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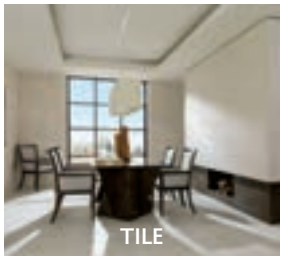

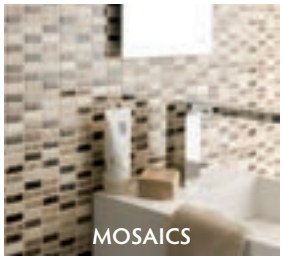

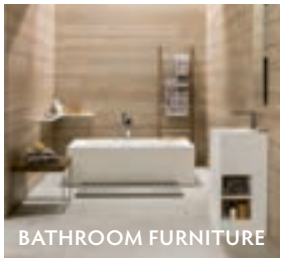

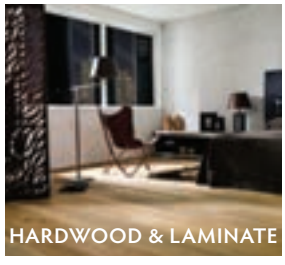

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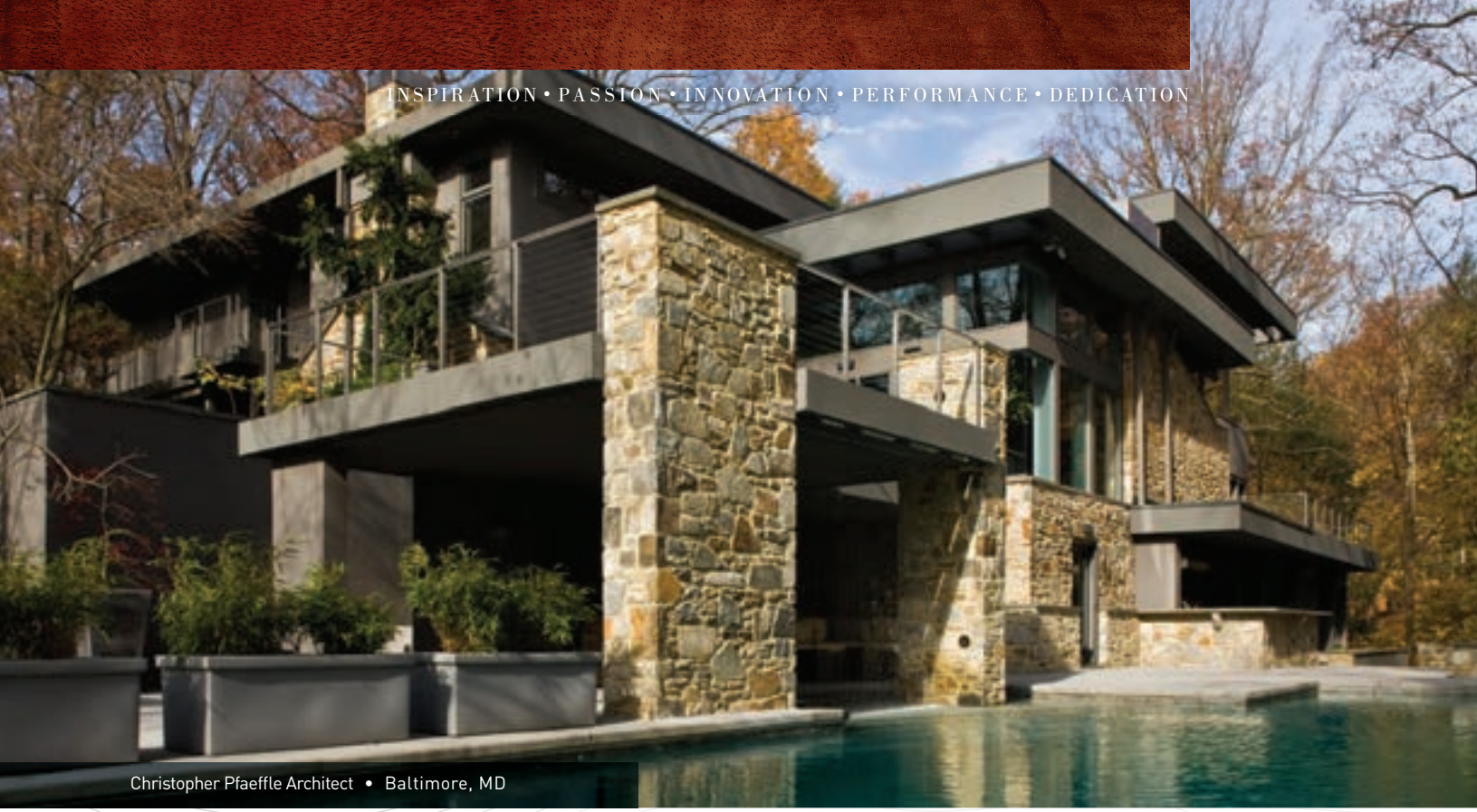

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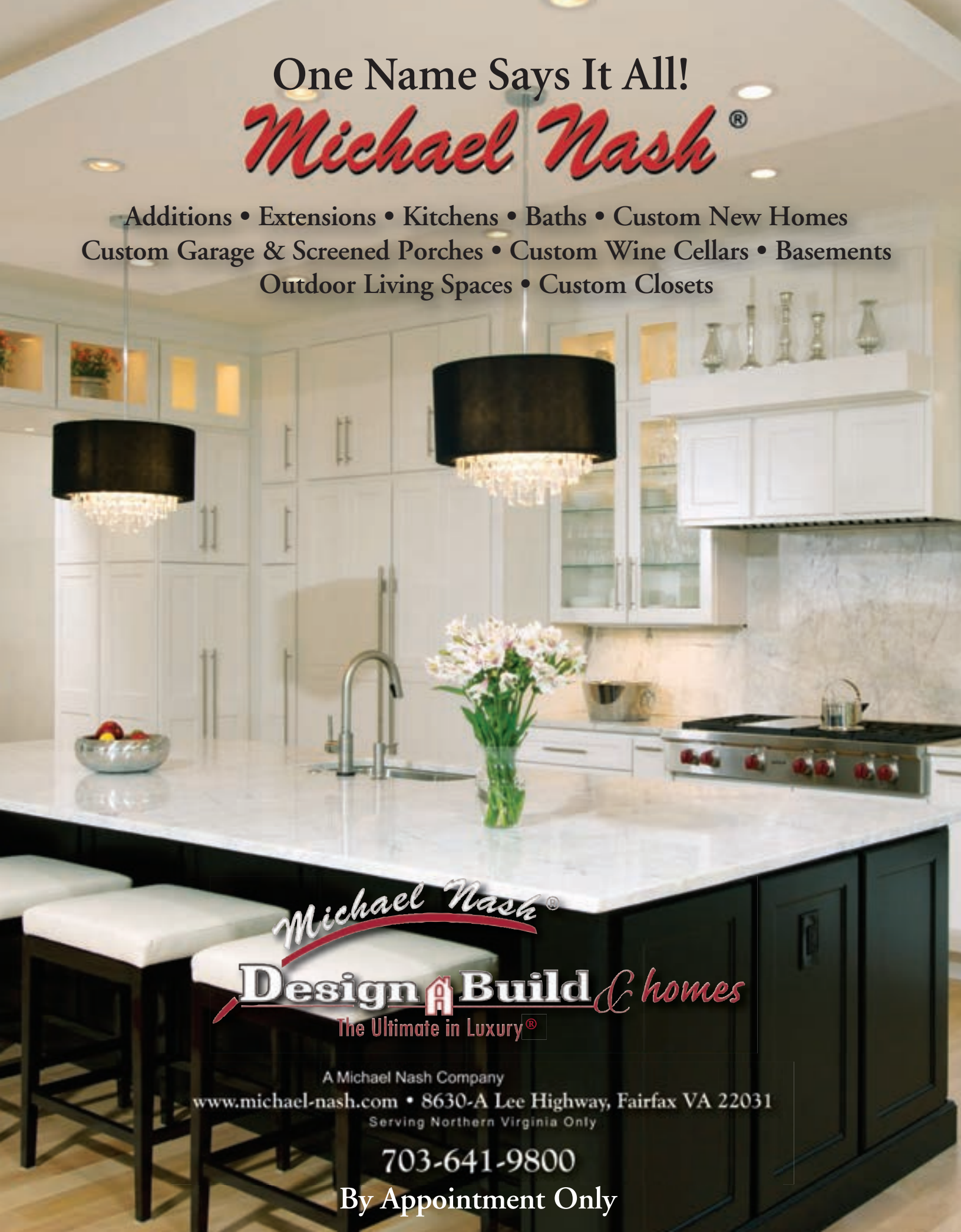
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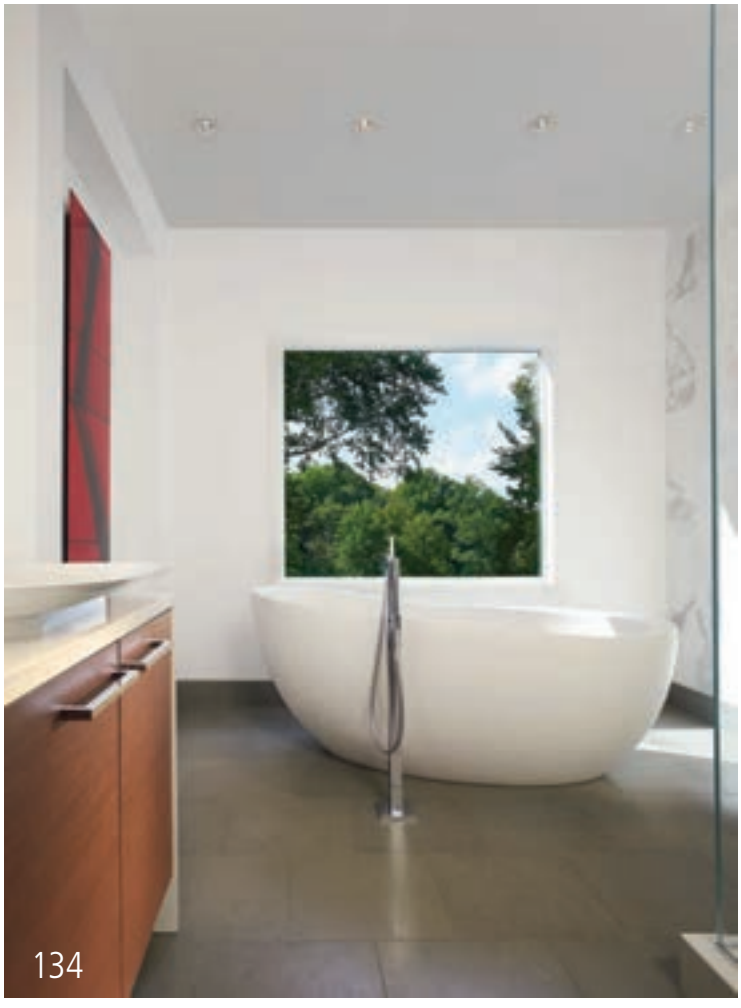

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ON THE COVER:
A new custom home by Christian Zapatka reveals breathtaking river views. Photo © Gordon Beall.

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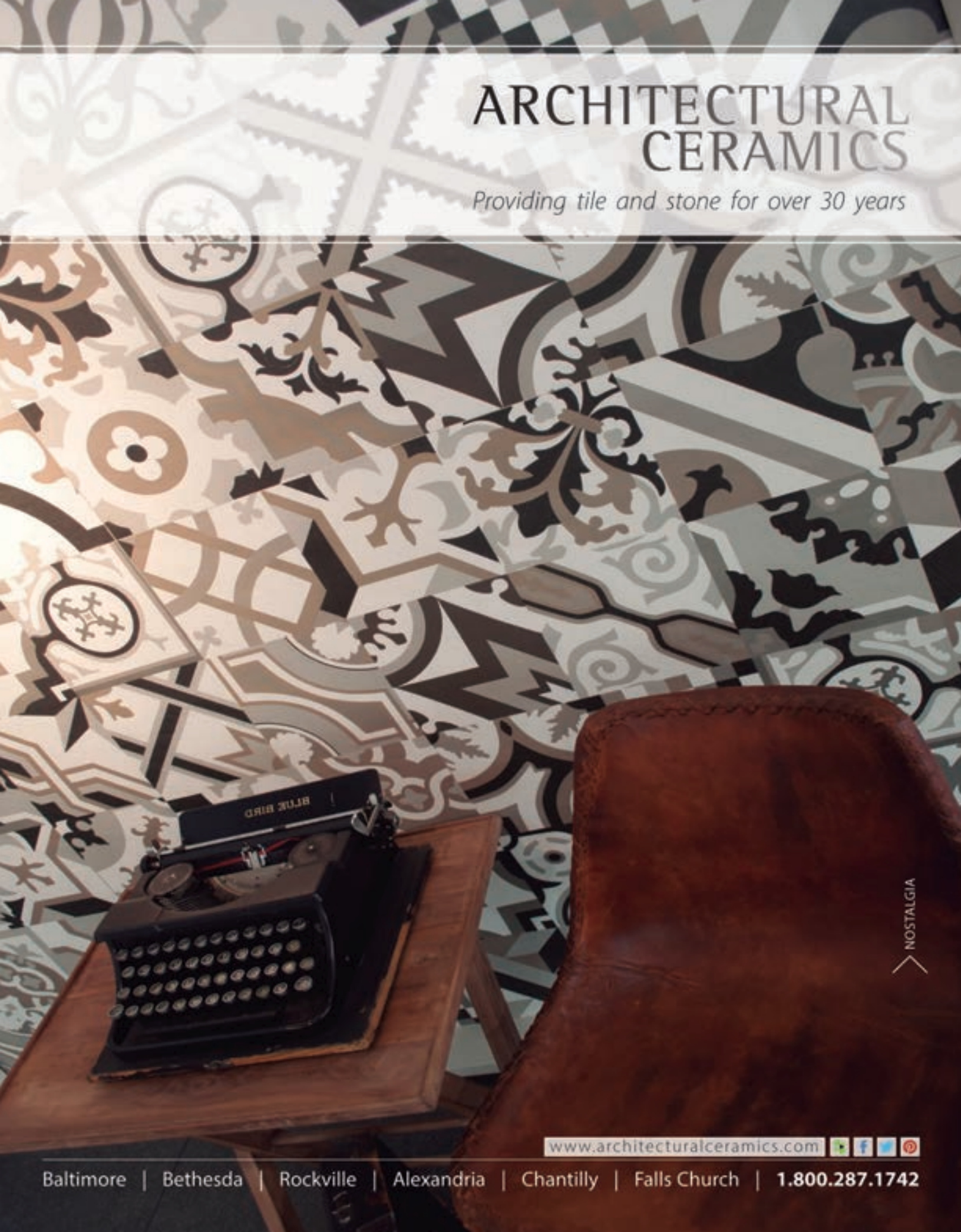

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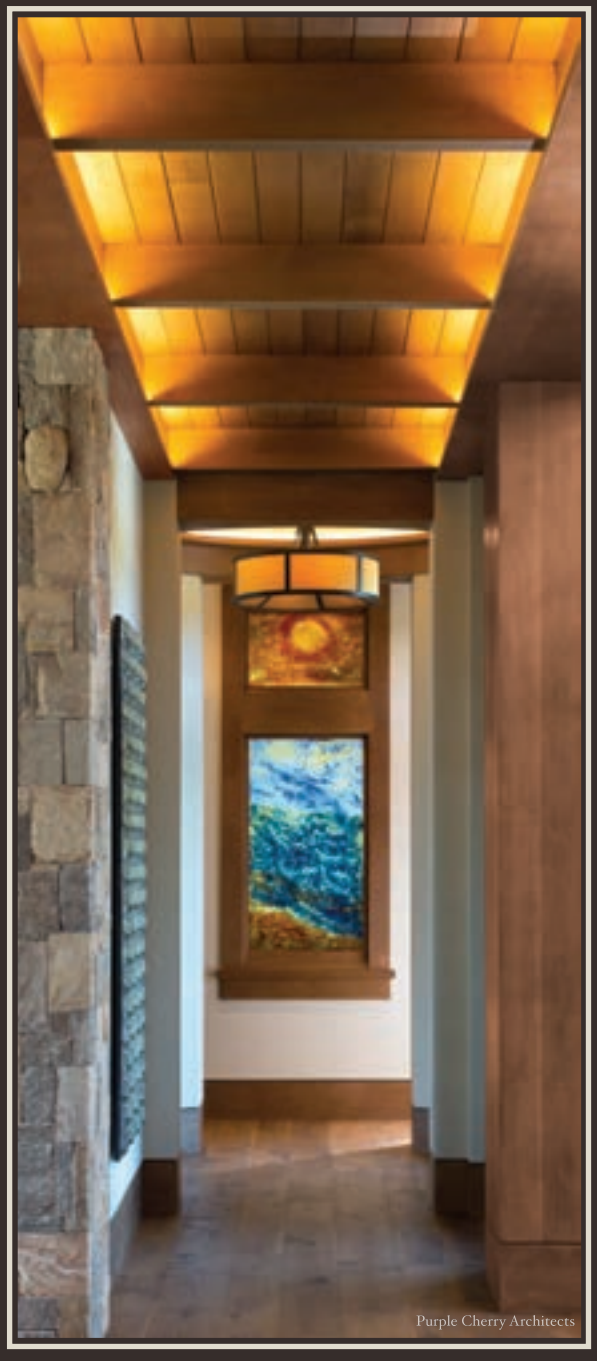

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EDITOR'S MESSAGE

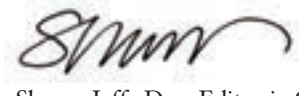
Every writer, myself included, has been caught staring at a blank page (or computer screen), waiting for a story to take shape. So I can only imagine the pressure an architect feels when conjuring an entire building from thin air. Creating a home that will express a client's aesthetic and serve as shelter, refuge, playground and window to the outside world is quite a responsibility.

The architects whose projects are featured in this issue all had the good fortune to work on remarkable sites, where playing up the drama of a forested gorge or river view or the splendor of a rolling mountain range demanded extra attention and care. On page 124, "Out on a Limb" details the most daunting of these sites: a steep ridge overlooking the Occoquan Reservoir where architect Mark Kohler decided to build a timber-frame home for his family. Undeterred by sheer drop-offs, Mark master-minded a sustainable home that celebrates its surroundings in every season.

In "Sun Catcher" on page 116, Ankie Barnes and Matthew Fiehn of Barnes Vanze Architects solved a number of complex dilemmas while designing Harry and Rachel Weller's new home. Despite a compact, narrow site, Ankie and Matthew were able to create the openness, the nurturing spaces—and the lofty Potomac River views—their clients were after.

"I'm sure we don't know the vast underbelly of work that went into it, and the degree to which we were led to believe something was our idea when it was really theirs," reflects Rachel Weller on the experience. "They gently guided us away from massive mistakes and we had someone thinking for us about the most minute details."

Once an architect's plans are built, it's easy to overlook the hours of thought and dialogue devoted to these small details. But as you'll see in the homes we feature in this issue, details have an immeasurable impact on how a space affects us. While the end result makes the whole process look easy, I hope you'll find the complex back stories of these homes as fascinating as I do.



Sharon Jaffe Dan, Editor in Chief
sdan@homeanddesign.com

PHOTOS © GREG HADLEY

Designed for all seasons: A wintry landscape reveals the steep drop-offs surrounding Mark Kohler's new home (top). The side porch (center, during the summer) overlooks the Occoquan Reservoir (above), photographed in fall.

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LUSH + EXUBERANT

A National Building Museum exhibit spotlights local landscape visionaries

The legacy of Oehme and van Sweden (inset, left to right) includes (clockwise from top) the Francis Scott Key Memorial in Washington; a Baltimore residence; and DC's World War II Memorial.

Opening on October 17 at the National Building Museum, an exhibit titled "The New American Garden" will highlight the work of Wolfgang Oehme (1930-2011) and James van Sweden (1935-2013), two pioneers of modern landscape architecture. Oehme and van Sweden transformed the industry by rejecting the traditional, overly manicured gardens of the 20th century in favor of natural, sustainable alternatives using broad swaths of low-maintenance perennials and ornamental plants.

"Oehme and van Sweden revolutionized the principles and techniques that underpin the creation of lush, exuberant landscapes," said Charles Birnbaum, founder and president of The Cultural Landscape Foundation, which partnered with the museum in mounting the exhibit. "They ushered in a design vocabulary that relied on the skillful integration and juxtaposition of form, color, texture, massing and scale of plant materials to provide a landscape narrative that was dynamic and responsive to all four seasons."

The partners founded Oehme van Sweden and Associates in Washington, DC, in 1977, and the firm continues to design award-winning gardens across the country. Among its credits are the Federal Reserve Bank in DC, the New York Botanical Garden and the landscapes of embassies, universities and private residences, including Oprah Winfrey's country estate in Indiana.

The exhibit will contain extensive photographs of Oehme and van Sweden's designs, along with related drawings and artifacts from their practice. Paintings and sculptures that influenced their artistic outlook will also be on display, including works by Henry Moore and others.

Considering the transient nature of the partners' legacy—at least nine of their projects no longer exist—the retrospective offers a rare glimpse into Oehme van Sweden's body of work. As Birnbaum says, "Viewers will see how each of Jim and Wolfgang's projects could be appreciated in their totality." For more information, visit nbm.org. —*Sam Milton*

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Clockwise from top, left: The three-story staircase features original millwork; a guest room boasts a four-poster bed swathed in drapes; one of Magdalena's dining rooms sports a Moroccan theme; the inviting conservatory; a view of the new courtyard.

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CHARM CITY GEM

A new boutique hotel breathes fresh life into a Craftsman-era mansion

Housed in a revived home in the Mt. Vernon district, The Ivy Hotel on East Biddle Street ushers an unprecedented level of luxury into Baltimore's hospitality scene.

The project transformed a vacant 1889 residence into an 18-room boutique hotel. Two Baltimore firms—Ziger/Snead Architects and Azola Companies—tackled the architecture and construction, respectively, while San Francisco-based Joszi Meskan designed the interiors.

The overhaul respects the building's architectural legacy. "It was exciting for us to work on a project that's emblematic of the lifestyle that existed in Mt. Vernon from the mid-1800s," says architect Jamie Snead.

In her eclectic design of the public spaces, Meskan imagined residents who have spent years traveling to exotic locales and collecting furniture and art on every adventure.

Today, The Ivy lavishes guests with champagne on arrival, afternoon tea and private car service. All guest rooms boast four-poster beds, gas fireplaces and luxe bathrooms with heated limestone floors. "Each room," says Meskan, "is colorful, unique and filled with joy."

Meanwhile, chef Mark Levy, most recently of The Point in the Adirondacks, is creating joys of his own in the hotel's Magdalena restaurant. Room rates start at $475. For more information, call 410-514-6500 or visit theivybaltimore.com. —*Sharon Jaffe Dan*

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The Potomac Country House Tour will offer inside looks at philanthropist Annie Totah's estate (below) and a carriage house (left) featuring a holiday boutique.

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FALL HOUSE TOURS

Spectacular homes open their doors to the public

WASHINGTON, DC

■ **Bloomingdale Civic Association 2015 House Tour—*October 17***
Entitled "Historic, Hip and Happening," this year's tour of eight to 12 homes in the DC neighborhood of Bloomingdale will include both historical and modern designs. Most of the proceeds will be donated to the BCA Scholarship Fund; following the tour, an art show and reception will honor scholarship recipients. *bloomingdalecivicassociation.org/events/housetour/*

■ **48th Annual Dupont Circle House Tour and Tea—*October 18***
This tour of homes in Dupont Circle takes in a variety of urban residences ranging from townhouses to pied-à-terres. Tea will be offered at The Carlyle, a nearby hotel, from 2 to 5 p.m. *dupont-circle.org*

MARYLAND

■ **59th Annual Potomac Country House Tour—*October 3 to 4***
Three impressive Potomac homes are featured on this tour, which boasts a silent auction, luncheon and boutiques selling gifts and decorations. Proceeds benefit local charities. *potomaccountryhousetour.org*

VIRGINIA

■ **74th Annual Historic Alexandria Homes Tour—*September 26***
Highlights of this Alexandria tour include residences that were built in the 17th and 18th centuries—several of which were originally owned by freed slaves. Also in the mix: remodeled historic homes with innovative interior designs. *thetwig.org/homes-tour*

■ **14th Annual Reston Home Tour—*October 17***
Six Reston-area homes will open their doors to visitors; on view will be several dramatic renovations and a luxury apartment. The tour is sponsored by the Reston Historic Trust. *restonmuseum.org* ❖ —*S. M.*

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I have studied the way we relate to design for over thirty years. Similar to language, design shapes our existence. I am equally interested in the design of a city, the composition of a building, the structure of a chair, the shape of a garment, as I am in a perfectly crafted sentence.

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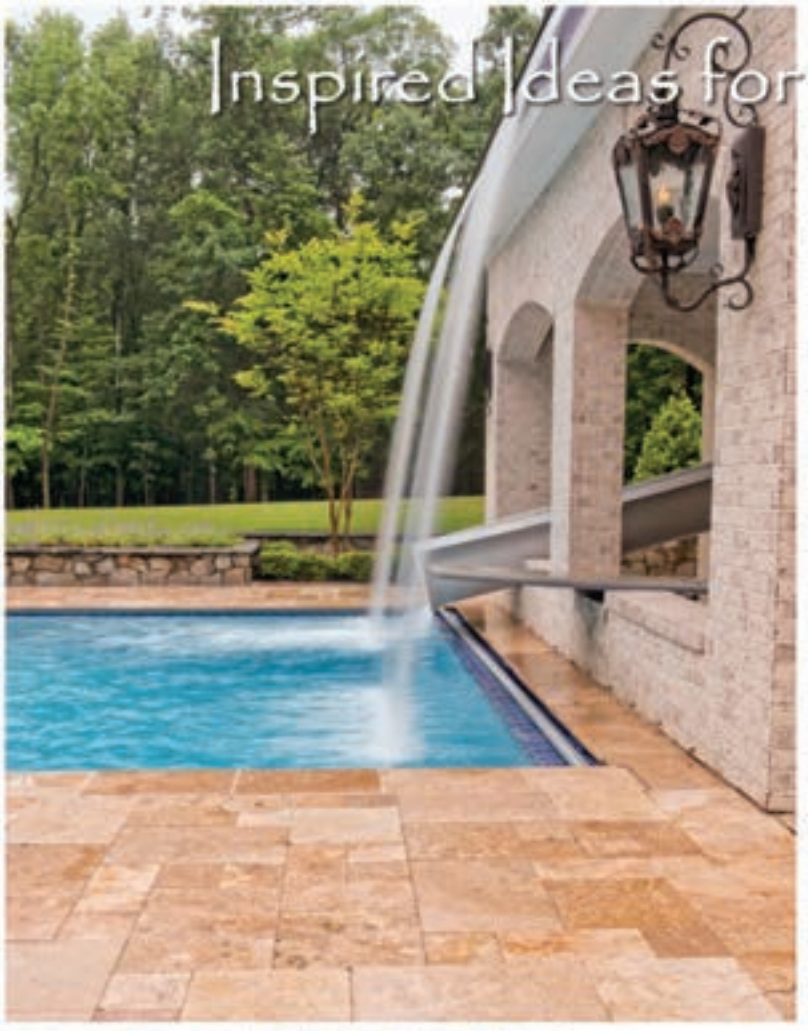
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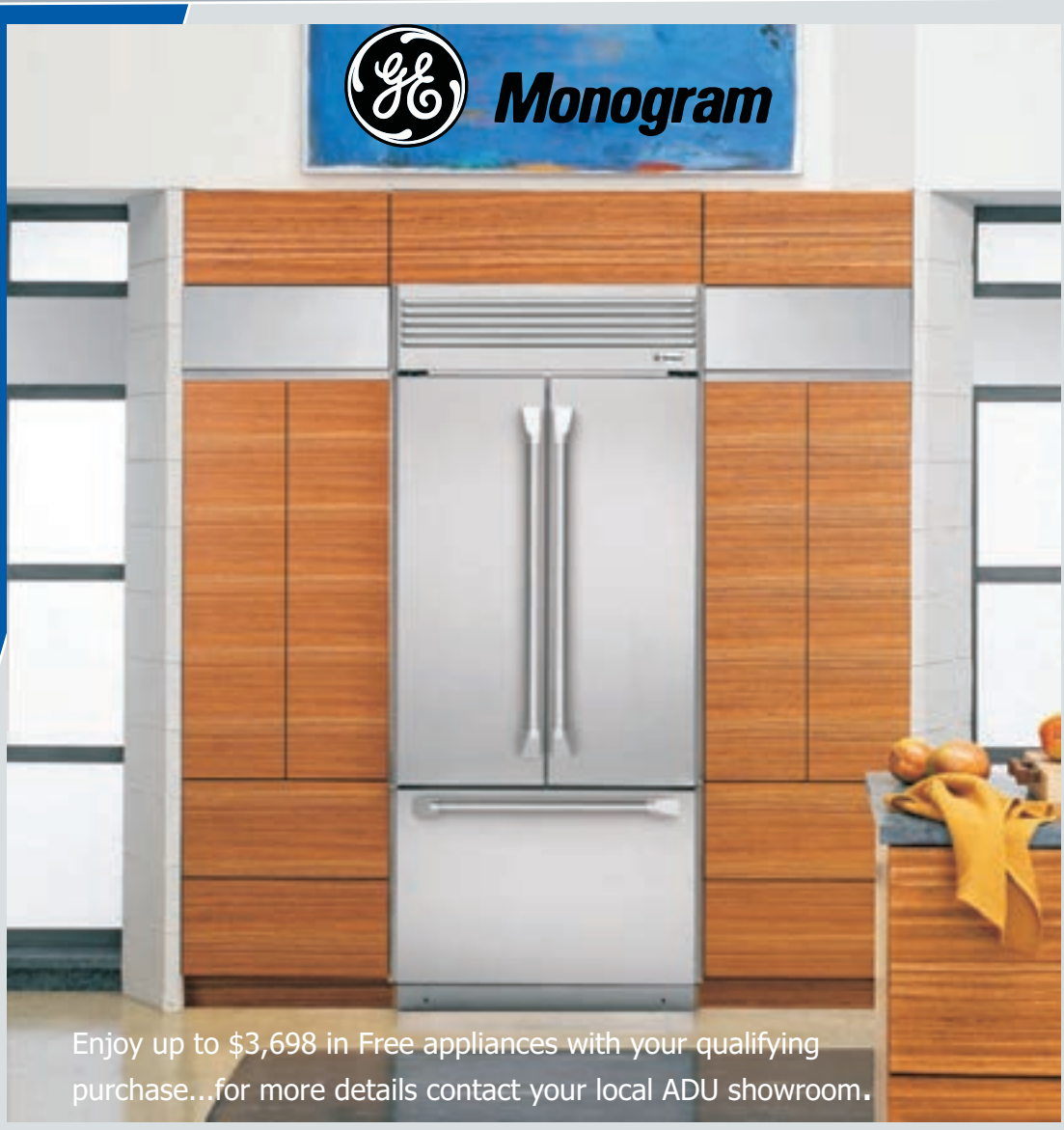

