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Rustic stonework, classic fountains, aged iron, carved limestone, pea gravel drives work together to create a venerable scene in Great Falls.

The Great Falls gardens of Domaine St. Charles are the passion of garden designer Charles Lang Owen and

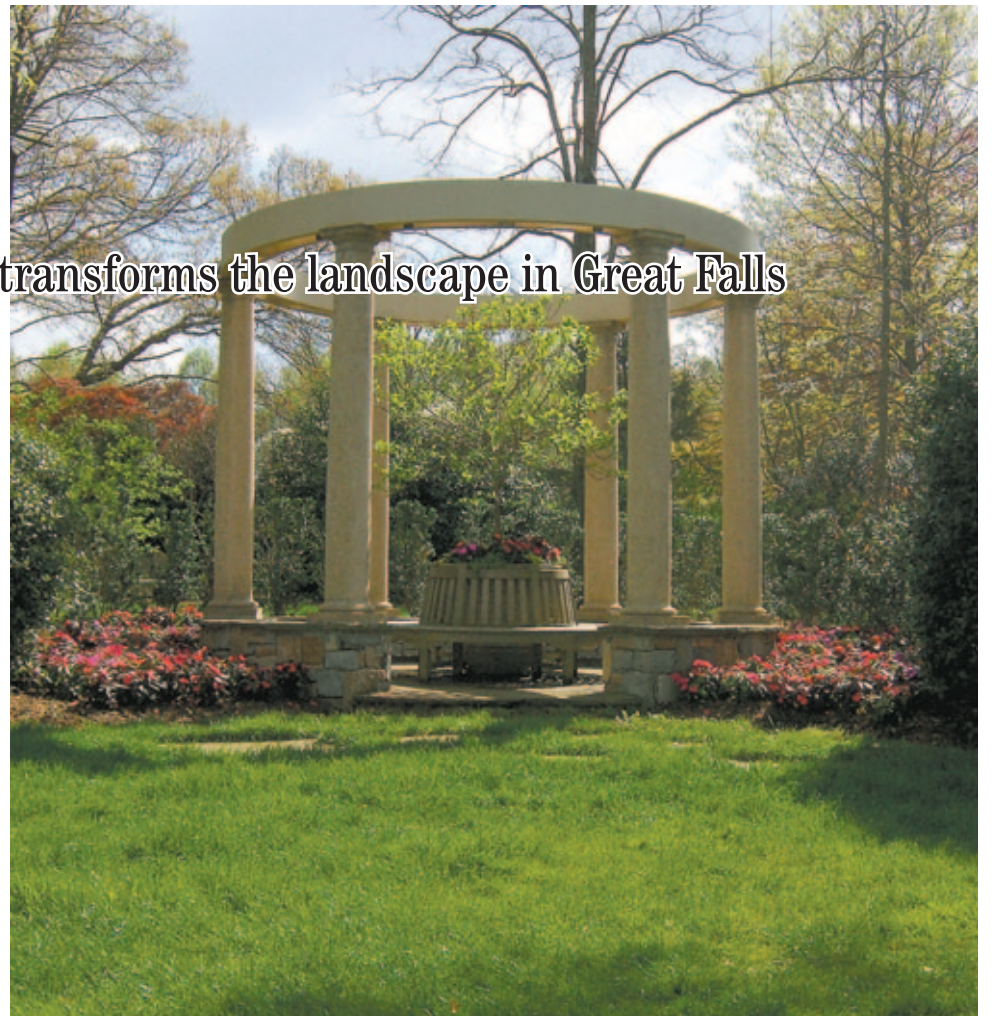
Numerous trips to Provence, France for business and pleasure, inspired the couple to recreate some of the romance and beauty they fell in love with. A simple

Couple's passion for romance of France transforms the landscape in Great Falls

his wife Betsy. The Owens opened their gardens for the first time recently as part of Historic Garden Week in Virginia.

17th century stuccoed manor house featuring rustic stonework,

SEE PROVENCE, PAGE 6



The Gardens of Domaine St. Charles meander through many outdoor rooms.



