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Pig Pen Pottery among 19 studios open to the public Oct. 18-19.

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HomeLifeStyle ❖ Great Falls Connection ❖ October 2008

Bucolic Setting for Potter's Studio



PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/CONNECTION

Potter Laura Nichols.



Nichols began working in clay after her children were born. Nichols named her studio Pig Pen Pottery. As the studio is set on the farm where she lives, the name came from the only animal not raised on the property.

A left turn off River Bend Road. Over a winding road until the pavement stops and the gravel begins.

Down over a bridge across a stream. Ascending up the hill a white house emerges from the pastoral landscape. Known at the farm as the Orchard House, it is now home to the Pig Pen Pottery Studio of Laura Nichols.

Hidden Springs Farm and the original manor house date back in the Dranesville records to the 1820s. Nichols' family purchased the property in 1939. Nichols has been working with clay for 30 or so years now.

"After my children were born I wanted something to do out of the house," Nichols recalled, "and that is when it began." Over the years, as some of the farm animals got old and died, some have been replaced, some not. Nichols still keeps a working hen house, horses, a flock of Guinea hens and a young peacock.

Great Falls Studio Tour

Pig Pen Pottery Studio is one of the 19 artist venues that will be on the fifth annual Great Falls Studios Tour Oct. 18-19. Great Falls Studios founded by Laura Nichols and a small group of other Great Falls artists in 2003, has grown in membership to include 78 area artists. The weekend show is free. At the 19 venues, 38 Great Falls artists will be demonstrating their creative processes. See www.GreatFallsStudios.com.



The material catch fire and start the post fire reduction process.

At the studio, Nichols teaches ongoing adult pottery classes and holds raku workshops. Her work is primarily in earthenware, stoneware and raku pottery.

— LOUISE KRAFFT



When the firing is complete, special tongs are used to remove the pots from the kiln. These tongs were made by the blacksmith at the Mount Vernon Estate.



A brown hen strolls through the yard outside the hen house at the farm.



In the south pasture beyond the main house, Arthur nibbles at some grass in the late morning sun.

Something About Art

Terry McAuliffe has thrown many fundraisers in the backyard of his McLean home.

Democratic Party

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE

Former Democratic National Committee chair Terry McAuliffe's home looks like it was built with political fundraising in mind.

McAuliffe, a close advisor of Bill and Hillary Clinton, has been soliciting big money for the Democrats for almost 30 years.

At 23 years old, he became finance director of former President Jimmy Carter's 1980 campaign. Last week, he embarked on an eight-city tour in Virginia for Democratic candidate Barack Obama.

A McLean resident, McAuliffe also opened up his home to the Dranesville Democratic Committee and hosted the local political party's annual fall fundraiser Sept. 29.

The political party bigwig said he is focused on getting the Democratic ticket elected this fall, but there is speculation McAuliffe, who has never held elected office, may run for governor of Virginia in 2009.

THE DEMOCRATIC fundraiser and his wife Dorothy moved from Capitol Hill to their century-old stone farmhouse off Old Dominion Drive 17 years ago, around the time their oldest child was born.

"We wanted to get a lot of land so the kids could run around,"



The guest/pool house at the McAuliffe's.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/CONNECTION



Dorothy McAuliffe talks with Karen and Dan DuVal.



Party host Terry McAuliffe.

said McAuliffe, who now has five children.

In addition to a sprawling backyard, McAuliffe has installed a pool, guesthouse, Jacuzzi, tennis and basketball courts on his property. The couple also

expanded the main house, adding at least two bedrooms and a modern kitchen.

All of the home additions match the architectural style of the original farmhouse. A similar gray stone was used to build the

stand-alone guesthouse. But McAuliffe maintained the 100 year-old wooden floor and door latches in the original part of the house – which includes his home office.

The family's architect,

SEE MCAULIFFE, PAGE 6

Shopping



Cherry with black glaze wine cabinet by K&H Cabinets. One of the many possibilities in kitchen design at Kitchen & Bath Factory Inc., 4624 Lee Highway, Arlington.



The Pig Pen Clay Pot and cookbook. Great for slow cooking soups and stews. Available at The Falls Hardware, 9912-A Georgetown Pike, Great Falls.

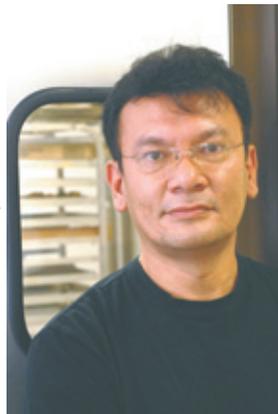


Betty Jane's Peanut Brittle. Made in Vienna by Betty Jane's daughter Bobbie and son-in-law John. Available at Maison Du Vin, 756 Walker Road, Great Falls and Out of Site Wines, 214 Dominion in Vienna and online at www.bettyjanessweetdelights.com

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/CONNECTION



Chef Michel Giaon



Chef Michel Giaon creates Parisian macarons in 10 classic flavors: French vanilla, chocolate, lemon, orange, pistachio, coffee, fresh mint, passion fruit, raspberry and caramel a la fleur de sel. Giaon bakes the pastries in Arlington and ships them around the country. Online purchases may also be picked up locally at the Artisan Confection Shop on Lee Highway in Arlington. For more information on ordering and monthly specials visit www.michelpatisserie.com or call 703-608-0255.