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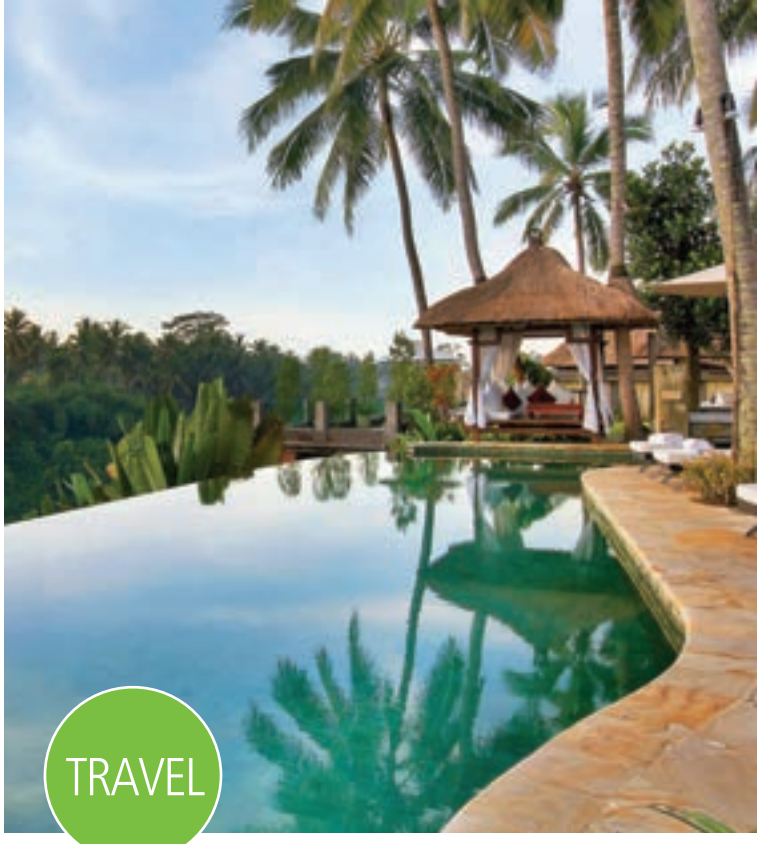

TROPICAL TREAT Located near the cultural mecca of Ubud, the Viceroy Bali houses guests in 25 villas (above), each with its own pool. Guests can soak in the scenery by the main pool with a swim-up bar (left), take a yoga class or enjoy a spa treatment. CasCades restaurant onsite wins accolades for its gourmet cuisine. Rates from $680; viceroybali.com

INDULGENCES

▼ **WINDY CITY** Soho House has opened its latest outpost in Chicago's West Loop district. A members' club and hotel, Soho House Chicago inhabits a renovated 1907 warehouse and includes 40 guest rooms, two restaurants, a gym, a spa and a rooftop deck (pictured), featuring a 60-foot swimming pool and views of the city skyline. From $290; sohohousechicago.com

ENGLISH COUNTRY At the Four Seasons Hotel Hampshire—set in a restored, 18th-century Georgian manor (left)—an equestrian center lets guests realize their "Downton Abbey" fantasies with jaunts around the property's 500 manicured acres (above). A spa, croquet and skeet shooting round out the offerings at this getaway an hour southwest of London. From $450 nightly. fourseasons.com

FOOD

RIVIERA STYLE

Fig & Olive, a newcomer in CityCenterDC, focuses on the coastal cuisines of Spain, Italy and France. The chain's eighth outpost features a swanky bar (right), a crostini station and a second-level dining room. Among the Mediterranean highlights: paella with black tiger shrimp, scallops and mussels (left). 202-559-5004; figandolive.com

▼FLYING SOLO

Chef Rob Weland (below), formerly of Poste, has opened his own restaurant in DC's Barracks Row. Garrison will spotlight seasonal American cuisine with an emphasis on sustainably grown ingredients. Think nettle and ricotta ravioli with chanterelles and soft herbs. 524 8th Street, SE; 202-506-2445. garrisondc.com

© SCOTT SUCHMAN

COCKTAIL HOUR

Known for its seafood-centric offerings, Washington's DC Coast also pours a mean martini, with a choice of nearly 100 vodkas. The K Street Martini (above) combines Yacht Club Vodka, white grape juice and an iced grape garnish. 1401 K Street, NW; 202-216-5988. dccoast.com

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TOYS

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Best Made's American Longbow allows archers of all abilities to develop their form without the distractions of sights, pulleys or counterweights. The bow is handmade in the U.S. with a hickory core and hand-stitched leather grip. $690 (without arrows); bestmadeco.com

LEAN & GREEN

BMW's first plug-in hybrid, the i8 combines sustainability with the aerodynamic design and robust performance of a luxury sports car. The model goes from 0 to 60 mph in 4.2 seconds, yet consumes a fuel-efficient 76 miles per gallon. Drivers can track their i8's performance on an Apple Watch (left) or mobile phone using BMW's i Remote app. $137,400; bmwusa.com

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FASHION

AUTUMN CHIC

The new CH Carolina Herrera boutique in CityCenterDC is showing off the designer's latest looks to help you step into fall in style. Pictured here: leather trousers ($2,125), a brown wool-blend coat ($1,280) and black satin sandals. ($300). 202-408-1921. carolinaherrera.com

MADE IN ITALY

At seven by nine inches, Fendi's Peekaboo Mini Python Satchel packs a lot of punch. It comes with a top handle and an adjustable shoulder strap, in blue (pictured) or red. $4,950; saksfifthavenue.com

SEA WORLD

Inspired by creatures of the deep, this black opal and diamond pendant is part of Tiffany's 2015 Blue Book Art of the Seas Collection. Price available upon request. tiffany.com —*Sharon Jaffe Dan*

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DATEBOOK

Exhibits and design events in Maryland, DC and Virginia

BY SAM MILTON

Southern Living Idea House

Through December 27
southernliving.com/2015ideahouse
Located at Bundoran Farm in CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA, this show house is full of fresh ideas. Renowned designer Bunny Williams decorated the farmhouse-style residence, which was designed by Rosney Co. Architects and built by Summit Custom Homes. It is open for tours Wednesday through Sunday.

A work by Sōtatsu at the Sackler Gallery (top); a sculpture by Henry Moore on view at the Hirshhorn Museum (above).

Esther Bubley

September 4 to January 17, 2016
nmwa.org
Sixty vintage prints are on exhibit at the NATIONAL MUSEUM OF WOMEN IN THE ARTS to honor Esther Bubley (1921-1998), an American photojournalist who brilliantly depicted the lives of ordinary Americans through her work. The photographs include subjects in locations varying from beauty pageants to pediatrician's offices, and examine many social issues prevalent in the mid-20th-century.

The Modern Pueblo Paintings of Awa Tsireh

September 4 to January 31, 2016
americanart.si.edu
The paintings of Awa Tsireh (1898-1955), an innovative and popular Pueblo artist, are on display at the SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN ART MUSEUM. Tsireh combined his native Pueblo influences with more Americanized Modernist principles, creating unique artistic expression through a rare mix of cultures.

Pulse of the Future

September 12 to October 18
american.edu/cas/katzen
Showcased at the KATZEN ART CENTER at American University, this exhibit focuses on the contrast between contemporary Chinese art of the 1980s and the next generation of Chinese artists, who seek to establish their own unprecedented style and identity.

Dark Fields of the Republic: Alexander Gardner Photographs 1859-1872

September 18 to March 13, 2016
nationalportraitgallery.org
Esteemed photographer Alexander Gardner, whose work captured the shocking brutality of the Civil War along with memorable pictures of Native Americans during post-war American expansion, is featured at THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY. The exhibit displays Gardner's most famous work: a seldom-shown "cracked plate" photograph of Lincoln, taken weeks prior to his assassination.

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DATEBOOK

China: Through the Lens of John Thomson (1868-1872)

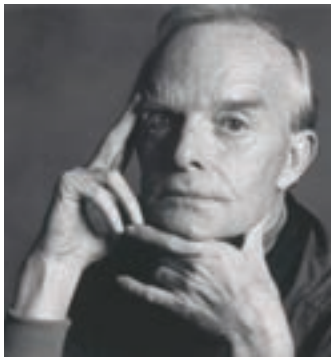
September 19 to February 14, 2016
museum.gwu.edu

This exhibit at THE TEXTILE MUSEUM at George Washington University displays the work of John Thomson, a Scottish photographer and travel writer who explored China during the second half of the 19th century. Thomson's portrayals of Chinese culture will be shown beside the museum's collection of Qing-Dynasty textiles, adding a colorful perspective to his black-and-white images.

Capital Home Show

September 25 to 27
capitalhomeshow.com

The Capital Home Show at the DULLES EXPO CENTER spotlights a wide array of home-improvement and remodeling products. Experts will be on hand to offer tips on painting, artwork, furniture installment and renovation projects.



The Serial Impulse at Gemini G.E.L.

October 4 to January 31, 2016
nga.gov

This exhibition at the NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART showcases 17 artists who, over the past five decades, have had projects featured at the prominent Los Angeles print workshop and publishing house, Gemini G.E.L. These artists—including Roy Lichtenstein, Robert Rauschenberg and Frank Stella—created multi-part series in their artwork, which became especially popular in the 1960s.

Clockwise from top: Van Gogh at The Phillips; a Chinese jacket at The Textile Museum; Southern Living's Idea House kitchen; Irving Penn's take on Capote at the American Art Museum.

Gauguin to Picasso: Masterworks from Switzerland

October 10 to January 10, 2016
phillipscollection.org

The renowned Swiss collections of Rudolf Staechelin and Karl Im Obersteg will be on view at THE PHILLIPS COLLECTION. The exhibit showcases more than 60 paintings by 22 world-renowned artists. The collections contain the works of Impressionists and Post-Impressionists, as well as artists from the School of Paris. This is the first time these collections will be seen together in the United States.

Maryland Home & Garden Show

October 16 to 18
mdhomeandgarden.com

The weekend show in TIMONIUM, MARYLAND, will provide the opportunity to meet hundreds of contractors who can offer support in remodeling and landscaping your home. Handmade crafts and gifts are also available for purchase, and several exhibitors are offering discounted show pricing.

Irving Penn: Beyond Beauty

October 23 to March 20, 2016
americanart.si.edu

Photographs from the collection of American photographer Irving Penn (1917-2009) will be showcased at the SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN ART MUSEUM. A pioneer of platinum printing,

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closetfactory.com

Penn mastered color and black-and-white photography with works defined by his signature simplicity. The 140 pictures exhibited will include iconic images, along with photos that have never before been shown in public.

Sōtatsu: Making Waves

October 24 to January 31, 2016
asia.si.edu

More than 70 pieces by Tawaraya Sōtatsu, a 17th-century Japanese abstract artist, will be featured in an exhibition at the SACKLER GALLERY. The work of Sōtatsu, who owned a fan shop in Kyoto, has garnered widespread attention over the years; the exhibit will also include pieces by later artists influenced by his work. The showcase represents the first major Sōtatsu exposition in the Western Hemisphere.

Marvelous Objects: Surrealist Sculpture from Paris to New York

October 29 to February 15, 2016
hirshhorn.si.edu

Featuring over 100 works from more than 20 European and American artists, this exhibit at the HIRSHHORN MUSEUM AND SCULPTURE GARDEN illustrates Surrealist sculpture from 1920 to 1950. Artists include Salvador Dalí, Marcel Duchamp and Alberto Giacometti.

A work by Eva Zeisel (left) at the National Museum of Women in the Arts; a painting by Thiebaud (below) at the Smithsonian American Art Museum.

Pathmakers: Women in Art, Craft and Design, Midcentury and Today

October 30 to February 28, 2016
nmwa.org

An exhibit at the NATIONAL MUSEUM OF WOMEN IN THE ARTS will examine widespread contributions from women to post-war visual culture and Modernist art through the use of craft materials. More than 80 works are featured by mid-century artists, including Ruth Asawa, Lenore Tawney and Eva Zeisel, and contemporary artists Vivian Beer and Hella Jongerius.

Crosscurrents: Modern Art from the Sam Rose and Julie Walters Collection

October 30 to April 3, 2016
americanart.si.edu

Rose and Walters' collection includes 75 Modernist paintings and sculptures, including works by European and American artists such as Pablo Picasso and Georgia O'Keeffe. The exhibition offers an international perspective that is distinctive for the SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN ART MUSEUM. ❖

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writer's REFUGE

Architect Bulent Baydar creates a modern studio in the woods for a screenwriter with young kids

BY SUE KIRCHHOFF | PHOTOGRAPHY BY GORDON BEALL

A Virginia-based screenwriter needed a quiet space where he could work at home with a minimum of loving distractions from his three young daughters. He found refuge—and more—in a striking, wood-and-glass studio set into his tree-lined backyard.

Architect Bulent Baydar of Harrison Design and builder Glenn Harris of Harris Custom Homes worked closely with the owner to craft a workplace in the woods that deftly mixes natural materials with modern design and engineering. The cedar cladding of the freestanding studio blends with the surrounding landscape, while behind it, an intricate steel frame supports the structure's three windowed walls—including NanaWall systems on two corners that fold like fans to open the interior to the outdoors. The sharply angled shed roof conceals a spacious outdoor deck on the back of the structure that can accommodate up to 10 people. Baydar cut the deck into the roof, leaving three-foot walls on each side, to preserve the building's dynamic lines and provide extra privacy. The studio is sited on the suburban Arlington lot so that it veers away from the main house. "I wanted

ARCHITECTURE: BULENT BAYDAR, AIA, Harrison Design, Washington, DC. BUILDER: GLENN HARRIS, Harris Custom Homes, Falls Church, Virginia.

Doors and a NanaWall system (this page) open the cedar-clad structure to the outdoors. The owner furnished the light-filled interior (opposite) with modern classics.

grass and wood and to see as much of the yard as I could," says the owner. The building's location and design serve to screen the sunlight, and maintain a comfortable climate within the workspace. "Even in winter, there is never a time when the sun is glaring down on me when I'm trying to write," the owner says. "We relied on the way [the studio] is placed and the canopy of the trees."

Inside, the cedar ceiling rises to 14 feet at the front of the studio, allowing for a second row of angled windows. The flooring is made of weathered planks of reclaimed whiskey-barrel oak. The original saw marks are still visible on some of the boards. Floor-to-ceiling bookcases in a deep gunmetal hue line the wall behind the writer's desk. The color, carried through to the supports between the main windows, echoes the shaded landscape while heightening the contrast with the outdoors. Two of the bookcases are actually hinged doors that pivot on a system of rollers, opening to a half bath on one side of the main room and storage space on the other.

"The pivoting bookshelves are something our firm has done a couple of times in the past, typically when a client would like to hide a space," says Baydar. In this case, the technique helps to maximize the shelving, since the owner has plenty of books and only one wall that isn't glass. Disguising the doors also serves to maintain the lines of the bookcases and emphasize the uncluttered feel of the main room.

The owner acted as his own interior designer, choosing classic modern furniture and lighting and lining the bookshelves with mementoes of his family and work. Though the spare lines of his retreat contrast with the more traditional design of the main house, the structures complement each other due to the use of related materials, including wood siding and stone. Setting the studio on a back corner of the lot increases its separation from the main house and surrounding neighborhood. The building, which can be glimpsed in profile from the nearby street, is accessible from a side path around the house or via a shared stone patio behind the main residence.

Although designed as a writer's retreat, the studio doubles as a backyard entertainment space for the owner. "It's a refuge to work, but it blends into the backyard and patio when we have people over," says the father of three. He marvels that once the project was complete, his girls somehow knew without being told not to interrupt him there. ❖

Sited so it veers away from the main house (left), the studio boasts reclaimed whiskey-barrel oak floors and a wall of shelves lined with books and mementoes (below). Two shelves equipped with rollers open to reveal a half bath and storage area (bottom, left to right). Above the partial cedar ceiling, a rear roof deck offers a perch in the treetops.

Writer Sue Kirchhoff is based in Silver Spring, Maryland. Gordon Beall is a Bethesda, Maryland, photographer.

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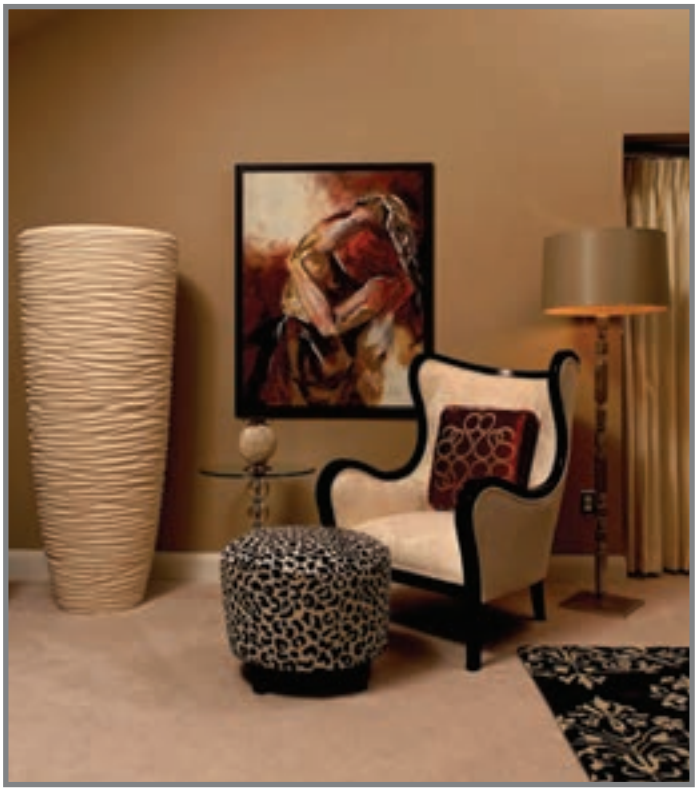

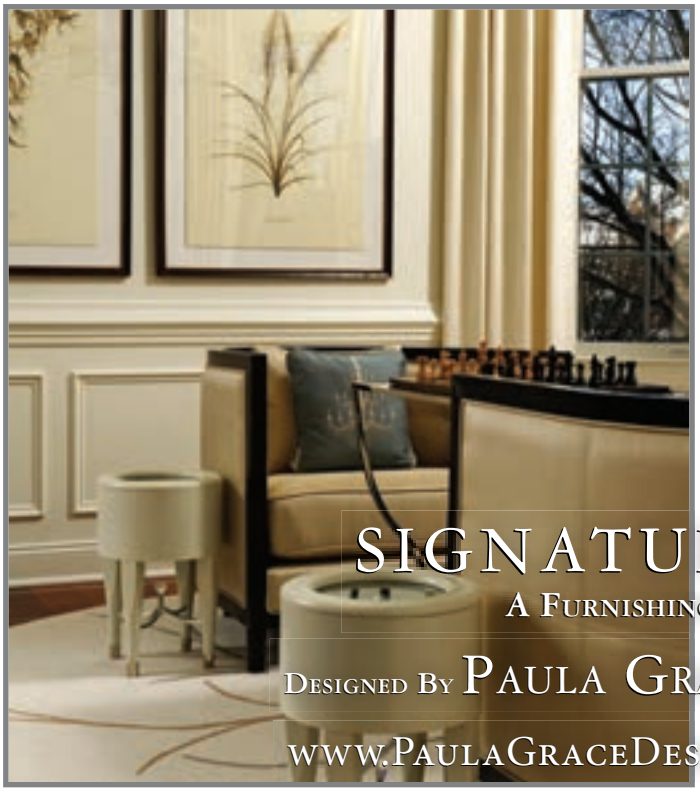

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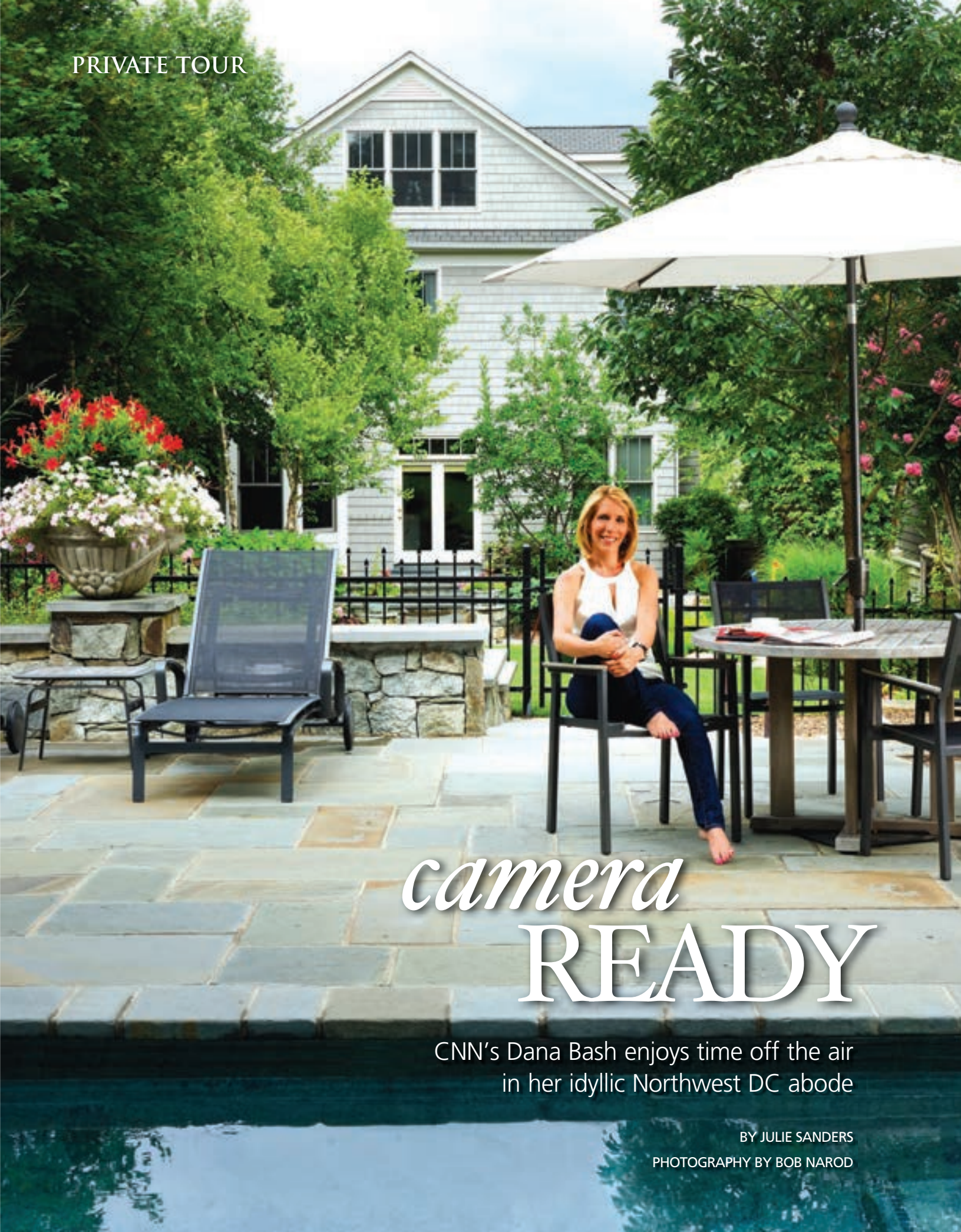


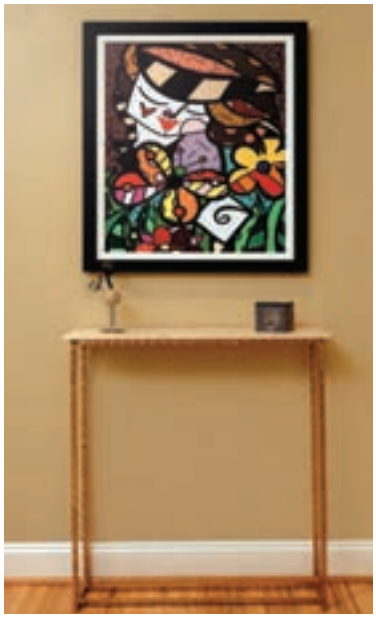
camera READY

CNN's Dana Bash enjoys time off the air in her idyllic Northwest DC abode

BY JULIE SANDERS

PHOTOGRAPHY BY BOB NAROD

Dana Bash (previous page) relaxes poolside outside her DC home (opposite, bottom left). The dining room (this page) conveys chic, transitional style with a grass cloth wallcovering by Osborne & Little and furniture from Urban Essentials. A Jackie Onassis pillow from Jonathan Adler imparts a touch of whimsy in the living room (opposite, top), where a painting by Romero Britto adds vibrant color (opposite, bottom right).



CNN's chief congressional correspondent Dana Bash knows how to prepare for a photo shoot. Breezing down the stairs of her house, she is perfectly made up and coiffed with a welcoming smile on her face. Of course, *Home & Design*'s camera crew is not the only one she'll be facing on this day. She will soon be on her way to CNN to cover the latest political maneuverings in the House and Senate. It's a job she's been doing for nine years and it definitely keeps her busy.

As does her four-year-old boy, whose father is her former husband, CNN anchor and chief national corresponent John King. Bash lives with her son in the house she purchased in 2007 on a sleepy block in Northwest DC. Built in 2001, it combines

clean lines and modern amenities with traditional elements like wainscoting and a stone fireplace. It also offers plenty of space for a very active child to run around.

Though Bash loves the house, she was originally drawn to the land, which accommodates a patio, swimming pool and lawn, plus blooming shrubs and brimming flowerpots. "I wanted to live in DC but still have the benefits of suburbia," she says. "I'm very much an outside person, so the garden was important to me."

Bash lived in the house for a number of years before deciding to decorate. She had purchased it from a designer who also sold her the classic Niermann Weeks chandelier and massive mirror that still occupy the living room and front hall, respectively. "There was enough there that I liked, so I just left it alone and didn't add a lot of 'me' into it," she says.

INTERIOR DESIGN: MELISSA BROFFMAN, Allied Member ASID, Melissa Broffman Interior Design, Arlington, Virginia. LANDSCAPE DESIGN: CHARLES DALTON, Dalton Ventures, Inc., Middletown, Maryland.

Bash enjoys food prep in her spacious kitchen (top). At the far end of the room, a bay window with views of the blooming backyard creates a breakfast nook (above), with a table surrounded by chairs from Design Within Reach.

When she was finally ready, she hired designer Melissa Broffman, whom she knew because Broffman had worked at CNN in a previous career. Together, they tackled the house in stages. "Dana's very decisive. She could do it all by herself; she just doesn't have the time," Broffman observes.

Bash characterizes her taste as "classically contemporary with a little bit of glam." Broffman helped her choose pieces that fit her style, including a Donghia sofa paired with a gilt wall sculpture by Christopher Guy for the living room. A plush chaise in her bedroom conveys a chic but understated vibe. While Bash didn't relinquish all the decision-making, she explains that she was confident that "Melissa knows me and would understand what I wanted."

Throughout the house, artwork picked up during her travels clearly reflects Bash's aesthetic—as well as a sense of whimsy and playfulness. A vibrant painting of a flower by her boyfriend, L.A.-based actor Spencer Garrett, stands front and center in the dining room, while a series of celebrity portraits by artist Richard Zarzi,

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Photography by Stacy Z Goldberg Photography LLC

With a comfortable sectional by A. Rudin, the family room (above) offers plenty of space for Bash's four-year-old son to play and relax. Above the stone fireplace (right), a numbered print by Theodor Geisel (a.k.a. Dr. Suess) occupies center stage. The family room spills outside to the stone patio (far right).

recently acquired in London, hangs in the living room. Numbered prints by Theodor Geisel (a.k.a. Dr. Seuss) add punches of vibrant color. A Jonathan Adler pillow depicting Jackie Onassis sits on the living room sofa, and a poster of Audrey Hepburn as Coco Chanel graces the upstairs landing. "I like empowered women who are classy and chic," Bash says. "I like to be inspired by them."