PHOTOS BY SALOME HOWARD-GAIBLER

Seductive Surfaces

Wish List

Isamu Noguchi's playful tables were manufactured in 1954 in varying sizes. This **Cyclone table** retails for \$1,680 and is available at the Noguchi Museum Store: <http://akaristore.stores.yahoo.net>.



Isamu Noguchi coffee table, designed in 1944, retails for \$1,245 at www.exit-art.com.

Frank Gehry **Icing Coffee Table** for Knoll. Retails for \$3,219 from www.hivemodern.com.



First produced in 1961 by Danish Designer Poul Volther, the **Corona accent chairs** retail for \$649 apiece from Macy's (8000 Tysons Corner Center 703-893-4900).

The Buzz

The dollars, in millions, that Dranesville Supervisor **John Foust's** McLean home was assessed for in 2008. Foust's land made up \$1.19 million of the total, while his house accounted for \$2.36 million. **3.55** Other supervisor assessments included Sharon Bulova's (Braddock) Fairfax home at \$680,030 total and Michael Frey's (Sully) Centreville home at \$282,810 ...

The ranking of **Café Tatti**, (6627 Old Dominion Drive, McLean) on the popular travel Web site TripAdvisor.com. The Café is the top-rated restaurant in McLean out of 54 different eateries, and received four stars from readers. The Indian-influenced Cafe Taj, (1379 Beverly Road, Marketplace) and the Turkish Kazan Restaurant (6813 Redmond Dr., McLean Shopping Center) round out the top three in the user-generated rankings. McLean mainstay J.Gilbert's Wood-Fired Steaks (6930 Old Dominion Drive) lingers at No. 14 ...

No. 1

The number paid, in millions, when NFL quarterback **Mark Brunell** and his wife, **Stacy**, purchased a home on Nicholas Run Drive in Great Falls. The five-bedroom, eight-bath house was built in 2007. Brunell, 37, was the third-string quarterback for the Washington Redskins last season. He restructured his contract before the season; Brunell was scheduled to earn \$5.2 million in 2007 ... **3.7**

House of Representatives



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/
THE CONNECTION

Living With

After losing her bid for re-election last November, former State Sen. Jeannemarie Devolites Davis shifted her focus from politics to home renovation. She and husband U.S. Rep. Tom Davis (R-Va.) plan to spend more leisure time in their Vienna home when the seven-term congressman retires next year. The couple also hopes to make some parts of the house, like the basement, more comfortable.

“We are just exhausted and I really had to think about whether we really wanted to go through another hard campaign because it has just been non-stop,” said Davis about his decision not to run.

Devolites Davis, who works as a principal at consulting firm ICG Government, has focused on renovating the twosome’s 8,000-square-foot house that backs up onto Hunter Mill Road. The couple said they were somewhat limited when they went house hunting three-and-half years ago, since they had to find a place located in Davis’ congressional district, Devolites Davis’ state senate district and Madison High School district.

“We let our daughters pick the house.”

— Jeannemarie Devolites Davis

SEE DAVIS, PAGE 12

6 Provence

FROM PAGE 3

aged iron, carved limestone, pea gravel drive and boxwood parterre all work together to give a relatively new garden that aged look.

The couple decided that the house and gardens should look like they had always been there. The main drive from the street features stone columns and multi-stem topiaried crape myrtle banded by boxwood parterre and red carpet roses with assorted grasses and annuals to greet guests.

Columnar Armstrong maples line the main drive to the courtyard which

In the Garden



Water is a recurring theme, with a pool providing a setting for another of the many rooms of the garden.



Visitors are greeted by the sound of water from many elegant fountains.



Blooms complement the elegant stonework

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“I really had to think about whether we really wanted to go through another hard campaign.”

— U.S. Rep. Tom Davis



PHOTOS BY
LOUISE KRAFFT/
THE CONNECTION
Jeanmarie Devolites Davis stands in front of the Davis' Vienna home, far left; a view into the Davis' living space, above and left; U.S. Rep. Tom Davis presents a goalie stick signed by Olaf Kolzig of the Washington Capitals, right.

