an entirely new look by recovering an existing sofa, adding art and a great rug, new window treatments and extra seating.”

After about five months of design and renovation, the Spivaks were ready to move back into their functional and sophisticated space, which made it feel like a whole new home. “Listening carefully to the client is what helps me create a home that they love and that reflects their style,” says Donna. She adds that function, good scale and great color are key tools to the best design projects. “Start with something you love and be open to adding some unexpected pieces.” ❖