The daughter of Stuart Schwartz, a longtime producer at ABC, the New Jersey-born Bash moved to DC to attend George Washington University and never left. "It wasn't about politics at the time," she recalls. "My dad likes to joke that I graduated from college without knowing there were three branches of government! But I caught the bug pretty fast. My whole childhood, I said 'I'll never go into TV news—you have vacations taken away, you work crazy hours.' Then I stopped fighting my DNA and went with it."

Bash joined CNN right after college and has been there ever since. As a top political correspondent, she will soon be on the road covering the 2016 election. "My favorite part of the job is witnessing what will soon be history up close and personal, being part of the action," she comments.

For Bash, downtime these days means relaxing at home with her son, who, she says, has pretty much taken over. Minutes before the camera crew arrived, "we had a rollercoaster going through the living room under the Niermann Weeks chandelier," she laughs. "That's why there's no rug. My son likes it better that way!

"This house makes me so happy," she continues. "It's the most rewarding thing for me these days, just being at home with my son." ❖

"I'm very much an outside person, so the garden was important to me."

—DANA BASH

Photographer Bob Narod is based in Herndon, Virginia.

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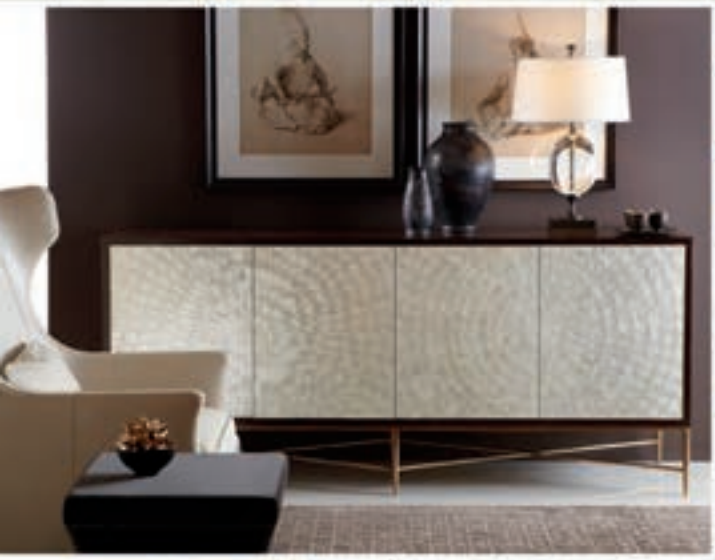

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HOME&DESIGN 100 TOP DESIGNERS 2015 Portfolio

ARCHITECTURE

Antonio Alonso
Francisca Villarroel Alonso
David Bagnoli
Seth Ballard
Anthony Barnes
Bulent Baydar
Wouter Boer
Scarlett Breeding
Jim G. Burton
Page Carter
Lorena Checa
Cathy Purple Cherry
Anne Decker
Alan Dynerman
Phillip R. Eagleburger
Elizabeth Emerson
Richard Foster
Amy Gardner
Kevin Gilday
Thomas Gilday
Robert M. Gurney
Cynthia Hamilton
Jerry Harpole
Mark D. Hughes
Bruce Hutchinson
David Jameson
David Jones
William Kirwan
Mark Lawrence
Donald Lococo
Daniela Martinez
R. Bradley Mellor
Cherie Mohr
James McDonald
Adam McGraw
Mark McInturff
Stephen Muse
George T. Myers
Matthew Ossolinski
Gregory L. Palmer
Rui A. Ponte
Travis Price
Richard B. Radcliffe
James F. Rill
Ernesto Santalla
Stephen Shum
Chris Snowber
Mark R. Sullenberger
Merle Thorpe
Jane E. Treacy
Ben Van Dusen
Stephen J. Vanze
Bruce Wentworth
Gregory Wiedemann
Anthony Wilder

INTERIOR DESIGN

Jana Abel
Lisa Adams
Lisa Bartolomei
Melissa Broffman
Alice Busch
Shazalynn Cavin-Winfrey
David Anthony Chenault
Danny Christmas
Nancy M. Colbert
Robert Cole
Scott Cooke
Courtney Cox
Arlene Critzos
Wendy Danziger
Alex Deringer
Barry Dixon
Mary Douglas Drysdale
Joanne Fitzgerald
Gina Fitzsimmons
Karen Germond
Courtney Griffin
Susan Gulick
Paula Grace Halewski
Syntha Harris-Wendel
Barbara Hawthorn
Andrea Houck
Deborah Houseworth
Dolly Howarth
Susan M. Jamieson
Kirsten Anthoany Kaplan
Charlene Kennerknecht
Beth Kittrell
Sharon Kleinman
Elizabeth M. Krial
Barbara Lee
Chol Lee
Victor js Liberatore
J. Paul Lobkovich
Jodi Macklin
Dahlia Mahmood
Paola McDonald
Lynni Megginson
Sandra Meyers
Tracy Morris
Shanon Munn
Haleh Niroo
Kristin Peake
Annette Phillips
Sophie Prévost
Michael Roberson
Andre Sabbagh
Skip Sroka
Lucas Trunnell
Margery Wedderburn
Amanda Welch
Celia Welch
Arch Williams
Shannon Woodward

LANDSCAPE DESIGN

Gina Benincasa
Scott Brinitzer
Howard Cohen
Blake Dunlevy
Jay Graham
Donald Gwizdz
Jennifer G. Horn
Josh Kane
Jane Leigh Luce
Kevin McHale
Steve McHale
Amy Mills
Charles Owen
Chad Talton
Guy Morgan Williams

For Profiles and Portfolios, visit HandD.com

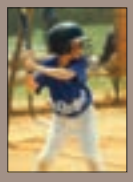
A Different Kind of Family Portrait

"Life on the River" 4 ft. x 6 ft. Acrylic on Canvas

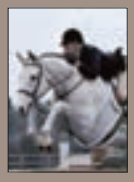
Haley

Chip

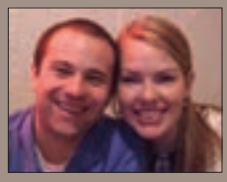
Cathy



Hank at 9



Kristen at 16

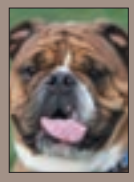


Wesley & Kristen

Hank

Casie

Pearl



Bentley

Having just purchased a beautiful waterfront home on the York River, Chip and Cathy were looking for just the right piece of art for their stunning family room. They had followed David's work for more than 20 years and decided to contact him and have him come take a look at the space. They all agreed that this was a perfect spot for a family portrait.

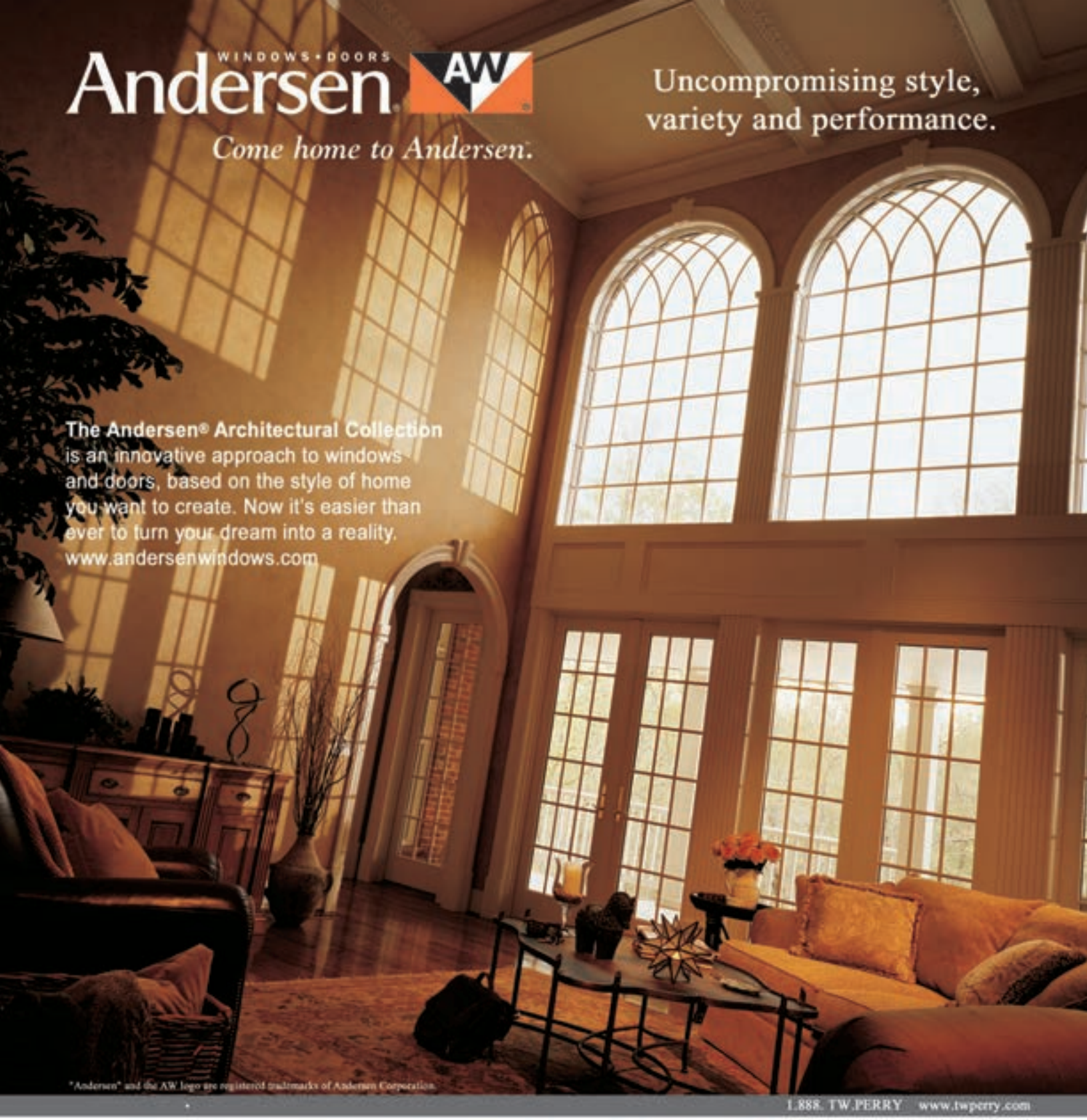
Chip and Cathy decided that the painting would include themselves, their two children and their spouses and the beloved family dogs (past and present). The background would include the river view and some precious memories from the children's earlier years. Dave took measurements, gathered family photos and did a quick sketch of his ideas. They decided on a 4x6 foot painting. Chip and Cathy were glad to hear that David worked from photos and they did not have to gather for a sitting.

Giclee Prints of this painting were given to various family members

Call or e-mail David with your questions or ideas.

Much to the family's delight, the painting was unveiled on Christmas. It now adorns the stone wall in the family room, creating a permanently warm and inviting environment.

Email: cochranstudios@aol.com Studio: 703.684.7855
Web: www.davidcochran.com



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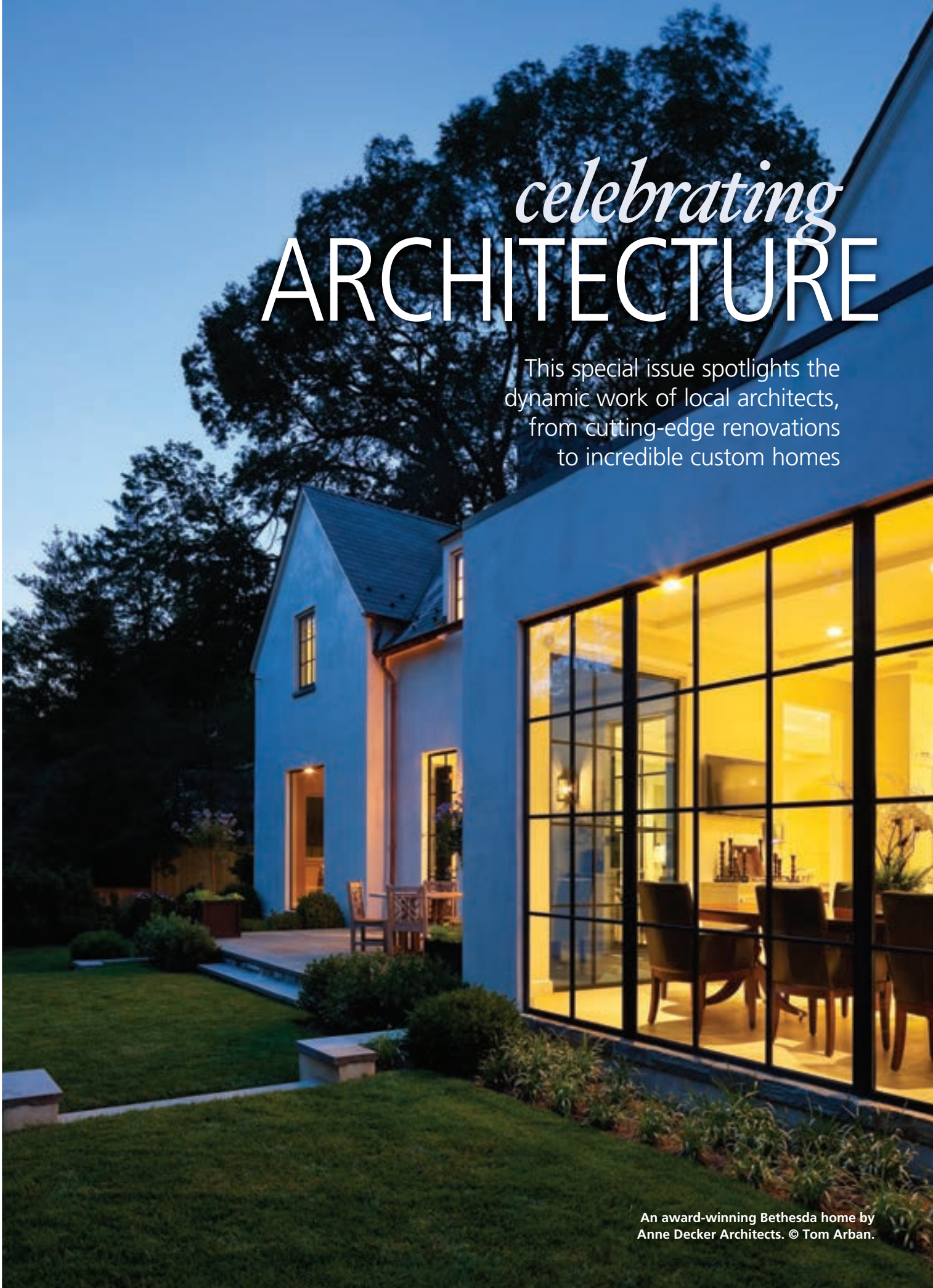

celebrating ARCHITECTURE

This special issue spotlights the dynamic work of local architects, from cutting-edge renovations to incredible custom homes

An award-winning Bethesda home by Anne Decker Architects. © Tom Arban.

DESIGN SCENE

Two local competitions showcase excellence in design

1

2

AIA Northern Virginia 2015 Design Awards

The AIA Northern Virginia chapter gathered on June 4 for its annual Design Awards celebration at the recently completed Fred W. Smith National Library for the Study of George Washington at Mount Vernon. A jury of Raleigh, North Carolina, architects judged the competition, which included 131 submissions. Photos of winning single-family residential projects are shown on these pages; a listing of non-residential winners follows. To view a winners' gallery, visit aianova.org/DA15.

AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
1/ Robert M. Gurney, FAIA Architect, Twining Road Renovation, Potomac, Maryland. Photography: Anice Hoachlander.

AWARD OF MERIT
2/ Anne Decker Architects, LLC, Distilled Traditional, Bethesda, Maryland. Photography: Tom Arban.

AWARD OF MERIT
3/ Shinberg/Levinas Architectural Design Inc., Woods Residence, Easton, Maryland. Photography: Alan Karchmer.

AWARD OF MERIT
4/ Robert M. Gurney, FAIA Architect, Sharma Mathur House, Washington, DC. Photography: Anice Hoachlander.

JUROR CITATION
5/ Carter + Burton Architecture, PLC, River House, Madison, Virginia. Photography: Jim Burton, AIA.

JUROR CITATION
6/ John Michael Day Architect, Night Watchman, Washington, DC. Photography: Alan Karchmer.

NON-RESIDENTIAL WINNERS

HERLONG AWARD

• AECOM, Riyadh Metro Project, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

• Bonstra | Haresign ARCHITECTS, Woodley Wardman, Washington, DC. • Bonstra | Haresign ARCHITECTS, 11141 Georgia Avenue, Wheaton, Maryland. • Gensler, Intelsat, McLean, Virginia. • Gensler, Tysons Tower, McLean, Virginia. • Shinberg/Levinas Architectural Design Inc., Kol Shalom, Rockville, Maryland.

AWARDS OF MERIT

• AECOM, Integrated Engineering Services Building, Hampton, Virginia. • Cunningham | Quill Architects, Charlottesville Strategic Investment Area Plan (unbuilt), Charlottesville, Virginia. • DBI Architects, Inc., Summit Consulting, LLC, Washington, DC. • David Jameson Architect, Sherber + Rad, Washington, DC. • FOX Architects, 1400 Crystal Drive, Arlington, Virginia. • Gensler, Lynn University International Business Center, Boca Raton, Florida. • MTFA Architecture, East Feliciana Parish Courthouse, Clinton, Louisiana.

JURORS' CITATIONS

• Hickok Cole Architects, CSIS, Washington, DC. • Jacobs, Modular Air Control Tower.

2015 John Russell Pope Awards

Established in 2005, the Washington Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Institute of Classical Architecture & Art advances the practice and appreciation of classical tradition in architecture and the allied arts. This year, the chapter launched an annual design competition to recognize fine classical work in the region.

The awards are named after John Russell Pope (1874-1937), a New York-based architect who also designed significant buildings in Washington, DC, including the Jefferson Memorial and the National Gallery of Art. After a Philadelphia jury of experts selected the winning projects, the chapter announced its inaugural awards at a gala held on April 17 at the Cosmos Club in Washington, DC. The winning residential projects are pictured, while landscape and non-residential winners are listed on these pages. For more information, visit classicist-washington.org.

NEW RESIDENTIAL DESIGN OVER 5,000 SQUARE FEET
1/ Hamady Architects, LLC. A Mountain Home in West Virginia. Photography: Robert Llewellyn.
2/ Honorable Mention: Donald Lococo Architects, LLC, Linnean House, Washington, DC. Photography: Gordon Beall.

RESIDENTIAL RENOVATION OR ADDITION OVER 5,000 SQUARE FEET
3/ Neumann Lewis Buchanan Architects, Badger Hill Farm, Upperville, Virginia. Photography: Gordon Beall.

INTERIOR DESIGN

4/ Thomas Pheasant Interiors, Gardenside, Southampton, New York. Photography: Durston Saylor.

5/ Honorable Mention: Sroka Design, Norton Manor, Potomac, Maryland. Photography: Timothy Bell.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 76

Alt Breeding Schwarz Architects

Residential design principal Scarlett Breeding pushes the limits of perfection.

In the Broadwater Residence, traditional forms have been reinterpreted with a seamless transition from inside to out. Clockwise from above, left: A bunk-room with skylight interior; an outdoor shower and hot tub overlooking the bay; a series of glass pavilions spilling out to a lawn; a European-style kitchen; a tranquil spa bath; and poolside dining—all a precise fit down to the last detail.

PROJECT PHOTOS © DAVID BURROUGHS

For Scarlett Breeding, designing a house is a high-energy mission she undertakes in partnership with each of her clients—and she makes absolutely sure the mission succeeds in every possible way, at every possible level.

With a diverse set of skills and experience in interior design, architecture and construction coordination, she leads each of her missions with an overarching vision of the final result: the residential setting her clients are uniquely seeking. As she describes it: "I love working with clients—unraveling what it is they're really looking for and then helping them to pursue it.

"I also love and appreciate working with skilled builders," she continues. "They know I value and champion their skills—and that helps us achieve very special results."

A principal with Alt Breeding Schwarz Architects for

Custom Casework: ABS Architects. Senior Designer: Sarah Favrao, ABS Architects. Builder: Pyramid Builders. Landscape Architecture: Kevin Campion, ASLA, Campion Hruby Landscape Architects. Interior Design: Helen Sullivan.

the past 25 years, Ms. Breeding has steadily built and expanded the residential design component of the firm's work—incorporating and leading special teams for kitchens and custom architectural casework.

No part of a project escapes her focused attention to detail or high-energy insistence on quality. In 2015, her work received four AIA awards and three NKBA awards.

QUICK FACTS

Year Established	1997
Employees in Firm	12
Location	Annapolis, Maryland
Phone	410.268.1213
Website	absarchitects.com

2015 JOHN RUSSELL POPE AWARDS

NEW RESIDENTIAL DESIGN UNDER 5,000 SQUARE FEET

6/ Anne Decker Architects, Distilled Traditional, Bethesda, Maryland. Photography: Tom Arban.

RESIDENTIAL RENOVATION OR ADDITION UNDER 5,000 SQUARE FEET

7/ 3north, Classicism Redux, Richmond, Virginia. Photography: Ansel Olson.

8/ Honorable Mention: Jones & Boer Architects, Queen Anne Revival, Chevy Chase, Maryland. Photography: Anice Hoachlander.

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2015 JOHN RUSSELL POPE AWARDS

HISTORIC PRESERVATION
9/ Honorable Mention: Barnes Vanze Architects, Flemish Revival Townhouse, Washington, DC. Photography: Anice Hoachlander.

OTHER WINNERS

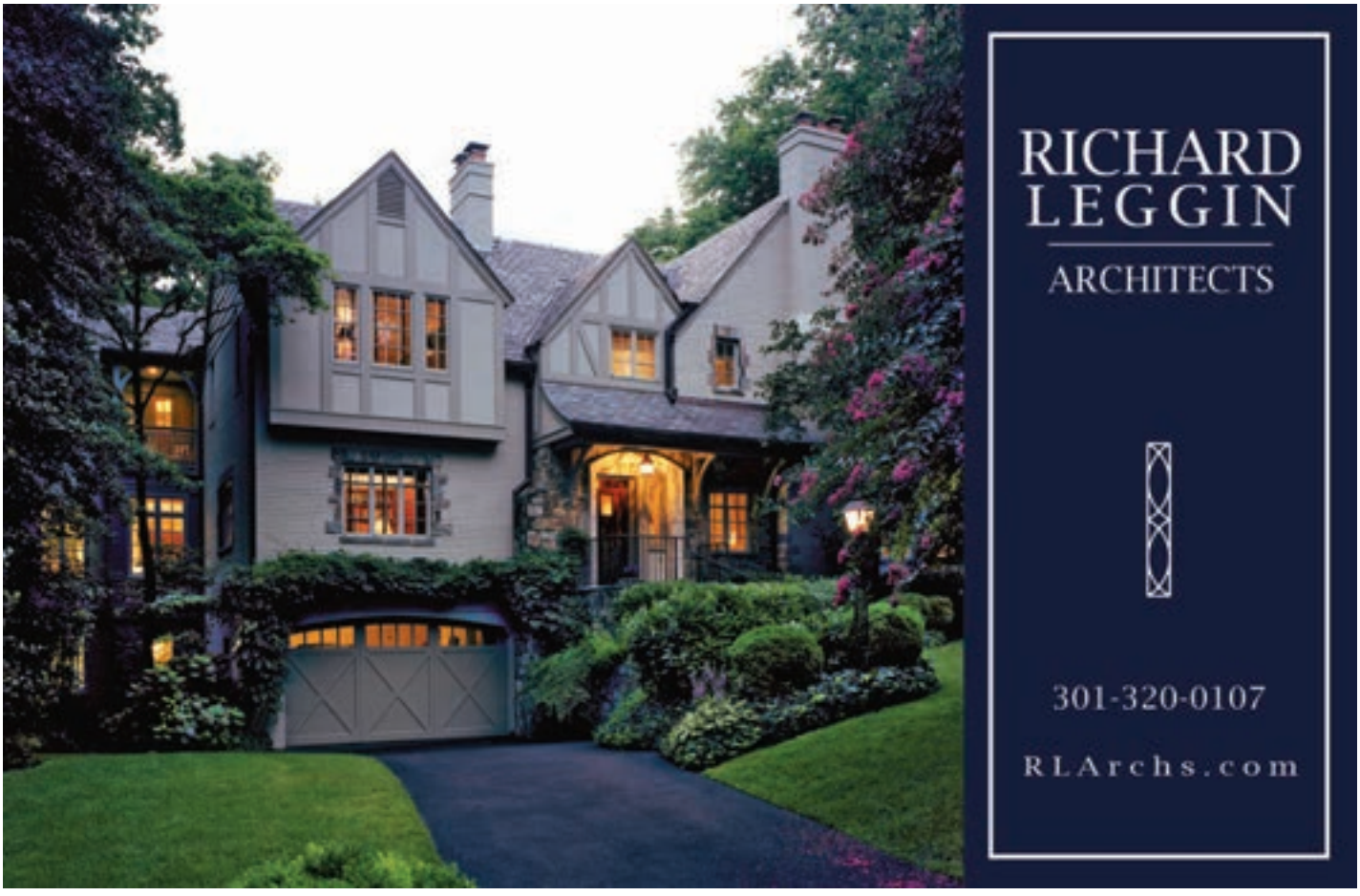
COMMERCIAL, INSTITUTIONAL & ECCLESIASTICAL DESIGN Hartman Cox Architects, American Pharmacists Association Headquarters, Washington, DC.
Honorable Mention: Glavé and Holmes Architecture, Carole Weinstein International Center, Richmond, Virginia.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION Hartman Cox Architects, Francis L. Cardozo High School, Washington, DC.

LANDSCAPE DESIGN
Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects, Seven Ponds Farm, Albemarle County, Virginia.
Honorable Mention: Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects, The Cedars, Old Brookville, New York.

URBAN PLANNING Michael Watkins Architect, LLC, Union Village, Lebanon, Ohio.

ARTISANSHIP Gaston & Wyatt, Monticello Venetian Blinds, Charlottesville, Virginia. ❖



Rill Architects

Rill Architects creates unique homes that are as special as the families that live in them.

Rill Architects is respected for projects that incorporate an understanding of the way people live. The Rill team helps clients get the greatest value from their projects by applying a deep knowledge of design, coupled with the latest technologies, materials and finishes.

The team collaborates with clients regarding every decision, weighing in with guidance on design and construction issues. The result is a home that perfectly suits its owner's personality, lifestyle and budget.

From small-scale renovations to large custom homes, whether traditional or modern, Rill Architects creates spaces that its clients love, year after year.

QUICK FACTS

Year Established	1987
Employees in Firm	8
Location	Bethesda, Maryland
Phone	301.656.4166
Website	rillarchitects.com

Clockwise from above, left: a custom, wall-mounted wrought iron lantern designed by Rill Architects; the grand living room of a residence in Georgetown; a brick ranch house is transformed into a cozy cottage with a fieldstone base; and a ceiling and accents made of stained fir connect a house to its wooded locale, while clean lines create an uncluttered, modern aesthetic.