Congressional Quarters

FROM PAGE 5

“We let our daughters pick the house. There were three in our price range and, of course, they picked the most expensive one,” said Devolites Davis, of their Vienna home.

Only a few items from the congressman's previous home — like exercise equipment, a big screen television and the chair in which Davis's brother died — are used in the house.

“We have pretty much given all of his old furniture away to the children,” said Devolites Davis, who added that Davis' son, who attends law school at the University of Virginia, needed furniture for his apartment.

The lower level of the Davises' home includes a small, newly repainted exercise room with treadmill and elliptical machines where Davis works out every day. The congressman wants to replace his big screen television — which is currently set up in front of one of the exercise machines — with a modern flat panel model, he said. Devolites Davis also plans to redecorate the largest room in the basement with Davis' collections of sports and music memorabilia. She will install a diner booth and jukebox on one side of the room, where pieces like a commemorative stamp of Roy Orbison and a letter Orbison's widow sent to Davis.

The other side of the room will have a sports bar theme. The couple already owns a pool table and Devolites Davis wants to install dark wood paneling along the walls. The congressman will be able to display several parts of his sports collection — including a baseball autographed by home run hitter Sammy Sosa, a jersey from Baltimore Orioles star Cal Ripken and an ice hockey stick signed by Washington Capitals goalie Olaf Kolzig.

After the basement is finished, the Davises look forward to adding a new home addition that can accommodate Davis' expanded home office. Once the congressman shuts his Capitol Hill office next December, he will need more space to store his collection of photographs and gifts — including pictures of Davis with former Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, boxing champion Muhammad Ali and former British prime minister Tony Blair.

Davis also said he plans to install a new wood-burning fireplace in the office.

— JULIA O'DONOGHUE



10 Where Eagles Dare To Sleep

The client wanted a previous, smaller addition to be torn down and replaced by a new three-level, L-shaped addition that wrapped around the existing home on two sides. On the upper level, this eliminated a small office/bedroom at the back of the house and created a substantial space for a beautifully appointed master suite.

Interiors

Upon entering the bedroom, one notices the angles of the ceiling, that were designed to blend seamlessly with the existing 1920's home. The bedroom also features a cozy gas-log fireplace with a herringbone brick interior. A hallway to the right leads to the changing area and master bath. To the left of the bed is a custom glass door, which leads



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Joseph Byron Yount III, '56 - Retired Attorney, Waynesboro, VA (University of Virginia; University of Virginia Law School)
Samuel Joseph Cropp '08 - Cincinnati, OH (Entering Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH, Fall 2008)
Daniel H. McKinney III '47 - Attorney, McKinney & Namei Co. L.P.A., Cincinnati, OH (Ohio State; Harvard Law School)
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to the owner's spa and morning bar and balcony beyond. The room features a five-person spa, built-in coffee system, under-counter beverage center, tile floor and walls and a custom-stained marine-grade wood ceiling. One of the memorable features of the master suite is an eagle's nest, which serves as a map room for planning the owner's many boating trips.

The elevated nautical-themed room is accessed via a custom-built ship's ladder and provides stunning views of the Washington Monument.

Bowa Builders is a full-service construction company located at 7900 Westpark Drive, Suite A10, in McLean. A recent project saw Bowa transform an Arlington area residence.