PHOTOS CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT & CENTER: © KIP DAWKINS. © RILL ARCHITECTS. © JAMES SPAHN

THE INSTITUTE OF CLASSICAL ARCHITECTURE & ART WASHINGTON MID ATLANTIC CHAPTER

John Russell Pope Award

Recipients

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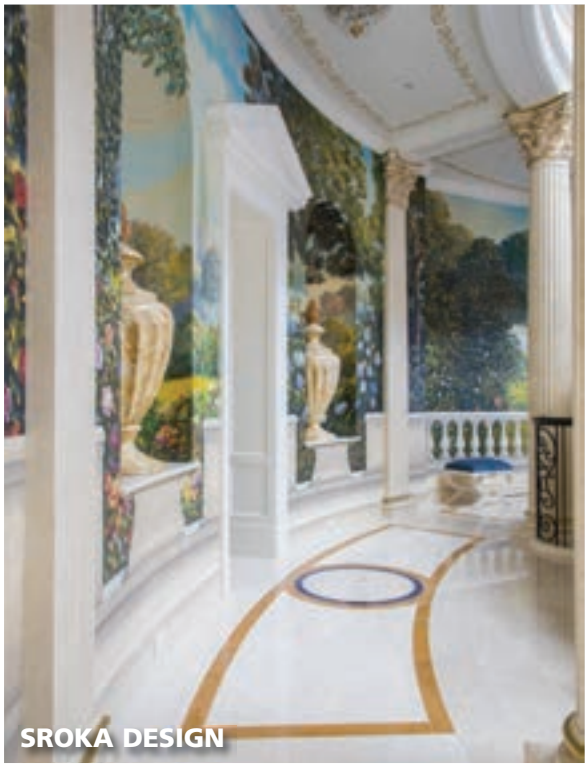

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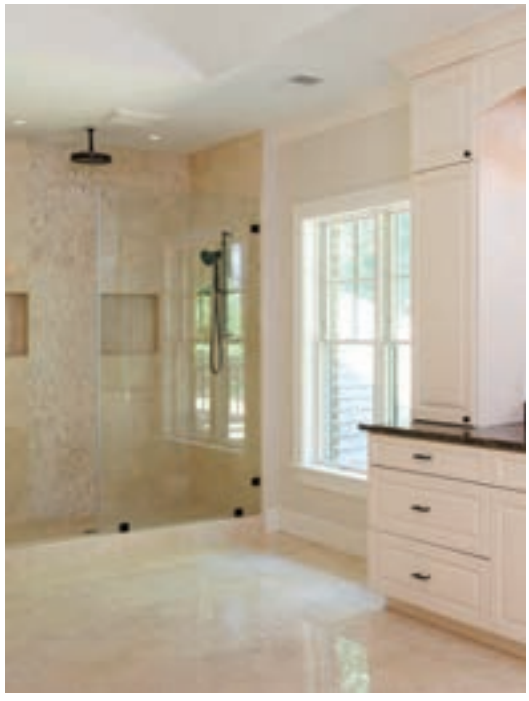
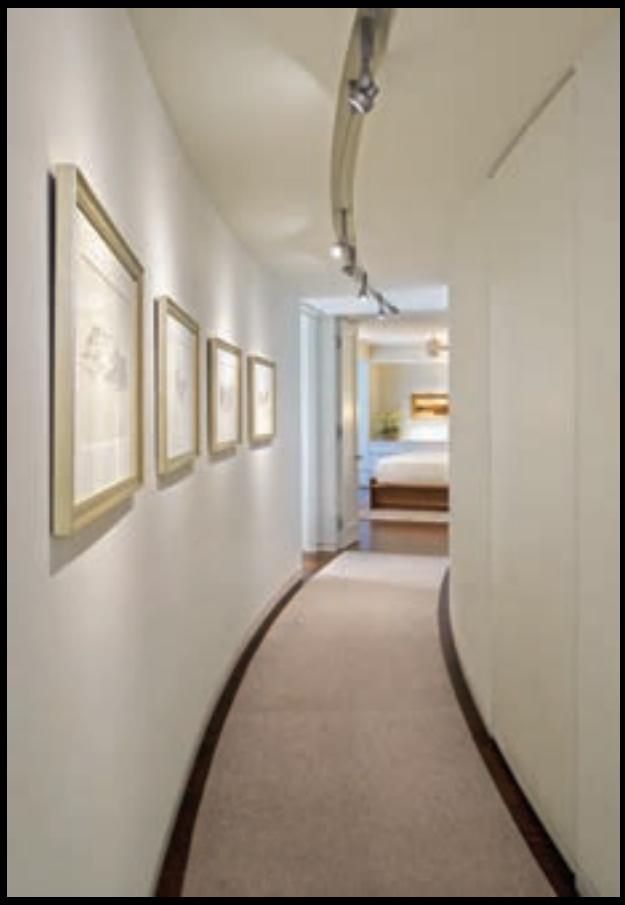
AV Architects + Builders' founders and principals, Francisca and Antonio Alonso, design functional, maintenance-free, retreat-like homes for busy professionals who crave space to disconnect from their routine and unwind. The firm wears the hats of both architect and builder, controlling costs during design and protecting the design during construction. It is this unique, integrated delivery process and single-point accountability that set the firm apart. AV Architects' custom homes are site-specific, and the firm puts a premium on understanding topography, sun orientation, vegetation and views. The result: beautiful custom homes in which the interiors flow effortlessly outdoors—on budget and on schedule.

QUICK FACTS

Year Established	2001
Employees in Firm	5
Location	Great Falls, Virginia
Phone	703.865.5065
Website	avarchitectsbuild.com



Clockwise from above, left: Francisca and Antonio (Tony) Alonso; a gourmet kitchen boasts ample natural light, a functional island and plenty of custom cabinetry in different wood tones for easy storage; a master bath offers a relaxing sanctuary with a vacation vibe; and an open floor plan designed for year-round entertaining allows easy flow between indoor-outdoor spaces.



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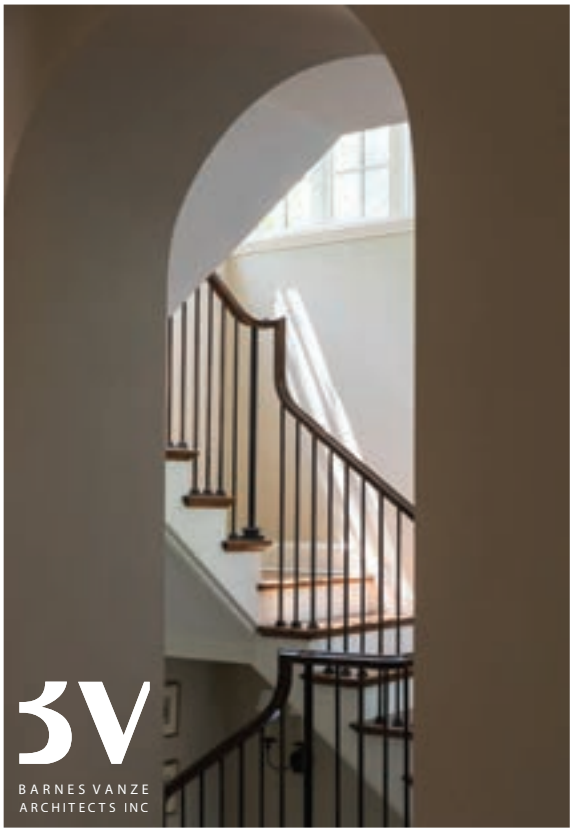
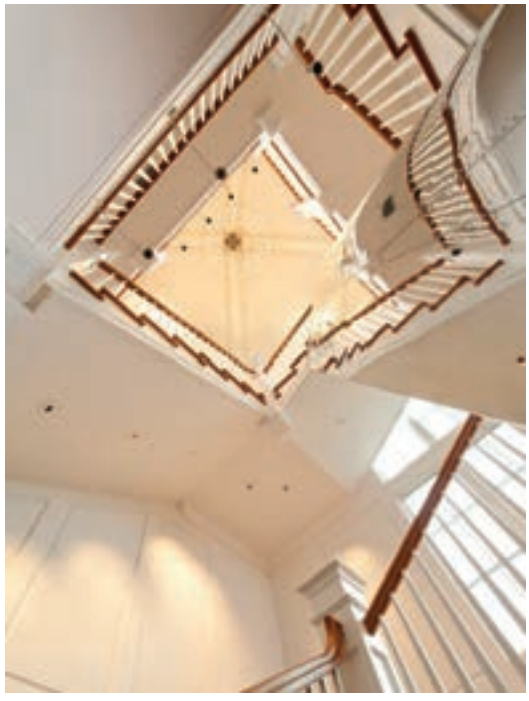


Purple Cherry Architects

Specializing in custom, luxury homes featuring elegant details and beautiful spaces.



Clockwise from above, left: principal Cathy Purple Cherry, AIA, LEED AP; a second-floor sunroom featuring a semi-circular vaulted ceiling and gas fireplace; a unique, barrel-vaulted hallway and library, finished to evoke the interior of a sailboat; a paneled flying stair tower that terminates in a pyramidal ceiling with a magnificent modern chandelier; and a Shingle-style seaside home that blends with refined Eastern Shore farmhouse vernacular to create a stunning, four-story, 14,000-square-foot residence.

Purple Cherry Architects specializes in designing luxury homes that showcase elegant architectural details. The firm creates alluring spaces that excite its clients, reflecting their taste, lifestyle and needs.

Principal Cathy Purple Cherry brings 26 years of experience to her work; she and her team aspire to a level of beauty in their designs that comes through in awe-inspiring views, details and planning strategies.

The firm's designers are talented, visionary, detail oriented and attentive. They are particularly proud of projects in which "the quality of the client-architect relationship matches the quality of the house. This reflects what we strive for on every project."

QUICK FACTS

Year Established	1996
Employees in Firm	14
Location	Annapolis, Maryland
Phone	410.990.1700
Website	purplecherry.com

PORTRAIT © DAVID HARTCORN; TOP LEFT, CENTER & TOP RIGHT: © DAVID BURROUGHS; BOTTOM: © TRIA GIOVAN

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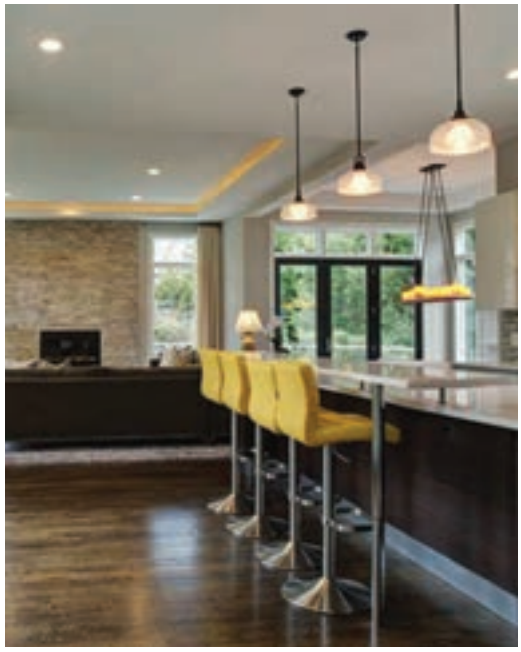
James McDonald Associate Architects, PC

JMAA prides itself on listening to clients' wishes and applying its design expertise to each home.

James has been designing award-winning custom homes for nearly 20 years and provides a range of services to clients throughout Washington, DC, Virginia and Maryland. He begins every project by listening carefully to the client's wishes, and designs in a wide range of sizes, scopes and styles. Some of his smaller residences are highly detailed jewel boxes full of light, space, detail and charm, while the larger ones range from grand manor homes to quieter spaces characterized by understated elegance. Whatever its style, each home shares the common thread of being light-filled and spacious while maintaining a balance of proportion, scale and livability.

QUICK FACTS

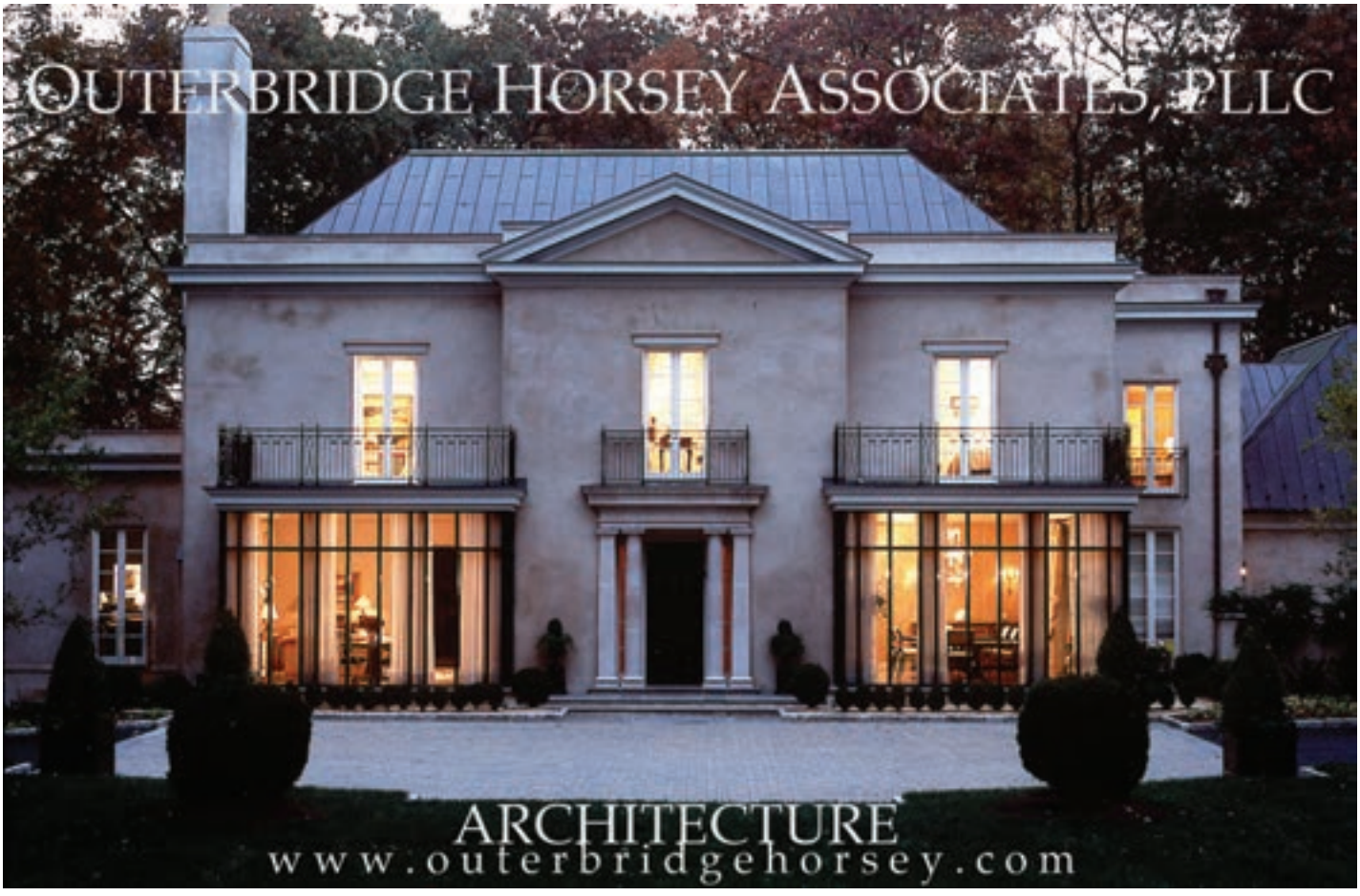
Year Established	2009
Employees in Firm	10
Location	Great Falls, Virginia
Phone	703.757.0036
Website	jamesmcdonaldarchitects.com



Clockwise from above, left: A rear elevation of a custom home in McLean, Virginia, reveals a stairway within the turret; modern flare characterizes the open-plan kitchen/family room in a custom home in Arlington; a speculative custom home in Bethesda boasts sweeping roof lines, brick and clapboard siding and light-filled interiors; and an exterior shot of a lavish home in McLean shows a high level of custom architectural detail, which carries over into its opulent interiors.

FLETCHER'S MILL
SPERRYVILLE, VA

RICHARD WILLIAMS ARCHITECTS



Ballard + Mensua Architecture

An architect is a kind of custom tailor. We find the style and design that best fit each client.

Ballard + Mensua is a full-service firm specializing in custom homes and renovations. With 21 years of experience, principal Seth Ballard welcomes projects of all sizes and scopes, from a plan to be built in phases that a young family can afford to a dream home for retirement. The firm's unique cost-study process offers the advantages of design/build with the checks and balances of an independent architect and builder; its fully integrated project-management approach includes interior design and construction. Ballard + Mensua has a specialty in historic preservation; however, the firm enjoys designing in all styles.

Clockwise from above, left: Seth Ballard; a new portico, shutters, attic dormers and garage door redefine the façade of a McLean Colonial; Ballard's take on a classic kitchen; and a three-story addition off the back of the McLean Colonial opens out to three levels of stone terraces carved into a hillside overlooking a pond and meadow.

© MIKE GEISSINGER

QUICK FACTS

Year Established	2005
Employees in Firm	7
Location	Falls Church, Virginia
Phone	703.992.7580
Website	ballardmensua.com

details, details, details...

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Sutton Yantis Associates Architects

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The craftsmanship of timber-framed structures enhances interior and exterior spaces (above). An open-scheme family room (left) is filled with light.

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An award-winning home (above) embraces its surroundings by blending classical architecture with the existing neighborhood. Sunlight fills a custom contemporary home (left).

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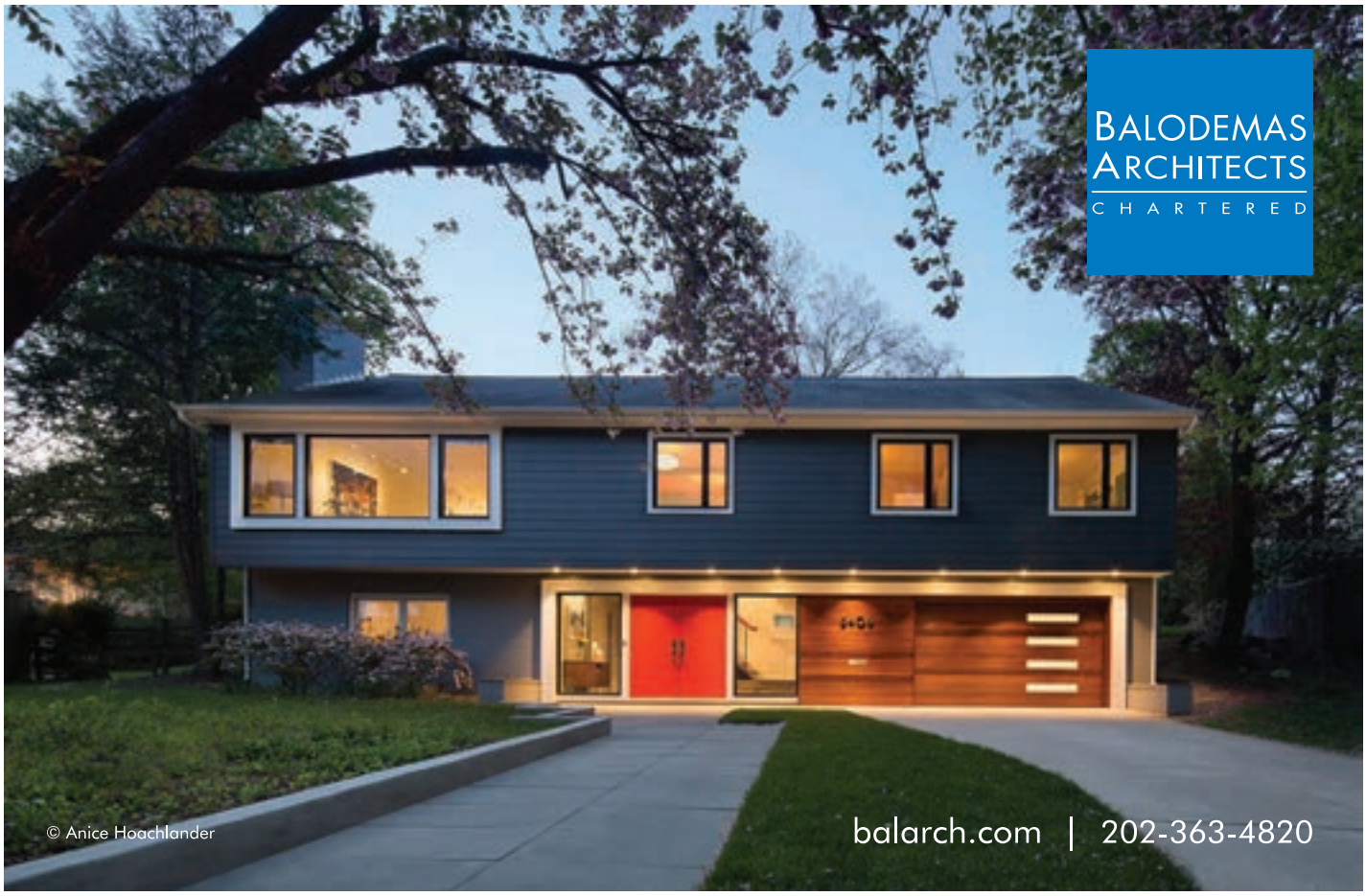
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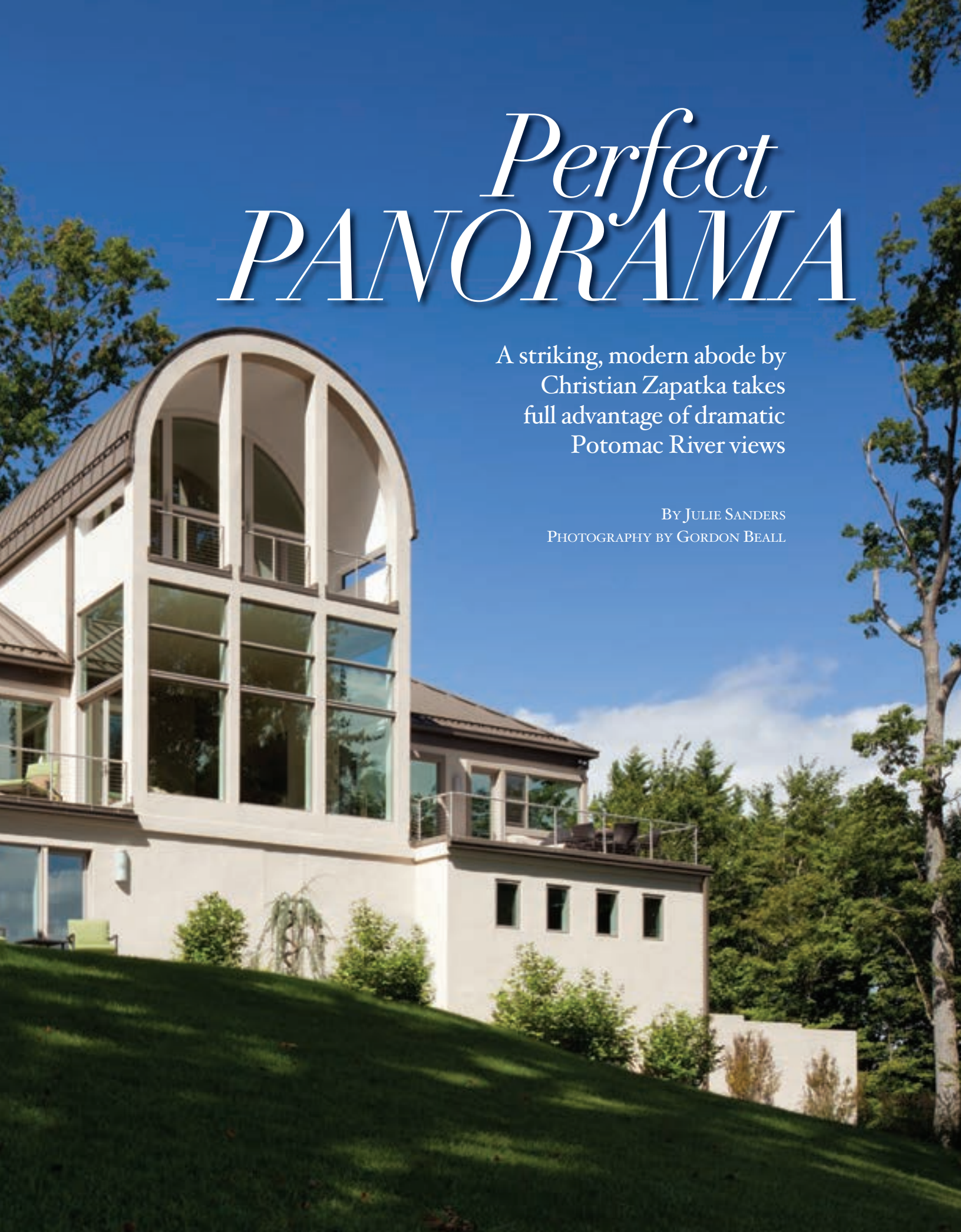


Perfect PANORAMA

A striking, modern abode by Christian Zapatka takes full advantage of dramatic Potomac River views

By Julie Sanders
Photography by Gordon Beall

"Come in, you have to see this," beckons architect Christian Zapatka, standing at the door

of a recently completed project in McLean, Virginia. He and the homeowner are positively beaming with anticipation as they draw their visitor through the front entry and around the corner to where the living room lies. As they do, a view of the Potomac River opens up that, literally, takes your breath away. The house is sited on a ridge 200 feet above the water, and the river vista, framed by foliage, dramatically unfolds in rocky outcroppings, churning currents and green, undulating shorelines.

Previous spread: As seen from the back, the house offers views of the river through windows in nearly every room. These pages: The front façade (above) shows the front door within an indentation that acts as a porch. The entry opens to a hallway (opposite) boasting walnut floors and a stairwell made of pine blocks, glass and steel. On the top level of the central vault, the home office (top) opens to a rear balcony that recalls the deck of a ship.

ARCHITECTURE: CHRISTIAN ZAPATKA, AIA, FAAR, Christian Zapatka Architect PLLC, Washington, DC. BUILDER: DOUG BLAUER, OC Builders Inc., McLean, Virginia. LANDSCAPE DESIGN: BRETT LEIGHTY, Area Landscaping, Inc., Fairfax, Virginia.

No wonder the homeowners, an aviation entrepreneur and his wife, wanted a house that would focus on the view. They were already living on the two-plus-acre property in a 1970s-era abode when they hired Zapatka to design a new home that would do justice to its remarkable locale. "The original house had no relationship to the landscape, let alone the view," Zapatka says. "We created a series of rooms strung along a viewing platform. Every main room has a view of the river."

During the design phase, the idea was raised of using arches as a structural device. Zapatka decided to make them "volumetric, like vaults. The vault is so timeless—Roman but also very modern," he says. "And of course, airplane hangars are vaulted." It was the perfect motif for the homeowner, given his line of work.

From the living room (right), the river vista stretches ahead. A niche by the dining area (top) offers a lounging spot for reading or taking in the views. The kitchen (above) features striking, strong-grained macassar cabinetry and a table by the island for casual meals.

The finished structure incorporates a major and a minor vault connected by a linear, one-story volume. From the front, the house appears to be a single story with a two-story center volume. At the back, however, the ground slopes down and three glass-walled stories are visible: the basement, the main level and a third story, which is contained in the center volume. Balconies on the main level evoke the decks of a ship.

While the original house was situated back from the ridge, Zapatka sited the new one along its outermost edge. "There was a lot of shoring up," he says. "Serious foundation work is keeping this all in place."

A metal roof conveys the hangar motif, and stucco clads the exterior. "Stucco is solid and doesn't distract the eye from the composition," Zapatka observes.

Inside, the owners specified a single-level layout that would enable them to age in place. They also requested a beautiful, functional kitchen and an open floor plan. "This is the house we'll be in forever," says the wife. "We wanted to do it right."

In fact, the only structural element that breaks up the open plan in the home's public areas is what Zapatka calls a "central core" containing a fireplace and a shaft for a future elevator; it also anchors the staircase. "This is a tried-and-true planning device in modern houses," explains the architect. "Not only does it provide circulation and space for utilities, it also acts as a divider instead of conventional walls."

A pine-block, glass-and-steel staircase leads to a second-floor office, where the central vaulted roofline stretches overhead, flanked by a catwalk overlook-

Suede sofas by Swaim, long owned by the clients, and a coffee table from Design Within Reach are a perfect fit in the living room (left), which was designed to accommodate the clients' furniture. The room is flanked by two balconies, one of which is pictured above.

ing the entry. The stairs also lead to a lower level, which houses an exercise room and guest suite.

The open plan encompasses the front hall, living room and dining area, with the kitchen as a focal point. "We wanted the kitchen to be a showpiece," says the husband. High-gloss macassar cabinets are paired with black-granite countertops, and the island has an attached macassar table for casual meals.

High up on one wall of the dining area, a series of clerestory windows offers glimpses of sky and trees without detracting from the windows across the room that frame the river views. Below those small windows, a long, built-in macassar beverage bar provides additional storage.

To the right of the front hall, a gallery leads to a guest room as well as the master suite, which accesses one of the balconies. From the gallery, French doors also open onto a small front porch facing the driveway that enjoys the afternoon sun.

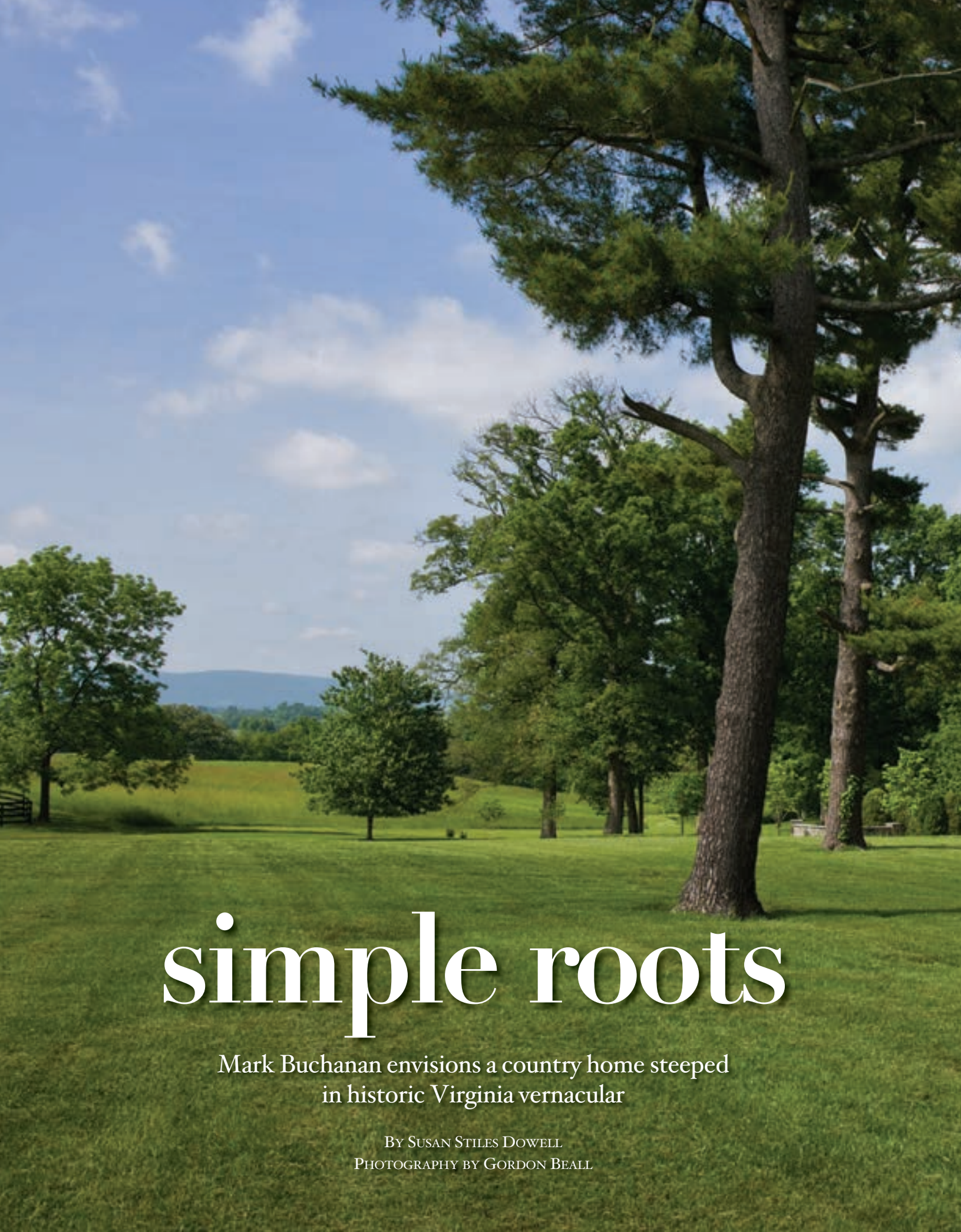
The home is furnished with a mix of family heirlooms and new, modern pieces. "Christian just had to make sure the living room was big enough to hold my sofas," recalls the wife. "That was the only requirement."

Zapatka's decision to conceal the view from arriving guests "was critical," he says. "Don't give it all away. You want a hall where you can greet your guests and be with them for a moment. Then you come around the corner and that's when you say 'wow.'" ❖

Photographer Gordon Beall is based in Bethesda.

SEE RESOURCES ON PAGE 188.

From the front hall (opposite), stairs lead down to the lower level and up to the husband's office. Beyond the stairwell, a gallery opens to a small porch (above). The master bath features a Calacatta marble-clad shower and floor (top and right), along with custom cabinetry.



simple roots

Mark Buchanan envisions a country home steeped in historic Virginia vernacular

By Susan Stiles Dowell
Photography by Gordon Beall

Mark Buchanan's addition, with its classic, white-columned portico, forms the main volume of the house. Built onto a mid-20th-century cottage nestled in a shady woodland, it was designed to look like the primary structure on the 140-acre horse farm near Middleburg.

In the addition, Buchanan designed a wide center hall typical of the local tradition, borrowing the millwork style and the Chinese Chippendale fretwork on the front door from Thomas Jefferson's designs. Designer Laura Chester drew on the colors of sunshine and wheat to fill the house with light; she found the 19th-century French pear wood buffet at Hastening Antiques in Middleburg.

Architect Mark Buchanan remembers tramping through a barn and wandering around a pond, fields and outbuildings on his client's horse farm near Middleburg when he first visited to absorb what he describes as "the spirit of the place." He took it all in, from vistas of open fields to the lone gravestone of a horse in a pasture, before eventually reaching an empty cottage in the shade of a wood.

"It was a summer day, and I caught my breath on the west-facing porch of a cottage," he recalls. "I could see the sun lowering over the Blue Ridge Mountains, and I fell asleep!" When he woke, marveling at the cottage's aura of serenity, he thought, "Old and lost in the past—this is something worth preserving."

Buchanan was scoping out Badger Hill Farm for its new owners, a CEO in the hospitality industry and his wife, who have a primary home in Bethesda. They bought the 140-acre farm, partitioned from a larger horse-breeding operation, as a getaway and place to raise the hunter-jumper breeds their two daughters have loved and ridden since childhood. They called Buchanan, who is steeped in the classical architectural tradition of the area, to help them design and build a country house on the farm. On that summer day, Buchanan thought he'd found the perfect spot in one of its several outbuildings.

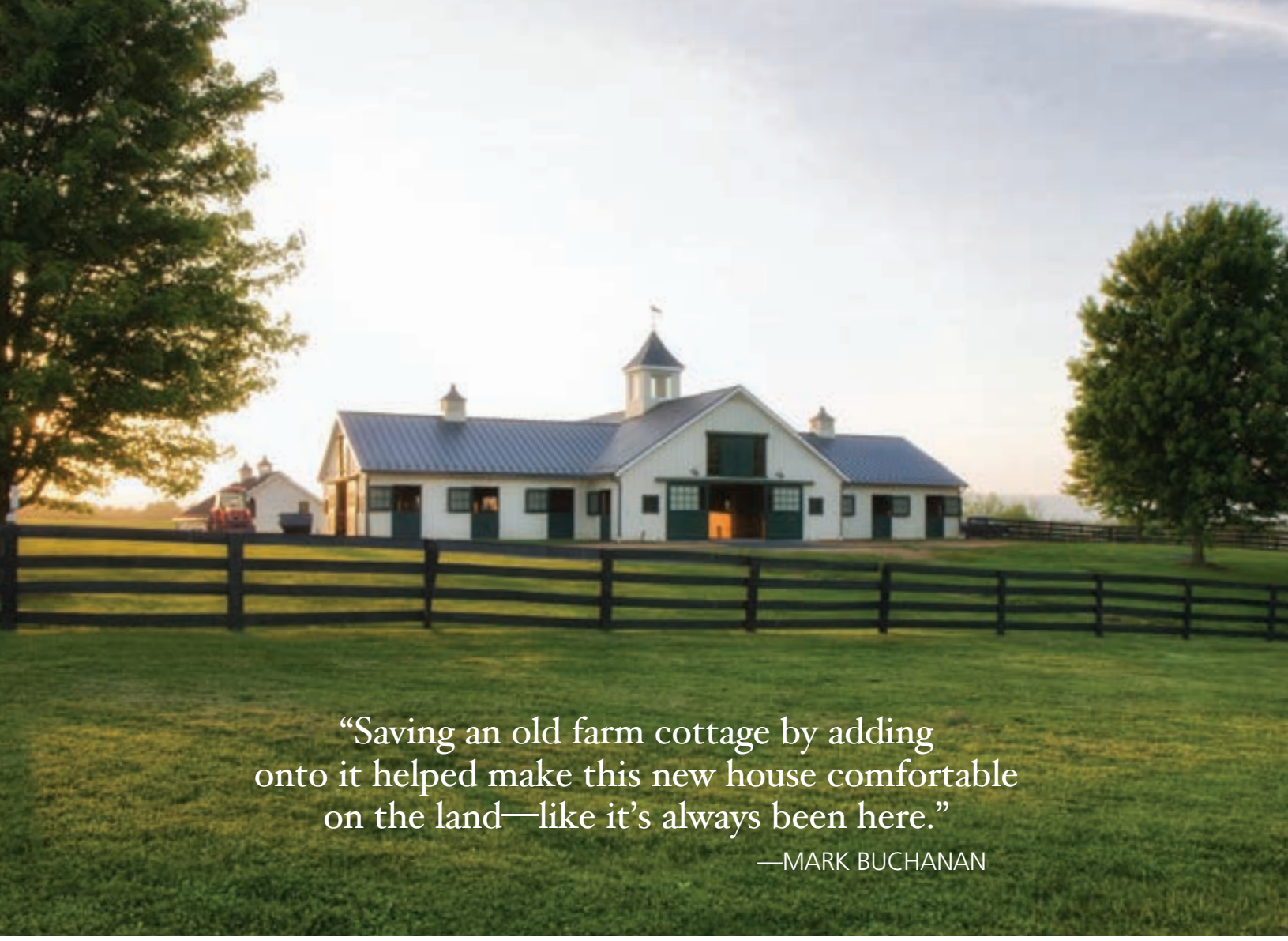
"I presented them with a conceptual plan for adding onto the cottage," Buchanan relates, "but, at their request, developed an alternative design for a new house on a hill that would maximize dramatic views of the mountains." After careful consideration, the couple opted to build their new home around the existing cottage, originally built in the mid-1900s.

"The cottage was sheltered from the weather and framed by trees," reasons the husband. "Why knock down an old, beautiful three-bedroom farmhouse?" What he and his wife grew to love was how the humble cottage influenced the flavor of the addition Buchanan designed, which more than doubled the original structure's size.

ARCHITECT: MARK BUCHANAN, AIA, Neumann Lewis Buchanan Architects, Middleburg, Virginia. INTERIOR DESIGN: LAURA CHESTER, Laura Chester Interiors, Delaplane, Virginia. LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE: JAY GRAHAM, FASLA, Graham Landscape Architecture, Annapolis, Maryland. BUILDER: DARYL LANDIS, Potomac Valley Builders, Bethesda, Maryland.

The original mid-20th-century cottage, visible behind the larger brick addition (left), now houses a mudroom and laundry on the ground floor and guest quarters upstairs. A large family room in the addition (above, left) features a sofa from Edward Ferrell + Lewis Mittman, an antique French wine-tasting table and a dry-stacked stone fireplace surround that replicates a fireplace found in one of the farm's other cottages. A passage between the master bedroom and bath (above) leads to a balcony with a Chinese Chippendale balustrade, inspired by architectural elements found at the University of Virginia.

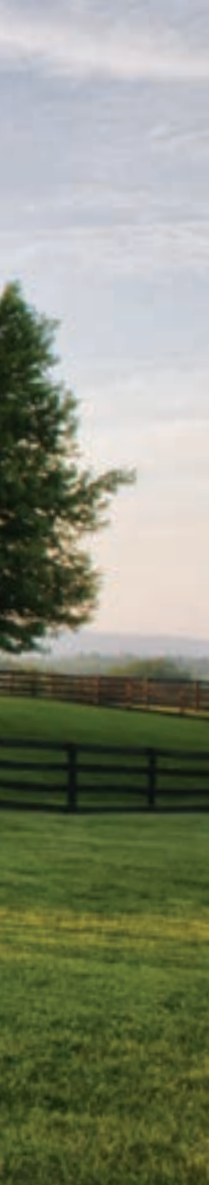
Strong country-style elements, from Majestic Brown marble countertops to hand-hewn beams and repurposed yellow pine floors, warm up the kitchen/dining room (above), designed by Jennifer Gilmer Kitchen & Bath. The custom C-leg dining table from AmericanEye (opposite) expands to seat as many as 10 for dinner. Twelve 19th-century botanical prints mounted as a bi-fold screen (above) hide a large TV over the fireplace. The architect designed and stained a framework of red cedar beams in the sunroom (left), which offers views of the pool, horse barns and gardens.



"Saving an old farm cottage by adding onto it helped make this new house comfortable on the land—like it's always been here."

—MARK BUCHANAN

A massive shift in grade on the original site made expansion of the cottage possible (right). In addition to grading, landscape architect Jay Graham's master plan encompassed a new front garden planted with lilac, boxwood and bottlebrush shrubs to create a nostalgic feel. The completed house looks west toward a pre-existing barn (above) that Mark Buchanan modified to house the owners' horses. At the far end of the entry hall (opposite, top and bottom), the main staircase connects the addition to the original cottage. A skylight illuminates the stairwell and helps to mask the transition from 11-foot ceiling heights in the addition to eight-foot ceilings in the cottage rooms.



Buchanan's plan placed the addition at a right angle to the cottage; it became the new front and main volume of the house. The addition's position on a gentle slope required a major grade elevation, which was addressed by Annapolis landscape architect Jay Graham. The owners tapped Graham to devise a comprehensive master plan for the site, which encompassed not only earthwork, but also a graceful new access road, a complex drainage system and an environmentally smart rain garden. Like Buchanan, Graham also tuned in to the past by introducing lilac and boxwood—both of which have historic roots in Virginia Horse Country.

Sensitivity to the past was a hallmark of the project for the owners, both admirers of Thomas Jefferson's architectural designs. The main-block addition is made of brick laid in a Flemish bond pattern. Inside, millwork and balustrades were re-scaled based on those at the University of Virginia. The formal entry and primary rooms are built on a traditional center-hall plan; the main staircase, at the far end of the center hall, provides a transition to bedrooms in the original cottage on the second floor. A skylight at the top of the stairs visually eases the adjustment from 11-foot ceiling heights in the addition to eight-foot ceiling heights in the cottage; it also bathes the deepest part of the home in light.

The owners' desire to keep the house light drove interior designer Laura Chester's selection of paint and fabric palettes. She noticed the application of Jefferson's over-door transoms "to borrow light room to room" and stretched the effect with hues of vanilla, yellow and wheat for wall colors. The wife's love of leafy and floral patterns, consistent through Chester's design of two other homes for the couple, led to selections of drapery and upholstery fabrics. Chester's familiarity with what she labels "an inherited look" inspired a layering of antiques—many of which are made of fruitwood or faded mahogany and sourced locally. Their honey tones contribute a mellow mood in rooms that function informally for extended family. "This isn't a 'decorated' look, but lived-in and accumulated-looking," Chester explains.

Recalling his own conviction that summer when he first saw the property, Buchanan explains, "Saving an old farm cottage by adding onto it helped make this new house comfortable on the land—like it's always been here. It's hard to believe there was any choice."

The timeless elegance of the home's design is a tribute to the sensitivity of its owners, architect and the entire creative team, who made it look easy. "We didn't want a pure translation of architecture from the 1830s," reflects the husband. "Mark helped us tweak that historical formality toward a more personal, comfortable and modern interpretation." ❖

Writer Susan Stiles Dowell is based in Monkton, Maryland. Gordon Beall is a photographer in Bethesda, Maryland.

SEE RESOURCES ON PAGE 188.

In the compact floorplan, corridors were omitted to economize on space. The front door—visible in the center of the frame—leads to a foyer and the dining room, where a wall of dry-stacked stone wraps around to the family room (opposite). Unobstructed site lines offer views to the outdoors on both sides of the house.

SUN CATCHER

A new, eco-friendly home perched above the Potomac forges a strong connection to nature

BY SHARON JAFFE DAN

PHOTOGRAPHY BY MAXWELL MACKENZIE

Volumes clad in stucco, Douglas fir and stone offer a modern interpretation of Prairie-style architecture. The third-story tower houses Rachel Weller's office (this page). A NanaWall in the living room (opposite) opens seamlessly to a front porch that overlooks the river and also boasts a fireplace.

Located on a bluff high above a mighty river, a multi-tiered stone, wood and stucco home would look right at home in Aspen or Big Sur. Which is exactly what makes its presence along the Potomac River in the Palisades neighborhood of DC, mere minutes from Georgetown, even more surprising.

Harry and Rachel Weller bought the land in 2011 after outgrowing their 100-year-old Victorian a few blocks away. They envisioned a new home that would be everything their old one was not: modern, full of light, open for entertaining and energy efficient. As sports and nature enthusiasts, they also wanted to maximize river views that reminded Rachel of her native Colorado.

The Wellers hired architect Ankie Barnes to design the home, which would replace a small, 1940s-era house on the property. When he asked them to articulate their aesthetic likes and dislikes, they filled a leather portfolio with photos and copious notes. Weaving the images together was what Barnes dubbed a "consistency of spirit"—clean, modern lines; a propensity for natural materials; and multiple references to the work of Frank Lloyd Wright.

"What I like about Frank Lloyd Wright's buildings is that they're ship-shape, like Japanese structures tend to feel," explains Harry Weller, a general partner in the venture capital firm New Enterprise Associates. "They feel well-made while still being modern. I appreciate the clean lines, but also the warmth that Wright and the Japanese are able to create by using materials like wood, stone and brick."

The album also included a shot of one of the Wellers' two young sons and a hand-written dare to "build something this kid can't destroy." This was just one of many challenges facing Barnes and project architect Matthew Fiehn. Though its views across the Potomac are vast, the property itself is only 50 feet wide, leaving a mere 34 feet of buildable width. To counteract its narrow footprint, they would make the house as tall and long as possible, but filtering light into its depths would be tricky.

On the now-completed house, the front façade features a nod to Wright, with large corner columns that straddle an open porch, a central volume and a hip roof. "Like in Wright's Prairie houses," explains Barnes, "long bands of windows, big roof overhangs and a corner window imply there's a view worth looking at."

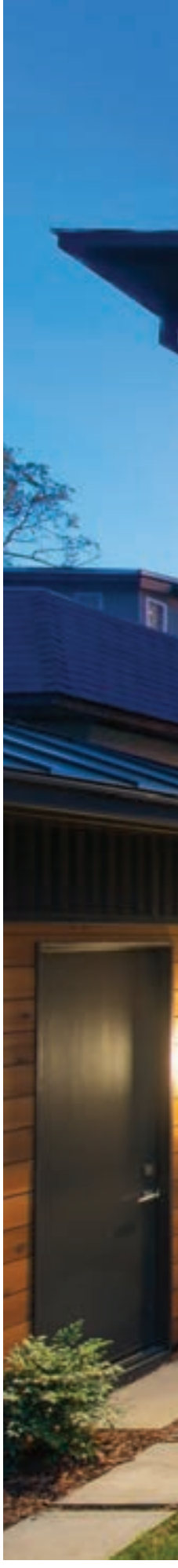
ARCHITECTURE: ANKIE BARNES, FAIA, LEED AP, principal; MATTHEW FIEHN, AIA, LEED AP, project architect, Barnes Vanze Architects, Washington, DC. INTERIOR DESIGN: MIRIAM DILLON, ASID, Associate AIA, Barnes Vanze Architects. BUILDER: Horizon Builders, Crofton, Maryland. LANDSCAPE DESIGN: MARY MAY, San Diego, California.

In organizing the interiors of the four-level home, the architects achieved a sense of both openness and embrace. On the ground level, sight lines extend from the front door to the rear garden to avoid a feeling of confinement. In the front living room and the rear family room, NanaWalls open seamlessly to the outdoors. To economize on space, the plan omits corridors and rooms overlap. And instead of walls, wooden "clouds" suspended from the ceiling delineate the kitchen and dining areas.

The second floor houses the master suite, the boys' bedrooms and shared bath and a comfy lounge lined with bookshelves where the family winds down at night. A guest room occupies the top floor, along with a glassed-in office overlooking the river for Rachel, a medical writer. "I grew up next to the Colorado National Monument where you can see for miles, so I almost feel claustrophobic [in DC]," she relates. "Having this visibility means I can breathe." The lower level features a gym, Harry's home office/man cave with a full suite of deejay equipment and a wine cellar.

The home's east-west orientation assured that the breakfast area at the back of the house would be bathed in morning light while the front porch would make a prime spot for cocktails at sunset. "The challenge," says Barnes, "was the middle of the day. We still needed to bring sun into the house so it's happy at all times." The solution was to turn the four-story stair in the heart of the home into a giant "sun catcher" surrounded by glass.

"Designing the stair carriage was a three-dimensional puzzle," recalls Matthew Fiehn. "One of the biggest challenges in this project was figuring out all the modern detailing so that it looked like it took no effort whatsoever."



An up-lit wooden "cloud" delineates the kitchen (top), where granite countertops and a glass-tile backsplash (above) create a natural palette. Another NanaWall (right) blurs the line between the family room and the outdoors. A detached garage stores the family's mountain bikes and fly-fishing gear.

From the dry-stacked stone walls to the granite countertops and white-oak floors, the interiors convey a warm, organic vibe. Interior designer Miriam Dillon took inspiration for the home's material and furnishings palette from its lush surroundings. "I gravitated toward bringing the outdoors in," she says.

Keeping an eye on the environment, the Wellers and their design team implemented a number of measures—from geothermal heating to solar panels—to minimize the home's carbon footprint. Barnes credits the contractor, Horizon Builders, for taking a "science-savvy" approach and implementing a range of high-performance materials. "It could easily qualify as a LEED house, but the Wellers were not interested in a badge," says Barnes. "They were interested in a well-built house that lasts a long time, that's kind to the planet and that's healthy to live in. And the energy bills are low."

When the architects unveiled their initial plan, recalls Harry, "We teared up. We said, 'That's it. Done.' I give them a lot of credit because usually it's an iterative process. Putting together what we asked for in the way they did was a remarkable accomplishment."

With mountain bikes and fly-fishing equipment ready to go in their new detached garage, the Wellers make the most of their home on the rim of the C&O Canal National Park. "It's our little bit of Colorado," marvels Harry. "If we were to take a picture out the front window and ask people what city we were in, no one would ever guess it was DC."

Maxwell MacKenzie is a photographer in Washington, DC.

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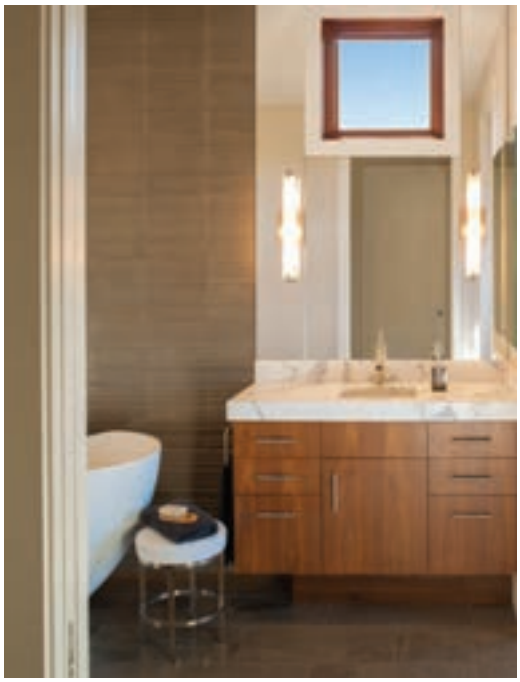
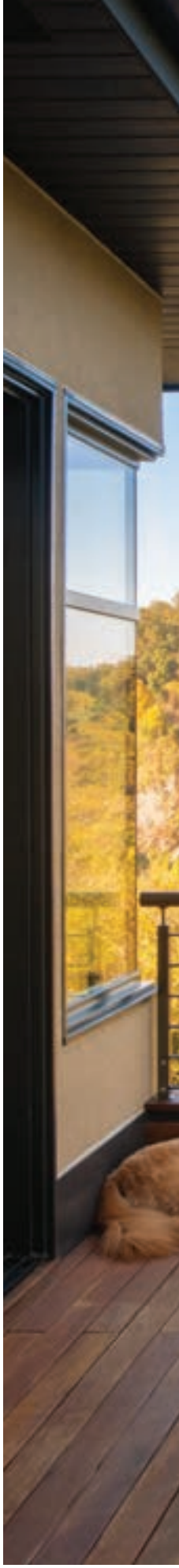
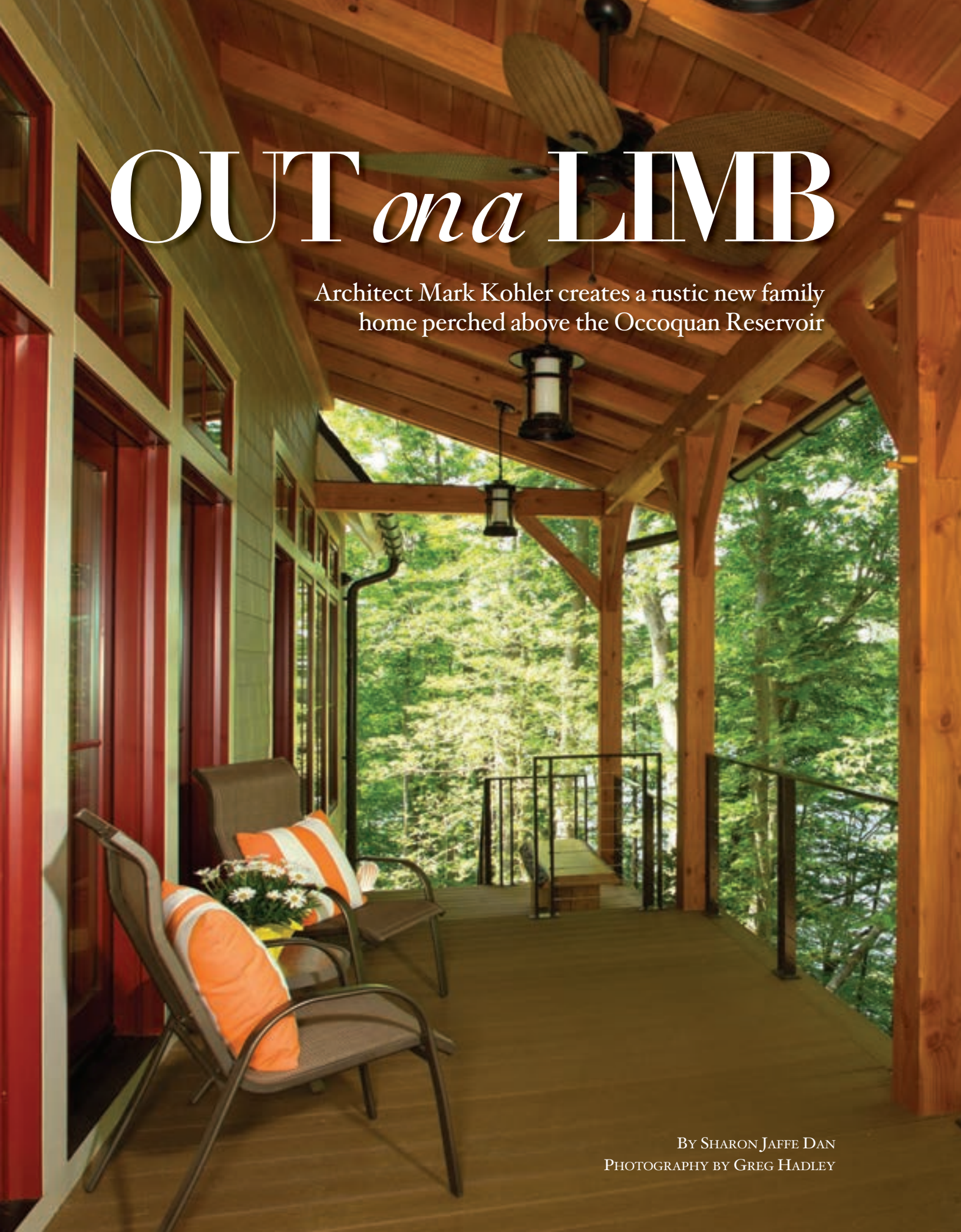




On the second floor, designer Miriam Dillon outfitted a window seat in the master bedroom with cushions in a striped fabric by JAB. The homeowners and their sons, now seven and nine, gather here to read and enjoy the river vistas. The master bath (above) boasts a sculptural tub by Kohler and a marble-topped vanity. Churchill, their golden retriever, lounges on the adjoining deck (right).

"ONE OF THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES IN THIS PROJECT WAS FIGURING OUT ALL THE MODERN DETAILING SO THAT IT LOOKED LIKE IT TOOK NO EFFORT WHATSOEVER."

—MATTHEW FIEHN



OUT *on a* LIMB

Architect Mark Kohler creates a rustic new family home perched above the Occoquan Reservoir

By Sharon Jaffe Dan
Photography by Greg Hadley

From their side porch (left), the Kohlers can descend through the woods to their dock, where kayaks await. Flagstone paving and a dock-like walkway lead to the front entry (above); the music room occupies the wing on the left.

On a whim while visiting a client's job site in 2001, architect Mark Kohler walked down to the end of the wooded street to see a lot for sale. Taken by the beautiful, park-like site that sloped down to the pristine Occoquan Reservoir, he went out on a limb and bought the five-acre Woodbridge, Virginia, parcel as an investment. "We had no plans, but it was a challenge for me as an architect to figure out how to build on this difficult lot," says Kohler, principal of KohlMark Group, an architecture and construction firm.

Little did Kohler know, more than a decade later he would call the property home.

Over the years, he and his wife June would spot the site while kayaking in the reservoir. "I looked up at the houses," June recalls, "and told Mark, 'You could do a really spectacular house on that property.'" Idle talk eventually turned serious as the couple decided to trade their suburban Colonial in Springfield for a rustic retreat that would make them feel like they were on vacation all year round.

The dramatic drop-offs that attracted Kohler in the first place would prove to be his greatest obstacle, since they left him with only a narrow ridge of buildable space. "We staked this thing out so many times," recalls the architect. "It evolved, like a sculpture."

His first priority was laying the foundation without disrupting the surrounding vegetation. "I'm a tree hugger," explains Kohler, who hired an arborist to protect roots and fortify trees. "I didn't want to do any grading. The idea was to save all the trees and make it look like we just dropped the house from a helicopter."

To devote all buildable land to the home, the architect located a pair of pitch-roofed parking pavilions on either side of the driveway, which also proved instrumental as staging ground for material deliveries. "The pavilions are our 'wow' factor and provide a sense of entry," says Kohler. "We wanted it to feel almost like you're pulling into a national park."