PHOTOS BY BOB NAROD.
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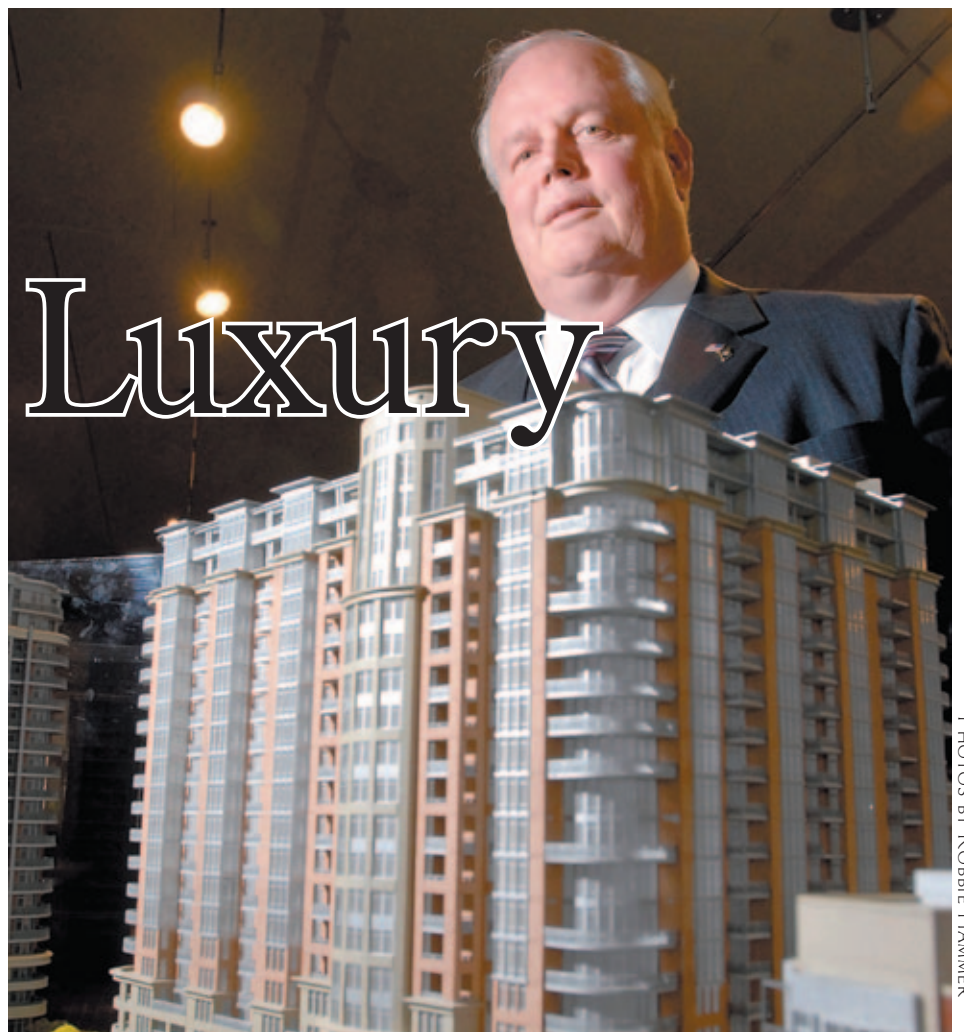
Pent-up Demand for

BY NICHOLAS M. HORROCK

Northern Virginia will shortly see the opening of two of the most luxurious condominium high-rise buildings in the region. And despite the gloomy mood in the local real estate market and prices up to \$3.5 million for a condo, one project is already 76 percent sold, and the other has sold about half of its 247 apartments.

With a View

The Turnberry Tower in Roslyn and the Park Crest in Tysons Corner were planned, designed and are being built by two major developers, who separately arrived at a conviction that there is a vast unmet market for “upscale apartments,” as Steve Hoppy of the Park Crest puts it.



PHOTOS BY ROBBIE HAMMER

Doug Lake and his wife recently purchased a condo in the Park Crest Condos at Tysons Corner on West Park Drive.

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- Remove cobwebs
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- Vacuum stairs
- Vacuum under beds
- Change linens, make beds
- Empty trash

Bathrooms

- Clean sinks, counters; change towels
- Clean, disinfect toilets, tubs, showers
- Hand wash, disinfect floors

Windows

- Clean entry window, one set of patio door windows
- Clean window over kitchen sink



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“When we go into an area, it’s not just that there is a boom going on in the area and we want to jump on the wagon,” said Turnberry Ltd.’s, Jim Cohen.