The Kohlers envisioned a rustic retreat crafted from natural wood, stone and glass. When Mark's drawings were near completion, he engaged Farmington, New York-based New Energy Works to supply Douglas fir timber framing and reclaimed an-

ARCHITECTURE: MARK KOHLER, AIA, KohlMark Group, Burke, Virginia. BUILDER: MARK KOHLER, principal; ERIC POHLER, project manager, KohlMark Group. INTERIOR DESIGN: FRANCIE MEADE and MARY MEADE SAMPSON, Mary Meade Sampson Interior Design, Ashburn, Virginia. LANDSCAPE DESIGN: PHILIP KLENE and CECILIA PALMER, West Winds Nursery, Sudely Springs, Virginia.

Twin parking pavilions (above) framed with exposed Douglas fir timber create symmetry and a sense of arrival at the home, built on a narrow ridge beyond. The garage also boasts a timber-frame canopy. A covered breezeway with sliding barn doors on either side (left and opposite, bottom) connects the front garage to the mudroom entry. Kohler's team fabricated the benches from a large white oak tree salvaged during construction.

tique heart-pine flooring for the house. "You associate timber framing with vacation homes in Colorado," notes Mark. "It adds to the character and warmth."

He carefully orchestrated the home's layout to play up nature at every turn. As an architect and a builder, Kohler enjoyed the freedom to allow the design to unfold organically, unsaddled by the need to negotiate change orders. He even waited until walls were framed to place windows so that he could be sure to capture the best possible views. "Mark wanted to stand in the actual house and see the views to decide where the glass would be," recalls project manager Eric Pohler.

Today, guests approach the finished home on a walkway reminiscent of a boat dock. A glassed-in front entry connects the music room on the left to the main living space on the right. The latter houses an open-plan great room, dining area and kitchen. A secondary entry leads from the garage through a covered breezeway and into a mudroom/butler's pantry off the kitchen. On the second floor is the Kohlers' lofty master suite, as well as a bed-

"You associate timber framing with vacation homes in Colorado. It adds to the character and warmth." —MARK KOHLER

A glassed-in entry (top, left) connects the two main volumes of the house. In the music room (opposite), full timber-frame construction is visible; double trusses embellish the great room (top, right). The great room opens to the dining area (left) and the kitchen (above), designed by Rich Perkins of NVS Kitchen & Bath. From the kitchen's cherry cabinetry and soapstone countertops to the dry-stacked stone mantel and stair wall, the material palette reflects a rustic look.

A cathedral ceiling in the master suite (opposite) echoes those of the home's public spaces. The suite also features a spacious dressing room (below, left) and a luxurious bathroom complete with sliding barn doors (left), custom vanities by NVS Kitchen & Bath (above) and a spa-like shower (below) clad in tile from Mosaic Tile.

Outside their new home clad in stone and HardiePlank siding, Mark and June Kohler, daughter Monica and their dog Bella (above) relax on a patio with a built-in firepit (right). A nearby path descends 75 feet down to their dock on the reservoir. Landscape designers Philip Klene and Cecilia Palmer added some native plants but largely left the five-acre property in its natural state.

room for their daughter, Monica, a grad student at University of Virginia. An open stair anchored by a wall of dry-stacked stone leads to the lower-level media room, guest suite and home office, where June runs the Kohlers' property management company at a desk with a mesmerizing view of the Occoquan.

The Kohlers turned to Mary Meade Sampson Interior Design to help them select finishes and furnishings. "There are so many choices out there that it's overwhelming," remarks June Kohler. "Mary and her team were really good about directing us." Sampson gravitated toward simple furniture and neutral fabrics that would complement—not compete with—the home's organic materials and views of nature.

More than 12 years after Mark Kohler first walked the property, he and his family finally moved in last year—the realization of a long-time dream. As Eric Pohler recalls, "When Mark hired me back in 2000, he told me I was going to build his house someday. He spent two years at the drawing table designing a house to fit on this challenging lot. Finally, his vision has become a reality."

Though he's been designing and building homes for more than 30 years, Kohler admits that his new home is unlike anything he's ever done before. "It was all new to me and new to Eric," he says, "but I loved every minute of the challenge." ❖

Photographer Greg Hadley is based in Fairfax, Virginia.

SEE RESOURCES ON PAGE 190.

Shazalynn Cavin-Winfrey infuses a luxurious refuge with striking style

serene RETREATS

Three luxurious master baths
bring home spa allure

Previous spread and these pages: Calacatta marble covers the voluminous steam shower in alternating running-bond and herringbone patterns; the shower bench is heated for the ultimate in luxury. Lighter marble tops the Wood-Mode vanities and tub surround. A Circa Lighting fixture blends perfectly with the floor tile and wallpaper.

During the recent makeover of an Alexandria home, interior designer Shazalynn Cavin-Winfrey went for a bold look in the master bath. "The rest of the house is quite energetic, with lots of big color," she explains. "It was important that the bathroom maintain the same level of energy without feeling overwhelming."

The room is centered on an oversized steam shower clad inside and out in richly grained Calacatta marble. The same marble plays a starring role in the floor tile, paired with contrasting London Grey marble in a glamorous Walker Zanger motif called Hollywood Grand. Cavin-Winfrey ran a white-stone border around the floor's perimeter "to create uniformity and definition."

Mirrored walls not only anchor the tub and twin Wood-Mode vanities, but also reflect light throughout the space. Medicine cabinets are recessed into the mirrored surfaces.

On the remaining walls, striped Harlequin wallpaper forges an unexpected visual connection between the floor motif and shower tile. "Most people would say this is the opposite of Zen," Cavin-Winfrey admits, "but the pattern plays help to balance the busyness in the marble. It's all about the blend." From the main space, separate his-and-her water closets lead to graceful dressing rooms for each spouse.

Cavin-Winfrey says the finished bathroom feels proportionate rather than cavernous, despite its size. "It's a luxurious spot to have a steam shower or bath," she says. "It's a place to enjoy and relax."

INTERIOR DESIGN: SHAZALYNN CAVIN-WINFREY, SCW Interiors, Alexandria, Virginia. ARCHITECTURE: STEPHANIE DIMOND, Dimond-Adams Design Architecture, Alexandria, Virginia. CABINETRY: NADIA SUBARAN, Aidan Design, Silver Spring, Maryland. CONTRACTOR: Finn Construction, Alexandria, Virginia. PHOTOGRAPHY: ANGIE SECKINGER. TEXT: SHARON JAFFE DAN.

The shower leaked, the whirlpool tub was collecting dust and the dark marble finishes and brass trim had long overstayed their welcome in the master bath of a Potomac Falls, Virginia, home. So when the owners decided to renovate, there was no question the bathroom had to go.

They enlisted Jonas Carnemark to mastermind a whole-house renovation that would recast their traditional interiors with a clean-lined, modern aesthetic. "The clients are fascinated with art and brevity in architecture," the designer explains. "They wanted to make everything cleaner and more organic."

The new bathroom boasts a soothing, pared-down vibe. A SieMatic vanity and pair of Robern medicine cabinets—all equipped with hidden electrical plugs—keep clutter at bay. Two Alape sinks in glazed steel and an Artemide light fixture in hand-blown Venetian glass speak to a precise, refined sensibility. The pale gray grain of the statuary granite lining the shower wall and vanity backsplash recalls billowing clouds.

After insetting a TV unit into the bedroom wall on the reverse side of the vanity, the designer cleverly took advantage of the resulting "push me, pull you" effect in the bathroom by creating an art niche near the tub where the owners hung one of their favorite paintings, a vibrant abstract. The sculptural Waterworks tub sits under a large picture window that Carnemark designed to replace two standard double-hung windows. "It looks like a painting," reflects the designer, who located the new WC closer to the master bedroom for convenience—and also to make this spa-like bath "a destination of its own."

BATH DESIGN & RENOVATION: JONAS CARNEMARK, CKD, Carnemark Design + Build, Bethesda, Maryland.
PHOTOGRAPHY: ANICE HOACHLANDER.
TEXT: SHARON JAFFE DAN.

Jonas Carnemark creates a warm yet Minimalist escape

The SieMatic vanity (opposite, top) appears to float above the limestone floor; fronts of the Uplift medicine cabinets by Robern slide straight up with the touch of a finger. On the facing wall, a Caesarstone block creates a functional bench inside and outside of the large, glass-enclosed shower (opposite, bottom), where a limestone column houses hand and body sprays. A bold, graphic painting (this page) is displayed in a niche next to a picture window that approximates art.

Diane Shaw conjures a crisp, classical vibe in a Potomac master bath

Gray-veined Carrara marble tiles adorn the floors as well as the decorative mosaic in the shower (this page). Shaw designed a custom double vanity with mirrored fronts (opposite, top) to reflect light in the space. The makeup table on another wall (opposite, bottom) matches its look.

When designing a new Potomac home, Diane Shaw created a master bath that mirrored the aesthetic reflected in the rest of the house: clean-lined yet classical, elegant and sophisticated.

"I wanted to make it beautiful," she says, "but since it's for a couple, it had to be pretty but masculine too."

The large bathroom provided Shaw with expansive walls—one of which now accommodates a double vanity with two sinks while another anchors a makeup table. A soaking tub by Victoria & Albert sits before a bank of windows, and a glass-enclosed shower with a bench is a room in itself. A separate WC is tucked into one corner.

Marble surfaces throughout convey the fresh yet traditional look Shaw was after. The countertops and shower are white Thassos, while the mosaic-tile decorative motif in the shower is gray-veined Carrara, offset by a field of white marble squares. Shaw extended the gray-and-white palette with custom cabinetry.

Every detail has been considered. Twin mirrors by J. Conn Scott above the sinks flank a Pottery Barn sconce that has been refinished to match. A chandelier by Circa Lighting above the tub draws the eye, and antique sconces to either side pick up the nearby shower medallion's design. At the makeup table, a gilt- and silver-framed mirror is a family heirloom, while the antique chair by the tub was a gift from the owners' daughter. ❖

BATH & INTERIOR DESIGN: DIANE SHAW, Diane Shaw Interiors, Potomac, Maryland. ARCHITECT: GERI YANTIS, Sutton Yantis Associates Architects, Vienna, Virginia. BUILDER: Horizon Builders, Inc., Crofton, Maryland. PHOTOGRAPHY: JOHN MAGOR. TEXT: JULIE SANDERS.

BAZAAR

Innovation and creativity distinguish the latest finds for the bath

BY MARIA VOLKOVA

The Derring collection by Kohler brings art to the bath with vessels inspired by studio pottery. Each is individually shaped and carved out of vitreous china and finished off with an artisanal glaze; pictured here, the Carillon Vessel. Available at The Somerville Showroom in Rockville. somervilleshowroom.com

Photo by Bob Narod

Design by Carolyn Thomas, CBD

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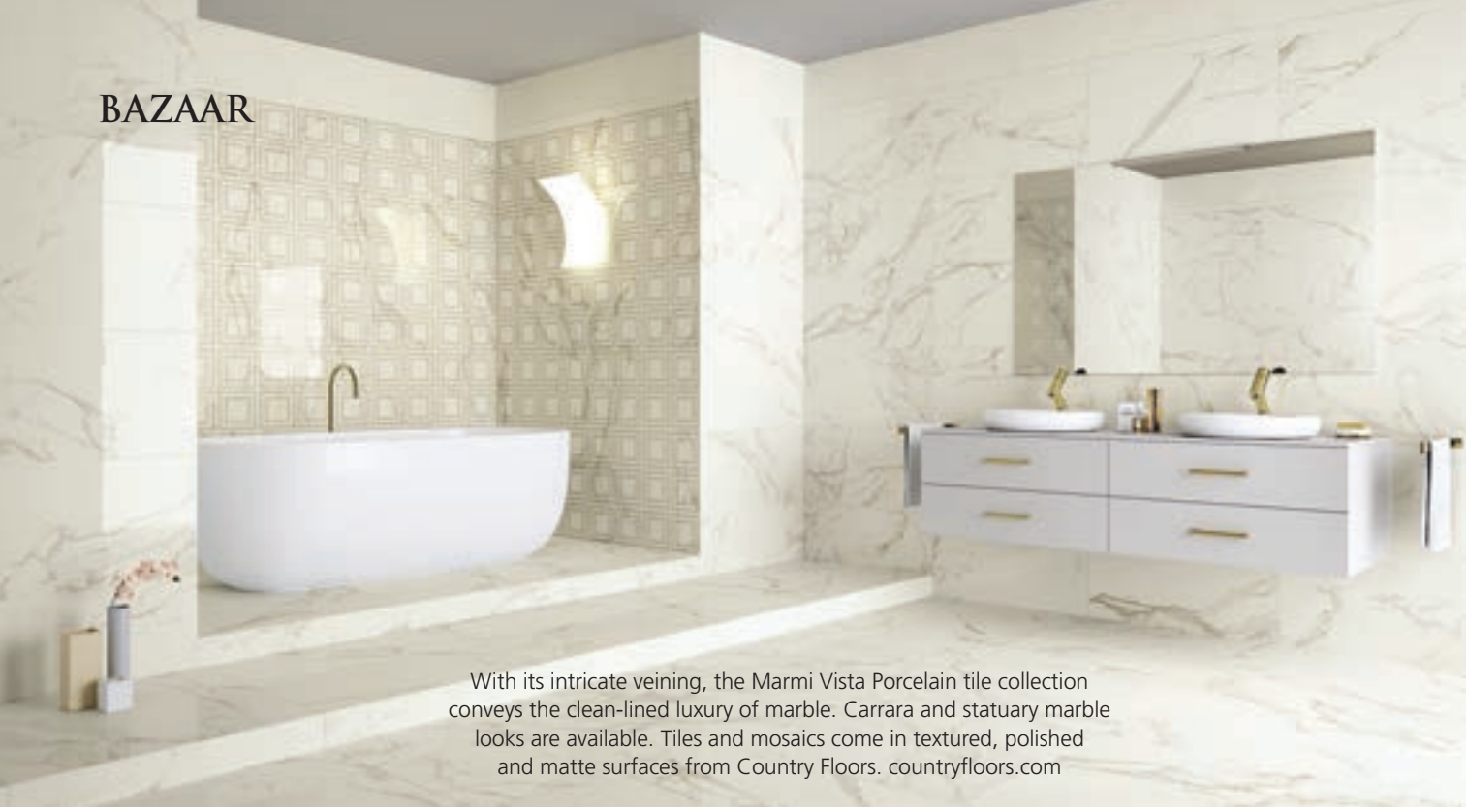

With its intricate veining, the Marmi Vista Porcelain tile collection conveys the clean-lined luxury of marble. Carrara and statuary marble looks are available. Tiles and mosaics come in textured, polished and matte surfaces from Country Floors. countryfloors.com

▲ The distinctive Chelsea Sink from Thompson Traders is hand-hammered from copper with an antique-satin gold finish and a hidden drain. It's an ideal choice for small spaces. thompsontraders.com

◄ Notable Italian designer Stefano Giovannoni has teamed with Laufen to create the stylish ILBAGNOALESSI One series of toilets and bidets, characterized by a combination of energy efficiency and whimsy. The collection features an indestructible surface glaze that makes cleaning easy. Pictured here, the Floorstanding Two-Piece Water Closet. laufen.com

◄ MTI Baths has introduced the Boutique Collection Teak Bench, a teak-and-engineered stone shower bench intended for both indoor and outdoor use. Available with a range of looks—from Parsons legs to waterfall sides—the bench measures 16 inches wide and 20 inches high and comes in four lengths. mtibaths.com

▲ Opulent French Baccarat crystal adorns a collection of jewelry-inspired bath fittings and accessories from THG-Paris. Beyond Crystal features translucent, rectangular crystal handles in a variety of Baccarat hues including Ruby Red (pictured), Soft Champagne, Aqua, Deep Blue and Clear. An optional LED system in the handle illuminates the base. thgusa.com

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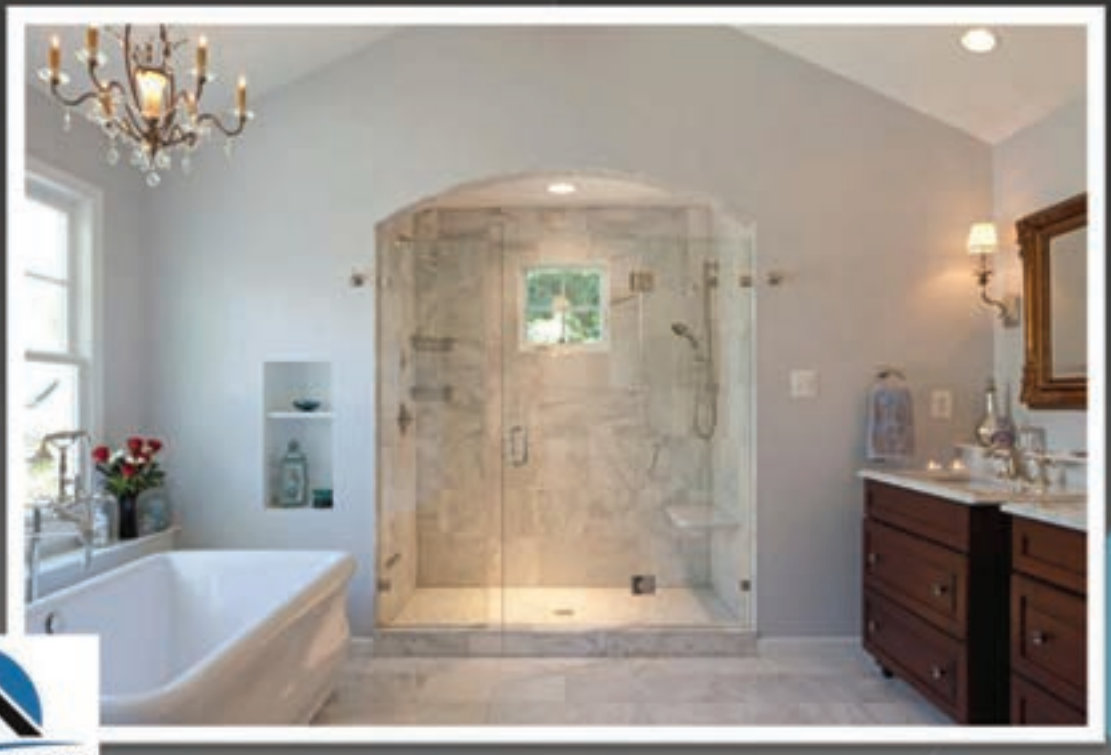
-Bruce and Wilma Bowers



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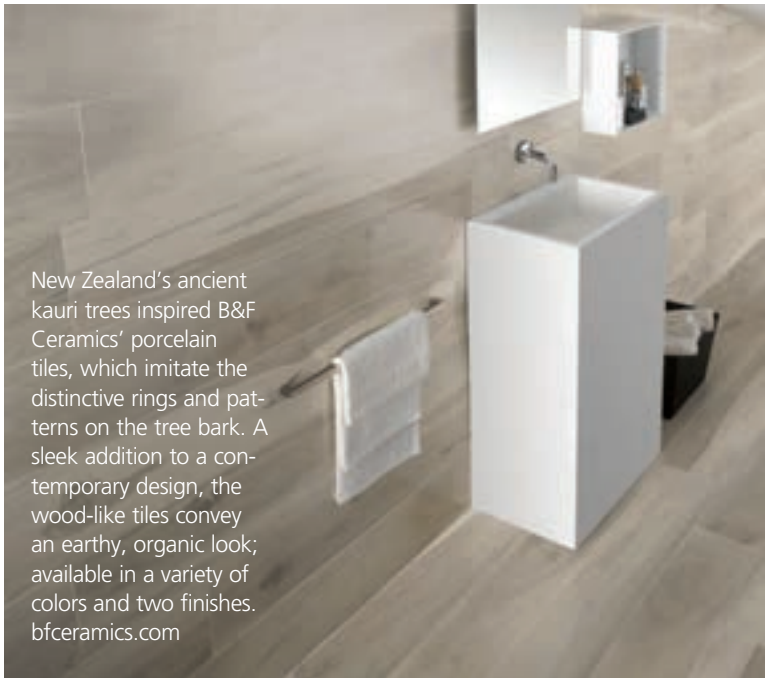
Celebrating 25 Years in Business

Wetstyle has introduced a chic, affordable collection of bathtubs, sinks and furniture called W2. The tubs are made from an eco-friendly natural-stone material that is slip-resistant and thermo-insulated. Here, the Wave Bathtub is paired with two Element Vanities. wetstyle.ca

◄ ZeroDrain, an innovative sink drain by California Faucets, pops down instead of up. Thus, when it's flush with the basin, the drain is actually open. This sleek design is easy to install and opens and closes at the touch of a finger. Available in more than 30 finishes. calfaucets.com



New Zealand's ancient kauri trees inspired B&F Ceramics' porcelain tiles, which imitate the distinctive rings and patterns on the tree bark. A sleek addition to a contemporary design, the wood-like tiles convey an earthy, organic look; available in a variety of colors and two finishes. bfceramics.com

▲ Phifer's Sheerweave sun-control shades provide solace from the sun's heat and glare. A range of weaves offers varying amounts of light and privacy, making them perfect for the bath. Available in more than 30 hues, from White and Bone to Charcoal and Chestnut. phifer.com

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▼ The eco-friendly Richmond toilet from Icera uses only 1.28 gallons of water per flush. It boasts an elongated bowl and ADA height for comfort, and a timeless, classic look that can be adapted to any décor. Comes in a one- or two-piece model, or a wall-mounted version. A matching bidet is also available. icerausa.com

▲ With its array of soft, restful hues, the Soothe collection of ceramic backsplash tiles from Best Tile is meant to create a tranquil vibe in the bath. Available in a four-by-24-inch format in seven neutral colors; all tiles come in a satin finish, with White and Milk also available in high gloss. besttile.com

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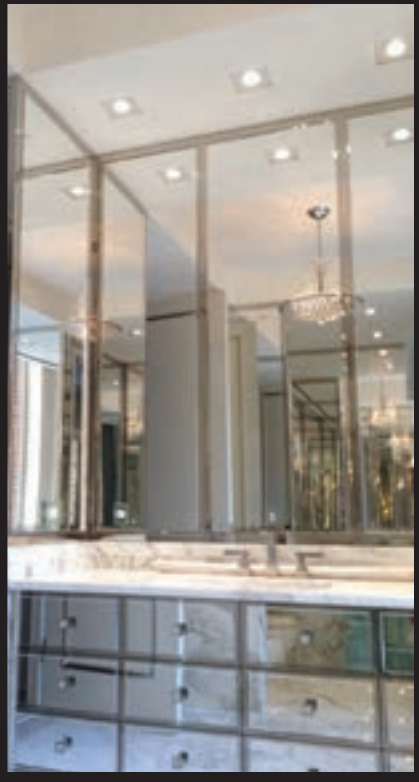

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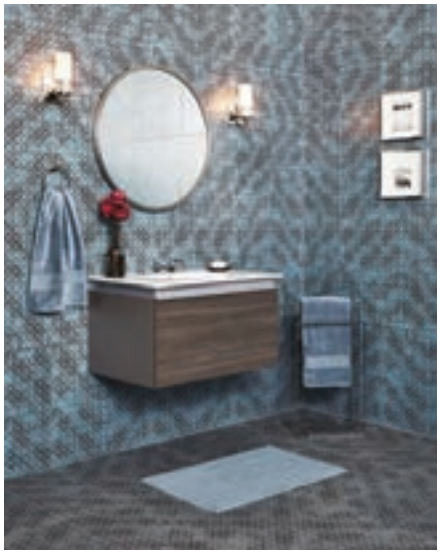
BAZAAR

▲ The ARAS collection of bath furniture by Ryvyr features vanities inspired by modern European designs, with diamond-cut wood doors that resemble tufted-leather upholstery. Available in black or gray, they can be wall-mounted or installed on decorative legs. Countertops are sold separately. ryvyr.com

▲ The Strap Collection of bath fixtures and accessories by Sonoma Forge conveys a modern yet industrial vibe that pays tribute to the company's metal-working origins. The Strap Designer Faucet (pictured) combines Satin Black and Satin Nickel finishes for an unusual look. sonomaforge.com



◄ Etro, a new line of porcelain tiles from AKDO, echoes the color trends from Jason Wu's 2015 runway collection and the metallic, textured grays found at Paris Fashion Week. Suitable for indoor and outdoor use; color options include Soft Grey, Soft Beige, Metal Grey, Metal Blue and Metal Celeste. akdo.com ❖

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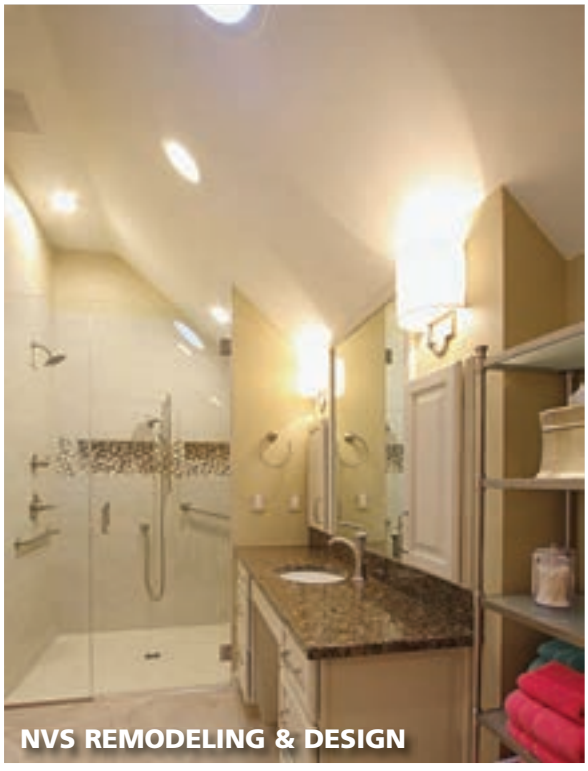

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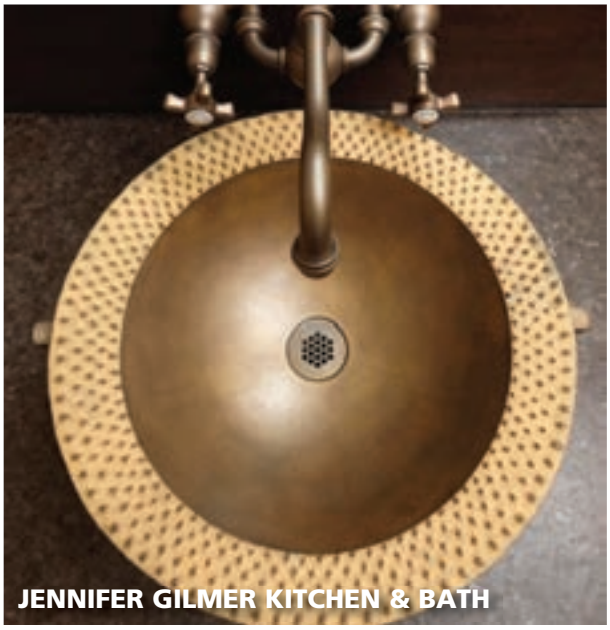
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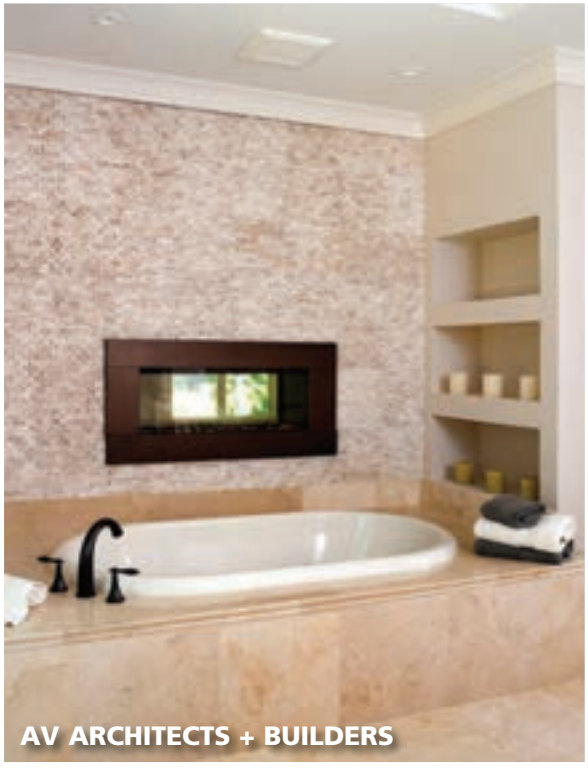

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A team of pros takes a landscape project from planning to completion

Owners of a Shingle-style home on Annapolis's South River asked principal Scarlett Breeding of Alt Breeding Schwarz Architects—who had designed the original house—to update the interiors with better flow from the inside out. Landscape architect Bob Hruby created a complementary plan for the site with two main elements: a swimming pool with a modern look and an inviting, functional approach to the house. The arrival now offers room to park and a walkway to both the pool garden and the front door. Landscape steps lead to the front porch. To one side, Hruby designed a garden with a rectangular "deck edge" swimming pool and shade arbor. Wood fencing and stone walls marry the garden with the house and landscape. A deck connects the pool garden to a screened porch and overlook garden. Walnut Hill Landscape Company was tapped to install the new landscape, a job that included extensive stonework and plantings. The land now serves as an extension of the house, while taking perfect advantage of its waterfront locale. On the following pages, members of the design team shed light on the process.

BY JULIE SANDERS

PHOTOGRAPHY BY MICHAEL PROKOPCHAK

Bob Hruby's design for the pool (left and below) creates an edgy, modern vibe by combining materials including wood decking and stone in a clean-lined, rectangular shape. A shade arbor offers comfortable seating. The home's front entry has been enhanced by a winding drive (bottom, left); a retaining wall and a boxwood border separate the drive from the pool area.

MICHAEL PROKOPCHAK

Walnut Hill Landscape Company

What should clients look for in the company they choose to install their landscape plan?

They should check references and visit the finished projects of potential landscaping companies in person. Seeing projects first-hand gives clients a better understanding of the caliber of the company they are choosing. Attention to detail and craftsmanship will be apparent during these visits.

What challenges are involved in the installation of landscape and hardscape?

The biggest challenge in any landscape project is the living items. Plantings that are appropriate to the conditions of the site need to be selected. Proper soil preparation often gets overlooked, yet it is a major part of plant success. Ensuring the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 166

ARCHITECTURE: SCARLETT BREEDING, AIA, Alt Breeding Schwarz Architects, Annapolis, Maryland. BUILDER: Pyramid Builders, Annapolis, Maryland. LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE: BOB HRUBY, ASLA, Campion Hruby Landscape Architects, Annapolis, Maryland. LANDSCAPE INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE: MICHAEL PROKOPCHAK, Walnut Hill Landscape Company, Annapolis, Maryland.

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What was your vision for this project?
My vision was to organize the large number of requested site elements in a manner that would feel comfortable, whether one person or 100 people were using the space. I also wanted to design dynamic spaces that would be experienced differently from day to night and season to season.

How do you reconcile your vision with that of the client?
I try to ensure the homeowners are properly educated as to why the project should be designed in a particular way. I lean on past experiences to help me guide clients in the best direction. In order to turn my vision into our vision, a positive collaboration must take place.

What challenges did you encounter on this project?
At first glance, the site was large enough to accommodate everything the client requested, but we quickly discovered that the usable area was actually small in relation to the lot size. We worked around severe restrictions due to septic-field setbacks, utility-easement restrictions and drainage concerns.

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correct amount of water is another factor that is crucial to maintaining healthy plantings. New plantings require more water than established plants.

Installing hardscape is a very meticulous task. Proper drainage, elevations, materials and dimensions must be considered for a successful hardscape project. Installing stairs is the most challenging aspect, as the risers and treads all have to be exactly the same.

SCARLETT BREEDING, AIA

Alt Breeding Schwarz Architects

How should landscape design reinforce the architectural vision for a house?
The landscape plan should be an extension of the architecture. We partner with a landscape architect early in the process to ensure that the house and garden will not only respond to the way the owner plans to use the spaces, but in a waterfront house such as this, will also celebrate and maximize the expansive Chesapeake Bay views.

What role should the architect play in the design of a landscape?
The architect's vision should guide the unfolding landscape design.

BOB HRUBY, ASLA

Campion Hruby Landscape Architects

What factors do you consider in an elaborate landscape design such as this one that includes so many elements?
Elements, or objects, in the landscape should never detract from the clarity of the space or the "big idea" behind it. For example, if this "big idea" is about views to the bay and environmental stewardship, then the arrangement of paving, plantings and other elements should consider how water moves and how to frame views.

We always strive to capture the spirit of a place while also providing for the needs of our clients. In this case, the house and gardens are carefully knitted together in a way that is both bold and sympathetic with the surrounding landscape.

Landscape steps lead up to the front entrance, creating a sense of arrival.

What are some tricks to organizing spaces and creating transitions between them?
A continuity of materials, gateways between spaces and a partial visual connection to the next space will keep a visitor curious about what is around the corner. It is nice to add an element of mystery by not revealing the whole garden at once. ❖

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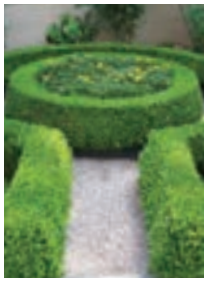

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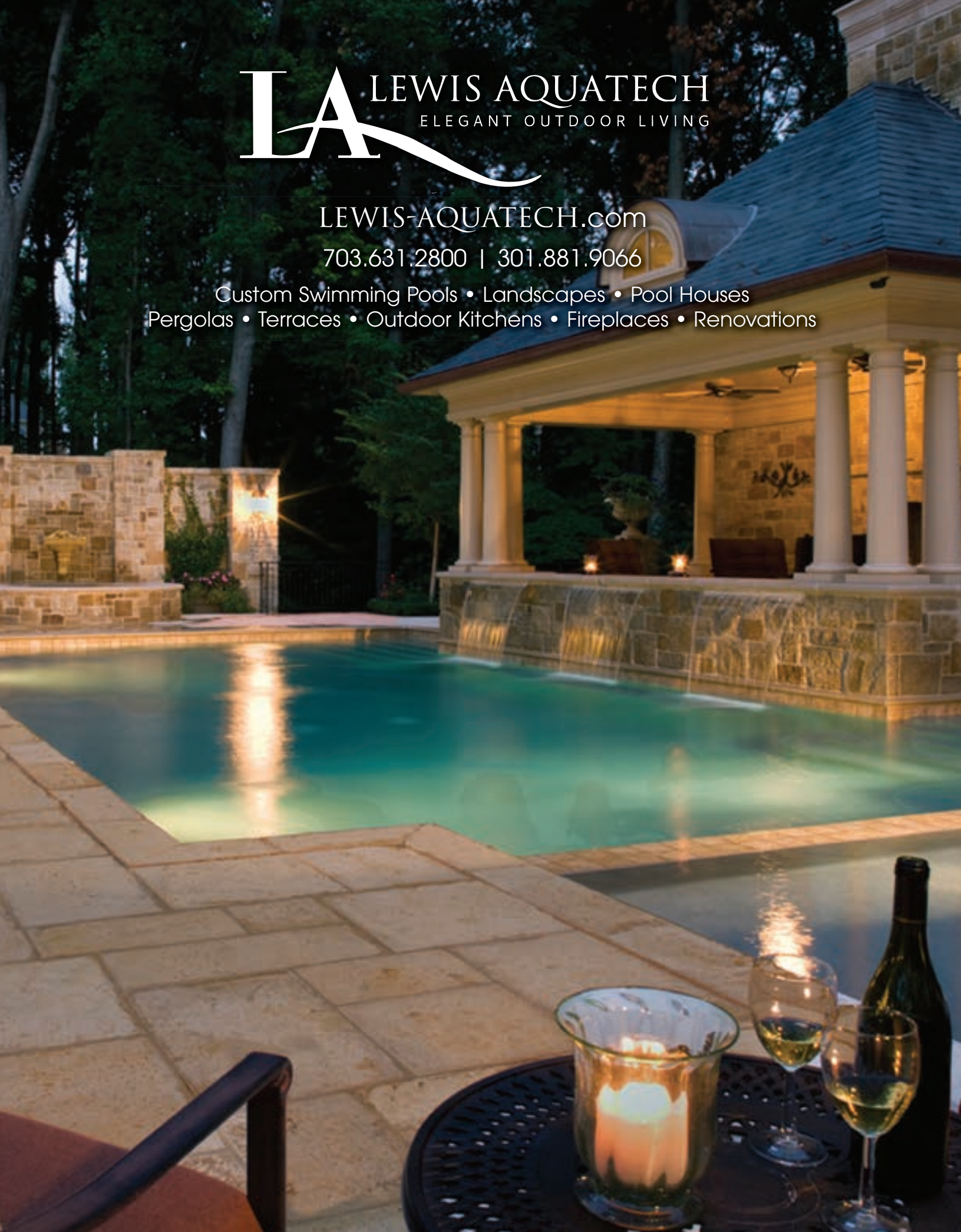
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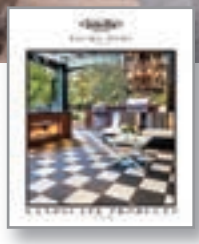

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The artist (pictured in his Silver Spring studio) conveys the dynamic intensity of a twilight tableau in "Light Event" (below), a 60-by-40-inch oil on canvas.

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NIGHT*scape*

An air of mystery suffuses ordinary scenes Trevor Young captures from dusk to dawn

BY TINA COPLAN

In the incandescent light of Trevor Young's paintings, tender is the night. Past the shimmering surface of his polished art, isolated buildings and distant roadways inhabit an unsettling landscape, where high- and low-voltage currents charge the nocturnal stillness.

Painting on the dark side comes naturally to Young. In early evening seven nights a week, he turns on his music playlist, thumbs through selected art books for inspiration and shifts into painting mode. "I'm a true night owl," says the artist, who continues working until 3 a.m. and often later. "There's something uplifting about the mind at night. It's a creative time. There are no windows in the studio. I don't think of the world outside."

Young's workspace occupies the second floor of a commercial building in downtown Silver Spring. Like the artist's paintings, his studio—with paint-splattered easel, bins of oil paints and brushes and no WiFi—is a throwback.

"Painters are so dedicated to something so outmoded," Young says unapologetically, adding, "There's no way to explain to someone drawing on an iPad what it feels like to squeeze paint onto a palette. It's not about image-making. It's about the sensation of painting. It gets in your DNA."

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Striding across the room, he points to one of a half-dozen paintings in various stages of completion. It depicts a mid-sized glass building glowing from behind bare, dark trees. "It's the new Museum of African American History," the artist says of the image, explaining that in preparation he took some 200 photos during all phases of the building's construction. He found the perfect moment, one wet night around 1 a.m. "It was super-cold, " he recalls. "People were working. The light was warmer inside and cooler on the outside. It pulsed."

The artist's real work started then. To intensify the central light, he experimented with a new technique: applying semi-transparent layers of liquid gold and silver pigment. He reshaped and moved trees up front, forcing viewers to look through open branches before seeing the radiant focal point.

On a recent visit to Young's studio, that painting was almost finished. He headed to another that had been in progress for a year. A hefty 60-inch square, the image showed a gray airplane, its mammoth frame resting like a beached whale. "I saw an airplane in a dark hangar in my head," he explains. "I had to work out a way to make it exist."

While the painter starts out each evening with a strategy, reaching the end goal can be elusive. "I'm looking for dynamic space, an intensity, a mood, if I can find it," Young says. "I'm moving forward and hoping something happens. Sometimes you move past it; you lose the intensity, and you have to do it again. There's no sentimentality toward it." To meet the challenge, he has layered as many as five paintings on a single canvas.

For the past few years, Young's art has followed a formal rulebook, minimizing space, color and light. He has recently introduced trees, rain, even a sunrise. And the bar has been raised for drama.

The artist himself—with swept-back black hair, a five-o'clock shadow and penetrating eyes that never rest on any spot for long—is a figure of dramatic intensity. He could be cast as the passionate artist in a film-noir movie. In fact, the painter credits those classic films as an influence on his work. They share a mood of mystery. And Young has started to include high-contrast light and shadow, a hallmark of black-and-white cinema.

Young applied liquid gold and silver to a work-in-progress depicting the National Museum of African American History (above) under construction. His oils on canvas, such as "Building" and "AM Erection," (below, left to right) cast urban vistas in moody, ephemeral strokes.

In his own story, too, Young could be a player in one of those films, pounding the funky streets near his studio for almost his entire life. Raised in Takoma Park, he attended school in Silver Spring and took summer classes with the legendary painting teacher Walter Bartman at Glen Echo. Between early college years at the Cleveland Institute of Art and graduating from The University of the Arts in Philadelphia, he took time off and set up a studio in his parents' basement.

During that period, he often painted on location in a parking garage on Silver Spring's Bonifant Street—at night under fluorescent bulbs ("great light," he says). Twenty years later, Young found himself back on that street searching for a studio. He bumped into a man who recognized him from those long nights painting in the parking lot—on the same street where his studio is now located.

That parking garage, a gas station in Kensington, a diner in Detroit and other drive-by spots have been transformed into American archetypes through Young's luminous art. "Night is my favorite," the artist confirms in sparkling tones. "I love working at night: how it looks, how fast-food restaurants glow. There's a potency that doesn't happen during the day." ❖

Writer Tina Coplan is based in Chevy Chase, Maryland. For more information on the artist, visit trevoryoung.net or contact Addison/Ripley Fine Art; addisonripleyfineart.com.

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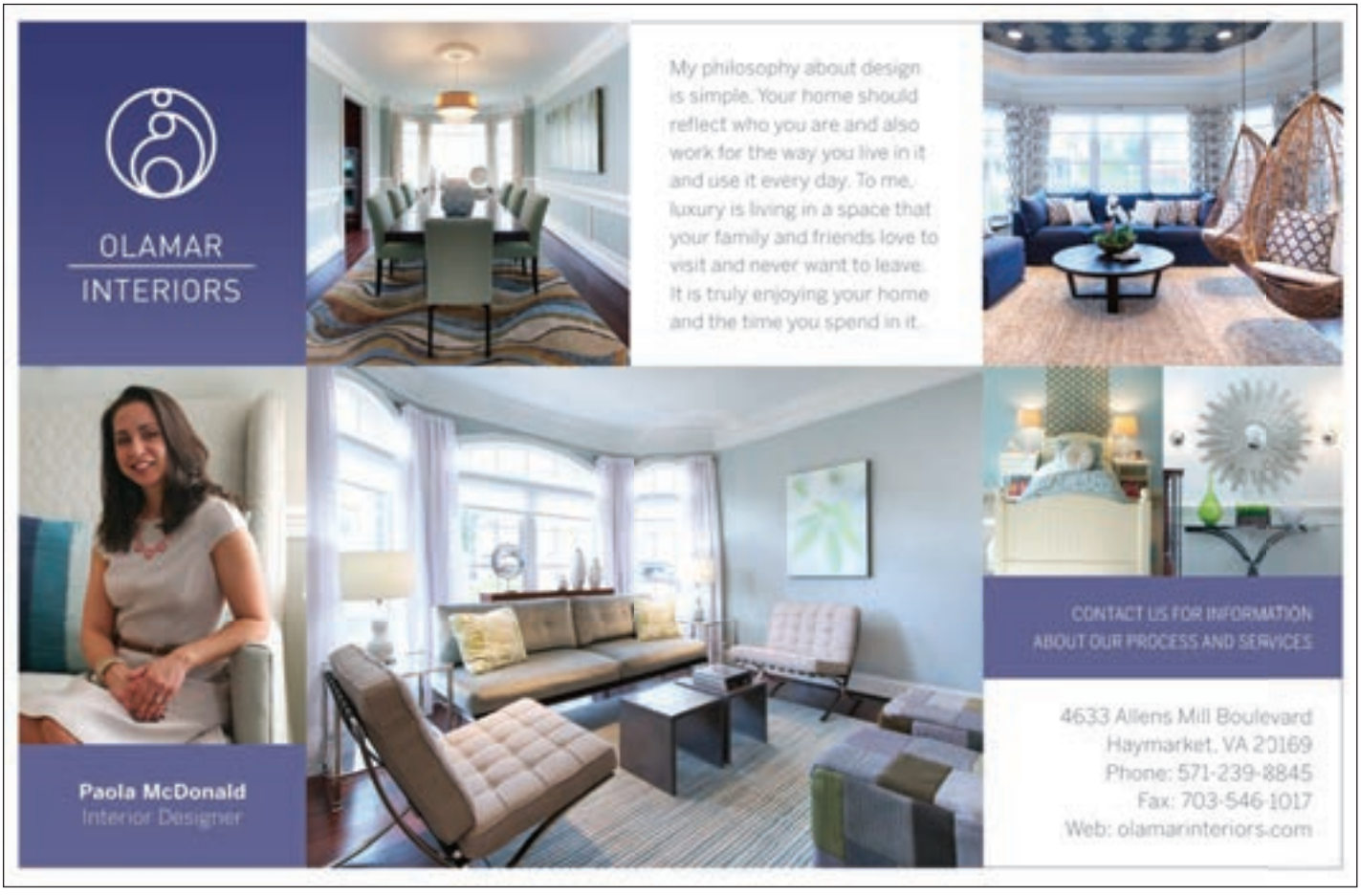
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PERFECT PANORAMA FROM PAGE 105

ARCHITECTURE: Christian Zapatka Architect, PLLC; christianzapatka.com. BUILDER: OC Builders; 703-827-7716. LANDSCAPE DESIGN: Area Landscaping, Inc.; arealandscapinginc.com.

THROUGHOUT
Walnut Floors: Classic Floor Designs; classicfloordesigns.info. **Windows & Glass Doors:** Marvin Integrity Series; marvin.com.

ENTRY—PAGES 98, 104
Stools by Front Door: Custom by swaim-inc.com.
Stairs: Mid-Atlantic Welding & Fabrication, Inc. (midatlanticweldingfab.com), Glass & Shower Specialties, Inc.; 703-491-1542.

OFFICE—PAGE 99
Desk: scandesign.com. **Upholstered Chairs by Desk:** Custom by swaim-inc.com.
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DINING AREA—PAGE 100
Dining Table and Chairs: scandesign.com.
Animal-Hide Chaise: dwr.com.

KITCHEN—PAGE 100
Cabinetry: kraftmaid.com.

LIVING ROOM—PAGES 101, 102
Sofas: Custom by swaim-inc.com.
Bench by Window: jeanpierreantiques.com.
Coffee Table & Black Leather Chair: dwr.com.

BALCONY—PAGE 103
Chaise with Cushions: macys.com.

PORCH—PAGE 105
Teak Chair: janusetcie.com.

MASTER BATH—PAGE 105
Calacatta Marble Tiles: annsacks.com.
Cabinetry: jeddinger.com.

SIMPLE ROOTS FROM PAGE 115

ARCHITECTURE: Neumann Lewis Buchanan Architects; nlbarchitects.com. INTERIOR

DESIGN: Laura Chester Interiors, 540-364-1775. LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE: Graham Landscape Architecture; grahamlandarch.com. BUILDER: Potomac Valley Builders; potomacvalleybuilders.com.

FOYER (FRONT DOOR)—PAGES 108, 109
Chest of Drawers: hasteningantiques.com. **Bench:** sarreid.com. **Mirror:** Through Laura Chester Interiors. **Pillow Fabric:** cowtan.com. **Sconces:** marstonluce.com. **Sisal Rug:** starkcarpet.com. **Chandeliers:** mcleanlighting.com through michaelclearyllc.com.

FAMILY ROOM—PAGES 110, 111
Sofa, Ottoman & Chairs: ef-lm.com. **Sofa Fabric:** hinescompany.com. **Leather Welting on Sofa:** hollyhunt.com. **Chair Fabric:** cowtan.com. **Sconces:** vaughandesigns.com. **Pillow Fabrics:** robertallendesign.com. **Art above Fireplace:** Clients' collection. **Rug:** starkcarpet.com. **Drapery Fabric:** vervain.com.

SECOND FLOOR SITTING ROOM—PAGE 111
Armchairs: ef-lm.com. **Armchair Fabric:** cowtan.com. **Pillow Fabric:** Antique. **Tapestry on Pillows:** Laura Chester Interiors. **Desk, Lamp:** Clients' collection. **Drapery Fabric:** fabricut.com. **Rug:** starkcarpet.com. **Chandelier:** visualcomfort.com.

DINING AREA—PAGE 112
Chairs: chaddockhome.com through hinescompany.com. **Chair Fabric:** cowtan.com. **Chandelier:** visualcomfort.com. **Table:** americaneyewdc.net. **Rug:** Galleria Carpets; 202-863-0106.

KITCHEN—PAGE 113
Kitchen Design: gilmerkitchens.com. **Cabinetry:** premiercb.com. **Countertops:** Majestic Brown marble. **Pendant:** visualcomfort.com.

SUNROOM—PAGE 113
Sofa: hickorychair.com. **Sofa Fabric:** zimmer-rohde.com. **Pillow Fabric:** robertallendesign.com. **Chair by Sofa:** americaneyewdc.net. **Chairs behind Sofa:** chaddockhome.com through hinescompany.com. **Sconces:** vaughandesigns.com. **Rug:** thenewenglandcollection.com. **Coffee Table & Chest near Sofa:** Owners' collection.

STAIRWELL—PAGE 115
Area Rug: melrosefineantiques.com. **Table:** baileywyckshoppes.com. **Lamp:** Owners' collection. **Runner:** starkcarpet.com. **Lantern:** mcleanlighting.com though michaelclearyllc.com. **Sconces on Second Floor:** vaughandesigns.com.

SUN CATCHER FROM PAGE 123

ARCHITECTURE & INTERIOR DESIGN: Barnes Vanze Architects; barnesvanze.com. BUILDER: Horizon Builders; horizonbuilders.com. LANDSCAPE DESIGN: Mary May; 240-994-0535.

THROUGHOUT
Staircase Fabrication: masterpiecestaircase.com. **Home Automation:** abenetworks.com.

FAMILY ROOM—PAGES 114, 115
Wood Chairs & Sofa Table: Owners' collection. **Platner Lounge Chair:** hivemodern.com. **Sofa:** kravet.com. **Rug:** timothypaulhome.com.

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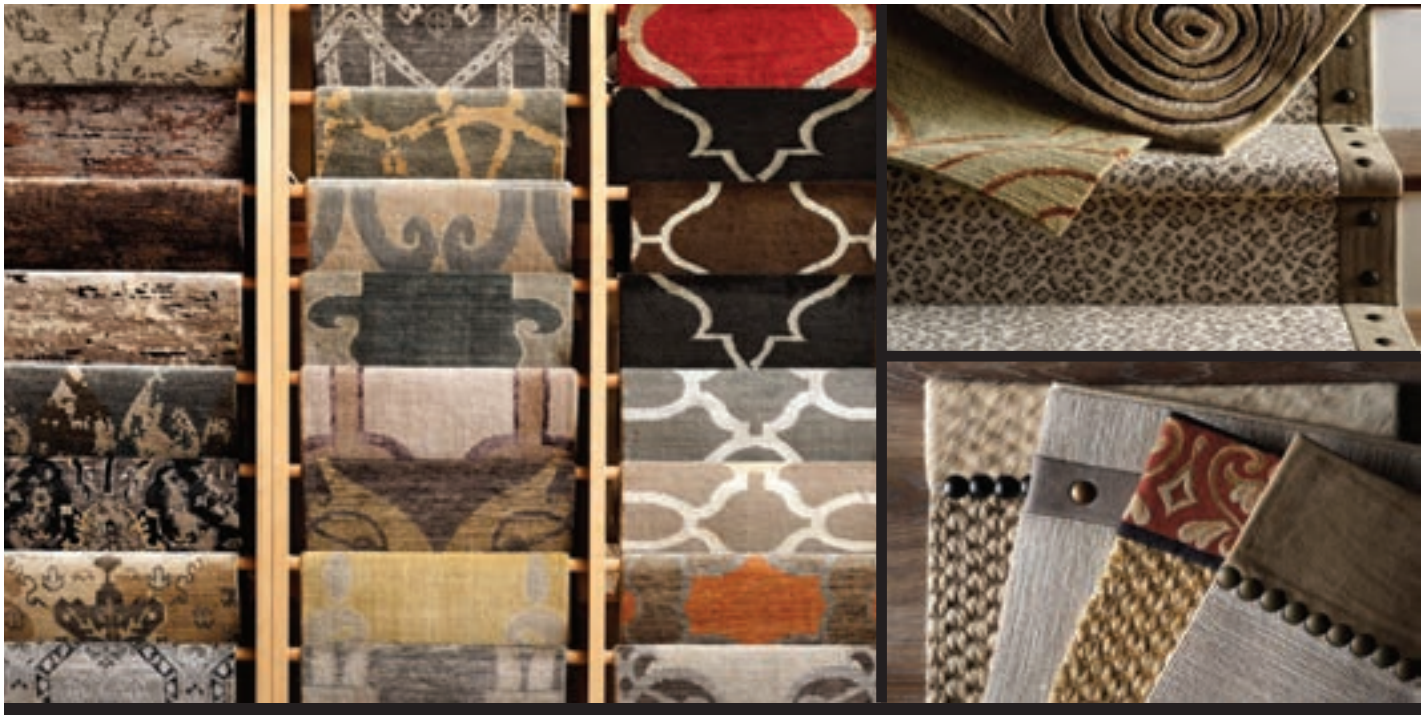
Cabinets: poggenpohl.com. **Countertops:** Absolute Black granite. **Stools:** dwr.com.
Range: subzero-wolf.com.
LIVING ROOM—PAGE 119
Sofa: leeindustries.com.
Coffee Table: Owners' collection.
Rug: timothypaulhome.com.
PK 22 Lounge Chairs: hivemodern.com.
Fireplace Wall Tile: renaissancetileandbath.com
MASTER BEDROOM—PAGE 122
Bed: Custom by barnesvanze.com.
Bedding: timothypaulhome.com.
Rug: georgetownfloorcoverings.com.
Window Seat Fabric: JAB (jab.de/en) through jlambeth.com. **Sconces:** Vaughan (vaughandesigns.com) through hinescompany.com. **Drapery Fabric:** kravet.com. **Chair & Ottoman:** Owners' collection.
MASTER BATHROOM—PAGE 122
Vanity: Custom by barnesvanze.com.
Sconces: dominionelectric.com.
Countertop: Calacatta marble. **Tub:** Kohler (kohler.com) through ferguson.com.
Stool: waterworks.com.

OUT ON A LIMB FROM PAGE 133

ARCHITECTURE & CONSTRUCTION: KohlMark Group; kohlmark.com.
INTERIOR DESIGN: Mary Meade Sampson Interior Design; marymeadesampson.com.
LANDSCAPE DESIGN: West Winds Nursery; westwindsnurseryllc.com.
THROUGHOUT
Kitchen & Bath Design: nvskb.com. **Landscape Lighting:** enlightenedlights.com. **Timber-Frame Construction & Reclaimed Flooring:** timberframe-postandbeamhomes.com. **Home Automation:** sightandsoundsystems.com.
BREEZEWAY—PAGE 127
Pendants Lights: restorationhardware.com.

GREAT ROOM—PAGE 127
Sofa & Chairs: arhaus.com. **Coffee Table & Light Fixture:** restorationhardware.com.
Rug: potterybarn.com.
KITCHEN—PAGE 127
Cabinets: durasupreme.com.
Pendant Lights: hudsonvalleylighting.com.
Soapstone Countertops: unitedgranite.us.
Appliances: dacor.com. **Sink:** blanco-germany.com. **Backsplash:** marblesystems.com.
DINING ROOM—PAGE 127
Chandelier: ballarddesigns.com. **Table & Chairs:** arhaus.com.
MUSIC ROOM—PAGE 128
Furniture: arhaus.com. **Sconces:** curreycodealers.com.
MASTER BATH—PAGE 129
Vanities: durasupreme.com. **Soapstone Countertops:** unitedgranite.us. **Shower Tile & Mosaic:** mosaictileco.com. **Light Fixtures:** Murray Feiss (murrayfeisslight.com) through dulleselectric.com. **Mirrors:** potterybarn.com.
MASTER BEDROOM—PAGE 130
Bedstead & Night Tables: drexelheritage.com. **Lamps:** bobtimberlake.com. **Ceiling Fan:** homedepot.com.



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LUXURY HOMES

In this issue, we spotlight the 2015 Maryland Building Industry Association Awards, which celebrate excellence in architecture and construction. Each year, MBIA award-winners happily reflect the range and caliber of the custom-building projects recently completed in our region—exemplified, on the left, by a sprawling, waterfront home by Anthony Wilder Design/Build, which won a Gold award for Custom Home over 5,000 square feet. In a whole different style, our Notable Listing features an innovative modern house in McLean, Virginia, ingeniously designed around an indoor pool. Also in the issue: model homes, industry news and more.

Industry UPDATE

Clean Air Code

Kettler Forlines Homes is one of eight builders nationwide to win a 2015 Indoor airPLUS Leader Award for The Reserve at Brightwell Crossing, where buyers can choose among six Energy Star- and Indoor airPLUS-certified home designs. Created by the EPA, Indoor airPLUS improves indoor air quality by specifying moisture control systems; heating, ventilation and air-conditioning systems; combustion-venting systems; radon-resistant construction; and low-emitting building materials.

Confidence Booms

Builder confidence in the market for newly built, single-family homes hit a level of 60 on the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB)/Wells Fargo Housing Market Index (HMI) in late summer, the NAHB reports—the highest level since November 2005. "Housing continues to improve at a steady pace," said NAHB chairman Tom Woods. "As we head into the second half of 2015, we should expect a continued recovery of the housing market."

To Build a House

According to the Census Bureau Survey of Construction, in 2014 it took an average of 6.2 months to complete a new, single-family home in the U.S. Houses built for sale took an average of 5.4 months, while those built on the owner's land with the owner serving as the general contractor took 10.8 months on average. Those built by a contractor took an average of 7.5 months.

The Potomac Overlook Brownstones, with the Potomac River visible in the distance.

WHO'S BUILDING WHAT

High Style

Craftmark Homes, which is showcasing its New Windsor design at Layhill Overlook in Silver Spring, Maryland, is listing the New Windsor model home for sale. The 3,000-square-foot home includes a two-car, rear-entry garage; hardwood on the first floor; formal dining and living rooms; a library with built-in bookcases and French doors; and an expanded family room with a gas fireplace. The kitchen features ivory maple cabinetry, granite countertops, stainless-steel appliances and an eight-foot kitchen island. The owners' suite has vaulted ceilings, a sitting room, walk-in closets and a luxury bath. There are three additional bedrooms and two more full baths. From the $570s; the model is priced at $669,990. 301-460-1572; craftmarkhomes.com

Craftmark Homes' New Windsor model.