“We look at the area in our sector of the market, which is true luxury living. We found there was an area of need,” Cohen said.

Steve Hoppy, who is in charge of sales for what will be village of luxury living at Park Crest, with some 1,300 apartments when it is complete, used almost the same language in describing why sales in the first 19-story

With a View

building have moved so swiftly. “Unmet need! There is an affluent buyer, less subject to the economy, who has created a pent-up demand for the kind of residences we’re providing.”

Doug and Carol Lake made a



The Park Crest Condos in Tysons Corner are being sold and will soon be open.

careful choice when they bought a home at Park Crest in Tysons Corner. Both are in their early 60s and were looking for a home in Tysons Corner that would give them the convenience and security they felt they needed. The building they bought in will be open for residents later this year. It is a 19-story high rise and the

architects worked hard to give virtually every apartment with commanding views of Northern Virginia with either a balcony or a sunroom.

There is a roof pool, a party room, a bar and 24-hour concierge service, plus garage parking. There are also two completely furnished apartments on

the main floor that residents can reserve for guests.

When it is complete, the seven-building complex will have 1300 dwellings, a Harris Teeter store and other service commercial locations.

The Lakes are convinced that the Dulles Rail will be built and they see the location as convenient to nights in Washington at the theater or a ballgame without the difficulties of a car.

They say that a redesigned Tysons is unfolding and that it will be even a better place to live.



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14 Going Solar

“It’s funny — in our country people would rather go out and buy a BMW. We chose to put solar on our roof.”
— Doug Warnecke

HomeLifeStyle ♦ McLean Connection ♦ May 2008

BY AARON STERN

Monique Hanis and her husband Doug Warnecke wanted to do something to reduce their family’s impact on the environment, so in 2006 they installed solar panels on the roof of their home in Arlington, Va. Monique Hanis enjoyed learning about solar energy so much that she changed her career from a banking lobbyist

Being Green



The hardest part of getting solar panels was deciding what to get and figuring out how to get it, Richard Watts said. The actual installation, shown here, took a day.

PHOTO COURTESY OF RICHARD WATTS



Monique Hanis points out the hot water plumbing.

PHOTOS BY AARON STERN

and went to work for the U.S. Solar Energy Industries Association. They were so pleased with their solar panels that they decided to add a solar water heater to supply the hot water to

their home.

“Number one, we did it for the environment because we felt like there was nothing we could do,” said Warnecke.

After reading a newspaper

story about solar energy in 2005, Richard Watts and his wife Sally started looking into solar energy for their own home and in May of 2006 they installed 24 Photovoltaic solar panels to their roof.

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Warming to Solar

15



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Richard Watts points out the converter box where his solar electricity is changed from direct to alternating current.

The Watts and Hanis-Warnecke families are part of a growing number of consumers who have installed solar energy systems in their home in recent years, and while solar is still far from being a standard practice its popularity is on the rise, according to Neville Williams, the founder and chairman of Standard Solar, Inc., the company that installed the systems for the Watts and Hanis-Warnecke families.

“It’s not a mainstream product yet but its growing fast, and it will be (mainstream) probably in five to seven years,” said Williams.

Williams worked in the U.S. Department of Energy under President Jimmy Carter’s admin-

Unlike the solar panels that lay flush on the roof, the solar water heater on Monique Hanis and Doug Warnecke’s home projects from the roof at an angle. Copper fins inside of glass tubes heat up a liquid solution that is pumped to the water heater inside their home.



istration and went on to finance and facilitate the use of solar energy in developing nations around the world through a non-profit that he founded in the 1990s. In 2004 Sensing a growing willingness among American consumers to turn to alternative

energy sources – fueled by frustration with spiraling energy costs – Williams founded Standard Solar to bring solar technology to homeowners in Maryland, Washington, D.C. and Northern Virginia.

Incentives

For information on the incentives available to consumers who want to buy solar energy — and for information on incentives for other renewable energy use — visit the Web site for the Database of State Incentives for Renewables & Efficiency at www.dsireusa.org.

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