Brownstone Living

The community of Potomac Overlook Brownstones in Prince George's County enjoys proximity to a waterfront marina flanked by paths and trails for walking, running and biking, as well as opportunities for shopping, dining and entertainment at nearby National Harbor. The townhomes showcase exterior architecture with brick and masonry details. Spacious interiors include four finished levels with three large bedrooms, and three full baths and two powder rooms. Each house has a two-car garage and a rooftop terrace. A long list of optional features and upgrades allows buyers to fully customize their new home. Two decorated models are currently

open for touring. From the low $500s. 703-424-4460; integrity homesva.com

Arlington Address

North Arlington will be home to Evergreene Homes' new Lacey Lane community, a short walk from the Rosslyn/Ballston corridor. Buyers will choose among six distinct home designs and nine home sites. Designs will feature unique elements such as a sleeping porch off the owners' suite, plus all-brick exteriors and four levels that will include a finished loft or finished lower level. Nestled along a private drive, each home will welcome residents with inviting entries; detached garages and landscaped courtyards will provide additional space for hobbies, gardening and relaxing. Some homes in the enclave are available for immediate delivery. From $1.1 million. 703-667-7878; myevergreenehome.com

A rendering of Evergreene Homes' Lacey Lane community illustrates its charm (above). The Preserve at Severn Run (left).

Going Green

The Preserve at Severn Run in Gambrills, Maryland, is Baldwin Homes' first community to go green, from development through construction and finishes. Built on 72 sites of approximately one acre each, homes will range in size from 2,000 to more than 5,000 square feet. Designs will offer three to five bedrooms—some with an option for a first-floor owners' suite—and two- or three-car garages. The model has hosted many events benefitting Hospice of the Chesapeake and the Make-a-Wish Foundation. Earnings from its sale will directly benefit these two causes. From $599,900; the model is priced at $1,175,000. 410-923-3770; baldwinhomes.net

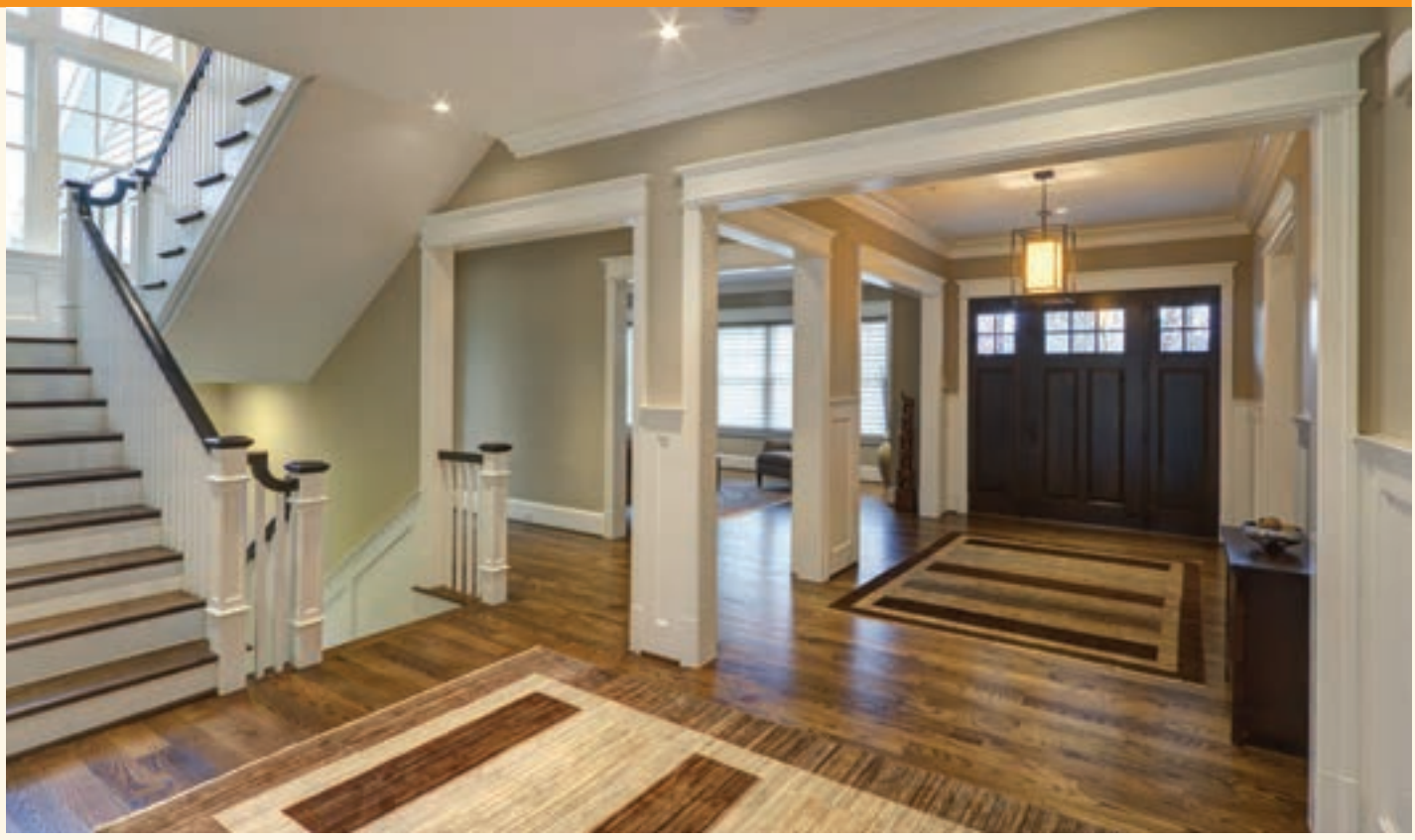
EXCELLENCE *in Custom Building*

Sponsored by the Maryland Building Industry Association, the annual Custom Builder Awards honor quality architecture, construction and remodeling projects in the Greater Washington, DC, area. Following is a list of all 2015 MBIA winners; Gold Award winners are pictured on these pages.

CUSTOM TRADITIONAL HOME
GOLD—Sandy Spring Builders, LLC. Architecture: Studio Z Design Concepts. Photography: Michael Kress Photography.

CUSTOM CONTEMPORARY HOME
GOLD—Lang and Company. Architecture: Cynthia Shoup Schiffrin, AIA. Photography: A.F. Wright Photography.

CUSTOM TRANSITIONAL HOME over 5,000 square feet
GOLD—Laurence Cafritz Builders. Architecture: Sutton-Yantis Associates Architects. Photography: Kenneth M. Wyner.



Clockwise from opposite, top: Sandy Spring Builders crafted a sprawling, traditional home with a patio that spills out to the pool and adjoining pool house; a traditional home by Studio Z Design Concepts boasts an open-plan foyer; a colorful dining room pops in a home by Laurence Cafritz Builders; a speculative home by Mid-Atlantic Custom Builders boasts a clean-lined kitchen; and a sleek, modern stairwell brings light to a contemporary home in Annapolis, constructed by Lang and Company.

CUSTOM TRANSITIONAL HOME under 5,000 square feet
GOLD—Anthony Wilder Design/Build, Inc. Architecture: Sean Mullin, AIA. Photography: Morgan Howarth.
SILVER—Sandy Spring Builders, LLC. Architecture: Studio Z Design Concepts.

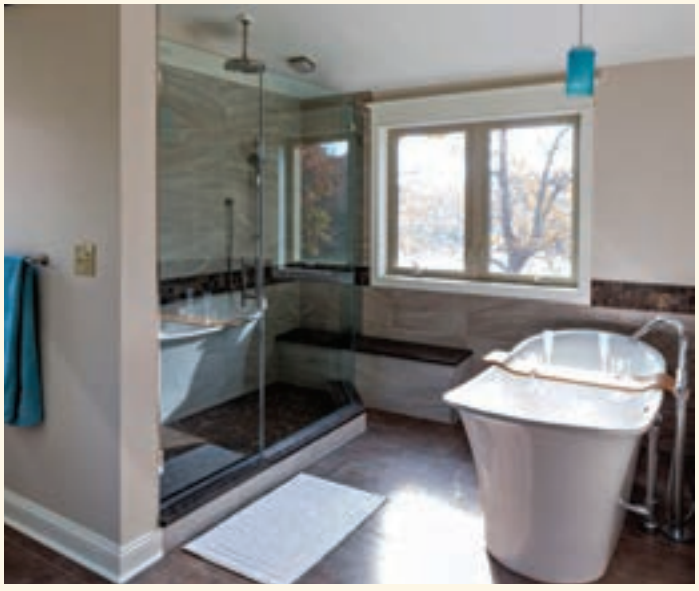
SPECULATIVE TRADITIONAL HOME
GOLD—Mid-Atlantic Custom Builders. Architecture: Custom Design Concepts. Photography: HomeVisit.
SILVER—Chuck Sullivan Homes. Architecture: Studio Z Design Concepts.

SPECULATIVE TRANSITIONAL HOME
GOLD—Three Brothers Land Co. Architecture: Claude C. Lapp, AIA. Photography: Scott Goodson.
SILVER—Mid-Atlantic Custom Builders. Architecture: Custom Design Concepts.

CUSTOM HOME under 3,500 square feet
GOLD—Douglas Construction Group, LLC. Architecture: Studio Z Design Concepts. Photography: Doug Monsein.

CUSTOM HOME between 3,500-5,000 square feet
GOLD—TailorCraft Builders, Inc. Architecture: Spire Architecture. Photography: Brian Landis.
SILVER—Three Brother's Land Co. Architecture: GTM Architects.

CUSTOM HOME between 5,000-7,500 square feet
GOLD—Studio Z Design Concepts. Builder: Sandy Spring Builders. Photography: Stu Estler.
SILVER—GTM Architects. Builder: Gibson Builders.
BRONZE—Castlewood Consulting, LLC. Architecture: Castlewood Consulting, LLC.



Clockwise from opposite, top: A home by Sandy Spring Builders features built-ins and wood beams; a cozy bedroom beckons in a custom transitional home by Anthony Wilder Design/Build; a spec home by Three Brothers Land Co. offers a traditional welcome; a sleek, modern bath by Tailorcraft houses a glass shower and soaking tub; and a crisp, white kitchen by Douglas Construction offers plenty of work space.

CUSTOM HOME between 7,500-12,500 square feet
GOLD—Sandy Spring Builders, LLC. Architecture: GTM Architects. Photography: Michael Kress Photography.
SILVER—Battaglia Homes, LLC. Architecture: GBL Designs/ Greg Little.

Clockwise from above: a kitchen/family room in the Roosevelt, a home by Castlewood Consulting; a luxurious bath by Bethesda Builders; and a spacious, open plan in the Whittier, another winning house by Castlewood Consulting.

SPECULATIVE HOME between 3,500-5,000 square feet
GOLD—Castlewood Consulting, LLC. Architecture: James McDonald Associate Architects. Photography: TruPlace.
SILVER—Douglas Construction Group, LLC. Architecture: Claude C. Lapp, AIA.

SPECULATIVE HOME between 5,000-7,500 square feet
GOLD—Bethesda Builders, Ltd. Architecture: GTM Architects/ Luke Olson. Photography: Cesar Olivares.
SILVER—Mid-Atlantic Custom Builders. Architecture: Custom Design Concepts.

SPECULATIVE HOME over 7,500 square feet
GOLD—Castlewood Consulting, LLC. Architecture: Castlewood Consulting, LLC. Photography: Tru Place.

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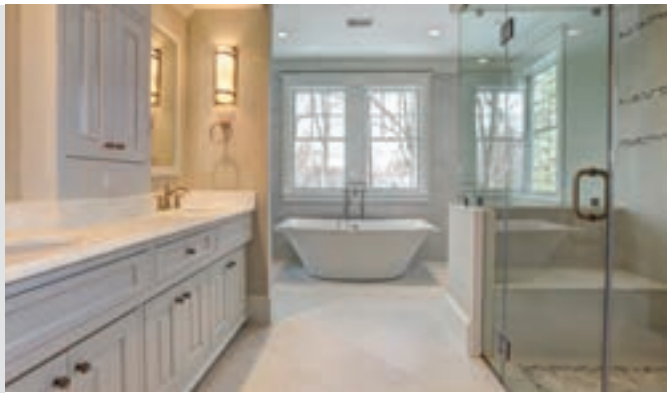

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- Built into a steeply sloping lot
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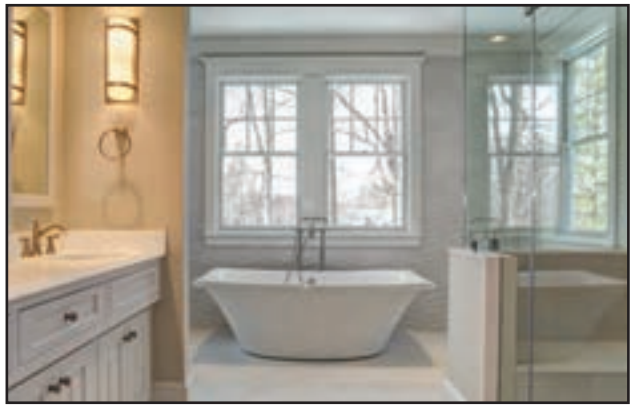
2015 GOLD
MBIA CUSTOM HOME BUILDER AWARD
Speculative Home Between 5,000 – 7,000 Square Feet



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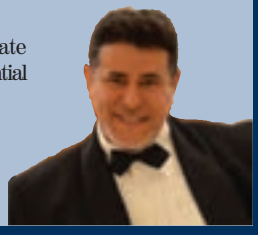

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MODEL HOMES 3 TO SEE

Callaway Stanley Martin is offering three new floor plans ranging from 3,037 to 4,448 square feet at Callaway, a new community in Annandale, Virginia. Homes feature four to six bedrooms and two-and-a-half to six-and-half baths with options for lofts, sunrooms and first-floor master bedrooms. From $799,990. stanleymartin.com

Townes at Shady Grove Metro

Townes at Shady Grove Metro in Rockville, Maryland, offers 36 2,460-square-foot, four-level, brick-front town homes. Each includes a second-floor balcony, two-car garage, three bedrooms, three full and one half bath. A cozy fourth-floor retreat with fireplace adjoins its own bedroom and walks out to a rooftop terrace. From the low $600s. comstockhomes.com

Avery Park The Burke model is now open at Avery Park, a new Christopher Companies community in Fairfax City, Virginia. When completed, Avery Park will offer 13 homes, each with over 3,000 square feet of living space encompassing four bedrooms; three-and-a-half baths; living, dining and family rooms; and a den. From the low $800s. christophercompanies.com

NOTABLE LISTING

A stunning modern home in McLean, Virginia, makes the swimming pool the focal point indoors. Separated by two retractable walls, the pool is at the center of the main level, just steps from the living spaces and a kitchen that features island seating for 14; a dual-temperature wine cooler; SousVide immersion cooking system; walk-in refrigerator and freezer; professional gas cooktop; and two dishwashers. The 10,000-square-foot, five-bedroom, six-and-a-half bath home has a three-zone geothermal system and bamboo flooring. A master suite overlooks the pool and its soothing waterfall. Built in 2008 on a half-acre lot. 1617 Kirby Road. $1,990,000. Inquiries: Pat Stack, Weichert Realtors. 703-597-9373; patstack2@cox.net

BY THE NUMBERS

Sound Check

Just like a property's walkability, its outdoor noise level can make or break a sale. HowLoud rates a property for airport sounds, car traffic and other offenders. Currently available only in California, the company is more than halfway to a $38,000 crowd-funding goal that will help it expand.

Home Prices Peak

According to CoreLogic, DC has hit a new high in average home prices, along with Alaska, Colorado, Iowa, Nebraska, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas and Vermont. More than 30 states now stand within 10 percent of their all-time highs. Constrained inventory is blamed for the rise.

Strong Sales

In June 2015, Northern Virginia's housing market saw a 17 percent increase in homes sold compared to June 2014. "Correct pricing and conditions are determining factors in a home sale," says NVAR chair Mary Bayat.

300%

The increase in average selling price of homes in DC over the past 15 years; nationwide, prices rose 45 percent.

TOP 10 HOME SALES

Price	Address	City, State
$5,700,000	3354 Harness Creek Road	Annapolis, MD
$5,010,000	5630 Wisconsin Avenue, #1105	Chevy Chase, MD
$4,295,000	4416 Edmunds Street NW	Washington, DC
$4,200,000	4722 Dorset Avenue	Chevy Chase, MD
$3,800,000	5630 Wisconsin Avenue, #1402	Chevy Chase, MD
$3,737,500	5391 Morgans Point Drive	Oxford, MD
$3,590,000	2116 Dunmore Lane	Washington, DC
$3,450,000	2962 Chain Bridge Road NW	Washington, DC
$3,400,000	3043 P Street NW	Washington, DC
$3,365,000	5210 Dorset Avenue	Chevy Chase, MD

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509 Cameron St | **$1,595,000**
509Cameron.McEnearney.com

4120 Seminary Rd | **$1,295,000**
4120Seminary.McEnearney.com

1700 Russell Rd | **$1,249,900**
1700Russell.McEnearney.com

3500 Holly St | **$1,249,000**
3500Holly.McEnearney.com

506 Woodland Terr | **$1,199,000**
506Woodland.McEnearney.com

4300 Fox Haven Ln | **$1,150,000**
4300FoxHaven.McEnearney.com

2905 Russell Rd | **$1,095,000**
2905Russell.McEnearney.com

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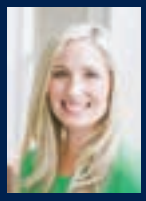

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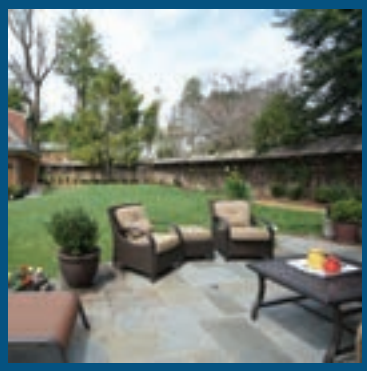

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Impressive waterfront home offers deep water pier, four fireplaces, hardwood floors, river room with vaulted ceiling and walls of windows, chef's kitchen and separate 2 bedroom guest house. Only minutes to Oxford & Easton **$2,345,000**

Tred Avon River | Easton, Maryland
Large seven bedroom brick home with waterside pool & patio in desirable Bailey's Neck location. Sunroom, river room with beautiful views. Attached guest quarters with elevator, deep water and big views. **$1,950,000**

Hudson Creek | Cambridge, Maryland
22+ acres with private air strip, boat ramp with slip, deep water & separate 1 bedroom guest house. Tidewater Colonial with updated kitchen, first floor master suite, 2 wood burning fireplaces & beautiful views. **$1,199,000**

Newcomb Creek | Easton, Maryland
Immaculately maintained 4 bedroom waterfront home minutes to St. Michaels & Easton. Sited on over 2 acres with open living area, owners suite, living & family rooms, pool, pier with lift, breezy screened porch. **$1,195,000**

Town Creek | Oxford, Maryland
Idyllic waterfront point offers 4 bedroom low maintenance home with waterside pool, 1 bedroom guest house & workshop. Pier with lift, floating dock, boat ramp and deep water mooring. Private in-town location. **$1,195,000**

Trippe Creek | Easton, Maryland
Walking distance to Talbot Country Club and minutes to Easton this lovely brick Georgian waterfront offers first floor master, gourmet kitchen, and family room great for entertaining. 3 car garage, deep water pier with lift. **$2,500,000**

Glebe Creek | Easton, Maryland
Classis Eastern Shore "telescope" house is a handsome example of Federal Architecture with early features through-out. The largest section of the house dates to the late 1700s. Located on Glebe Creek, just minutes to Easton. **$1,895,000**

Presquile Rd, Wye River | Easton, Maryland
Enjoy expansive views from this up-to-date home with superior finishes! 1st floor master, gourmet kitchen, guest apartment, very deep water, pool, protected dock and secured shoreline. 1 hr. from the Beltway. **$1,999,000**

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Upperville, Virginia

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Flint Hill Farm

Delaplane, Virginia

Family compound includes 8,800 sf main house built in 1789. 3 BR guest house and a 2 BR carriage house. Repurposed airplane hanger now a complete home gym. Exquisite total renovation completed in 2005 includes exposed beams, solid mahogany doors & windows, imported antique fireplaces & spectacular floors of re-claimed choice hardwoods. Stately limestone foyer, stunning kitchen and excellent views. **$3,150,000.**

Ann MacMahon **(540) 687-5588**

Faraway Farm

Middleburg Area

Impeccable solid stone home with copper roof & original portions from the 1700's. Expanded to include a 1st floor bedroom & 3 additional suites. Original floors in library, den & dining room with 8 fireplaces throughout. 70 acres in a dream-like setting with 2 ponds, mountain views, pastures & stone walls. Home is surrounded by mature gardens, pool & primitive log cabin. Piedmont Hunt. **$2,975,000.**

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Greystone

The Plains, Virginia

Circa 1807. 33 acres ideally located between Middleburg & The Plains. Rare quarried stone exterior, 10-foot ceilings. Period mantels, original wood floors, two-story front porch. 3 bedrooms/3 baths, each a private suite. Historic stone barn includes one bedroom/bath apt, heated tack room, 6 stalls. Carriage barn. 3 paddocks, large turnout field, run-in sheds, auto waterers. Whole farm generator. Pond. Orange County Hunt. **$2,200,000.**

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Buck Run Farm

Hume, Virginia

Stone & stucco cottage overlooking 2 ponds and amazing mountain views. 72 acres with minimal maintenance and maximum quality throughout shows in every detail. 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, 3 fireplaces, copper roof, antique floors and beams. Lovely kitchen and baths, charming library and multiple french doors open to a massive stone terrace. **$1,925,000.**

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Liberty Hill

Boyce, Virginia

Mountain top retreat with 60 mile panoramic views of the Shenandoah Valley. 215 acres, 1/3 pasture. Main house circa 1787 with 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, 2 fireplaces, random width pine floors. 2 bedroom, 1 bath guest cottage. Stone & frame barn circa 1787. Remnants of formal garden, old cemetery, spring fed pond and gazebo. **$1,775,000.**

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Echo Hill

The Plains, Virginia

Stone English country home in top location between Middleburg & The Plains on 13 acres • Large boxwoods & classically planted gardens • 4 BR home with new kitchen & main level master suite • Hardwood floors, built-in book cases, fireplaces & bright open family room • Bluestone terrace overlooks new pool & entertaining area • Separate guest cottage/pool house & garage • Whole-house generator. **$1,500,000.**

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Stonewood

Middleburg, Virginia

Charming stucco, log and frame home on 10.32 acres. 3/4 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, 2 fireplaces, beautiful floors, large family room, and master bedroom with terrace. 4 stall barn with tack and 2 paddocks. Mountain views and Middleburg address. 2 recorded lots. **$930,000.**

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Palmer's Mill

Bluemont, Virginia

Circa 1860 Virginia Farmhouse, updated & enlarged in 2004. 3/4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, hardwood floors, 3 fireplaces, exposed beams & gourmet kitchen. 10 acres, fenced & cross fenced. 2 stall barn with tack & hay storage. Spring house & smoke house. Protected with mountain views. Piedmont Hunt Territory. **$875,000.**

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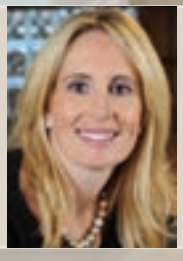

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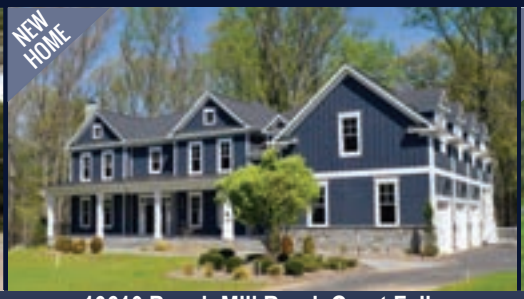
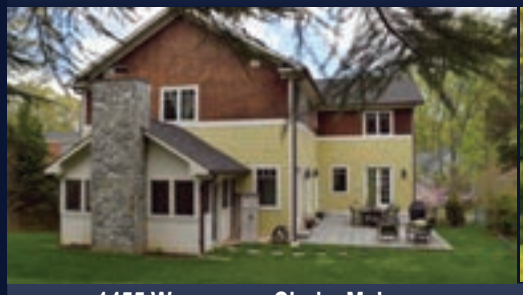
$1,669,500

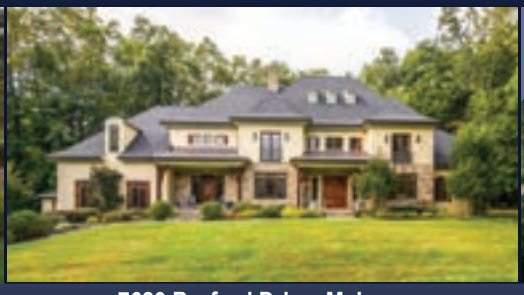


10610 Beach Mill Road, Great Falls
$1,849,900

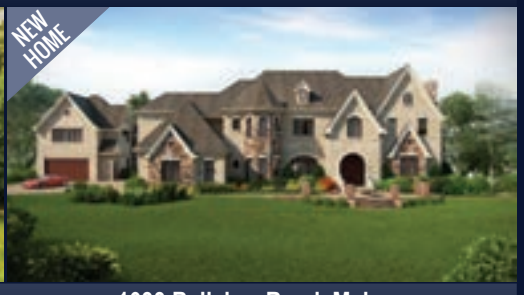
680 River Bend Road, Great Falls
$3,287,550



1455 Waggaman Circle, McLean
$1,899,000



7629 Burford Drive, McLean
$2,495,000

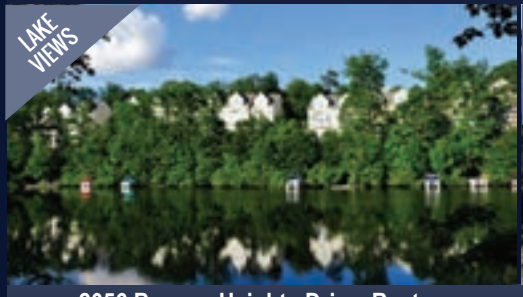


1033 Bellview Road, Mclean
$5,500,000

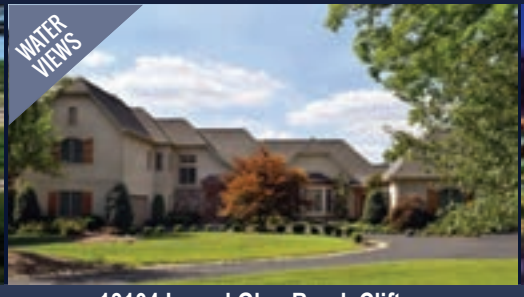
8611 Georgetown Pike, Mclean
$5,899,000

2313 Stryker Avenue, Vienna
$1,549,000

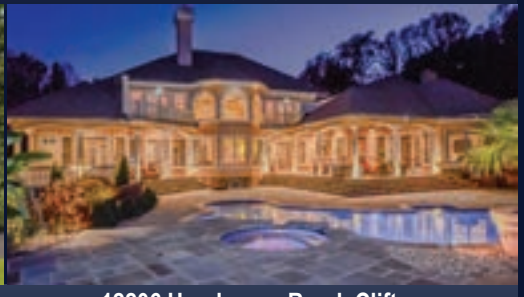
2461 Fardale Street, Vienna
$1,598,897



2056 Beacon Heights Drive, Reston
$960,000



13104 Laurel Glen Road, Clifton
$2,495,900



12206 Henderson Road, Clifton
$2,895,978

retail connection

Located in Southwest DC, L'Enfant Plaza and the adjacent 10th Street Promenade were the 1960s brainchildren of architect I.M. Pei. Flanked by a series of federal office buildings, the plaza has been sadly under-utilized over the years. In 2009, developer JBG—which had acquired the site in 2003—hired SmithGroupJJR architects to revitalize it—and, by extension, the promenade. "It was obvious that L'Enfant Plaza felt cut off," says Andrew Rollman, principal designer on the project. Since it lies between the National Mall and the burgeoning Southwest Waterfront, "the challenge was to make it a bridge between the two—to draw people to use it as a path from one area to the other."

Some 200,000 square feet of shops and dining areas already existed underground, below a pyramidal structure added in the late 1970s. However, "no one seemed to know they were there," says Rollman. He and his team conceived a design for a massive glass atrium to replace the pyramid over the shopping area. Not only would this structure bring in natural light—thereby negating the sense of being underground—it would also attract passersby. Measuring 3,000 square feet, the atrium is now a clean, modern form that complements Pei's original site plan.

JBG's plan also involved turning the plaza into a vibrant retail destination. A whole new crop of vendors has moved in, and a food court has been designed to approximate a bustling, urban street.

Up next: new office, residential and entertainment spaces around the atrium that will turn L'Enfant Plaza into its own dense, mixed-use neighborhood. *—Julie Sanders*

ARCHITECTURE: ANDREW ROLLMAN, AIA, principal designer, SmithGroupJJR, Washington, DC. BUILDER: Whiting-Turner, Greenbelt, Maryland. PHOTOGRAPHY: JUDY DAVIS.

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