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McAuliffe

FROM PAGE 4

Bobby Gurney, works on several large homes in McLean and attended Catholic University with McAuliffe, said the political strategist.

“We went to undergrad together and had a relationship from school,” he said.

The home upgrades, particularly the pool area, have made the McAuliffe’s house ideal for hosting large parties.

“We mostly entertain outside. People tend to stay out here” said McAuliffe, at the Dranesville Committee party.

The McAuliffes have held fundraisers in their home for several candidates, including Sen. Barack Obama, former Sen. Tom Daschle, former U.S. Rep. Dick Gephardt, congressional candidate Judy Feder and Fairfax County chairman Gerry Connolly.

McAuliffe spent most of the last year raising money for New York Sen. Hillary Clinton’s campaign and said they threw several parties for the former first lady as well.

“We had a fundraiser for Hillary that went from 100 people to 500 people. ... My wife could have killed me,” said MacAuliffe.

PHOTOS BY
LOUISE KRAFFT/
CONNECTION

Finnegan finds a quiet place in the children’s game room



Terry McAuliffe signs a book at his desk in his home office.



A painting of an Indian hangs above the fireplace in McAuliffe’s home office. The painting was a gift from his wife Dorothy on the occasion of their marriage.



A newly added kitchen and family dining area opens out onto the garden and pool.



Samurai warriors hold vigil at the doors of the guest/pool house.



Del. Margi Vanderhye



Congressional candidate Judy Feder talks with Dorothy McAuliffe at the party.



State Sen. Janet Howell and Chairman of the Fairfax Board of Supervisors Gerry Connolly, who is running for Congress.



Supervisor Cathy Hudgins, Del. James Scott and Supervisor Sharon Bulova with Nadia Golding and Paula Larson.



Supervisor John Foust talks with Terry McAuliffe.

Art in Glass

Local collectors showcase glass sculpture in their Oakton home.

BY DONNA MANZ

Interior designer Brigette Friedman and her husband Ron, an attorney, focus on their passion: glass sculpture.

Staged throughout their Oakton estate are one-of-a-kind glass art pieces, designed by some of the world's most renowned glass artists. Glass sculptures created by Dale Chihuly, Therman Statom, and Stanislav Libensky take center-stage within the home's grand foyer and the sitting room adjacent to it.

Rustic ceramic accents pop out against the more contemporary stylized museum pieces.

Brigette Friedman discovered an authentic 1889 Galle non-electrified two-piece lamp in an Argentina antique shop. The price for the pieces created by the artist who taught Tiffany was more than right. "Each piece is signed by Galle," said Friedman, pointing to lettering.

In the sitting room off the foyer is an intensely hued freeform basin designed by glass art great, Dale Chihuly.

In the same room,



'Cityscape' by Jay Musler



Crystal horses by Swarovski.

against a wall, rests a glass ladder woven of intricate design and color, created by Therman Statom, an innovative African-American glass sculptor. Hidden lighting behind foyer pieces cast a glow through textures and colors.



The Friedmans purchased a lamp by glass designer Galle while on a trip to Argentina.

"Feel this, but be careful," said Friedman. "The edging is sharp." Textured glass replicates glimmering fabric in a Toots Zinsky broad basket design, calling to mind shimmery moire. Rough edging around the top gives the appearance of fringed fabric.



Ron and Brigette Friedman at their home in Oakton, Va.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/CONNECTION



One of the works by Toots Zinsky.

Brigette Friedman has "every annual that Swarovski has sold." Miniatures celebrating the seasons, wildlife, and figures glitter.

"There are so few of these very-limited edition Swarovski crystal horses, I had to win a contest to get them," said Friedman.



PHOTO BY CAROLE DELL

Eunice and Sargent Shriver's home in Potomac is for sale. See www.ConnectionNewspapers.com for full story.

On the Market

The Shriver's house is offered for sale at \$11,800,000.

Washington Fine Properties,
202-944-5000



Eunice and Sargent Shriver

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Beyond Dragons

New format for NSO design show.

The theme and format for this year's National Symphony Orchestra design show offers inspiration to those who are seeking to create spaces in their homes which reflect the Asian concepts of balance and harmony, color and texture, simplicity and richness while maintaining the comfort and familiarity of western classic and modern traditions.

The event, announced last month at a luncheon at the Kennedy Center, also features seminars on entertaining and decorating, feng shui, special cultural presentations and hosts some of the area's most coveted shopping boutiques.

The design show will be held this year at the Chevy Chase Women's Club on Oct. 22-26. Ten local designers will be featured.

Feng Shui, table settings, Ikebana and window treatments are some of the workshops and demonstrations are scheduled for the five-day show.

Local designers include Camille Beers, Reston; Sally Steponkus, Washington, D.C.; Liz Levin, Washington, D.C.; Sandra Meyers, Rockville; Shannon Munn, Springfield; Janet Morais & Anna Bimba, Manassas; Luis Florendo, Baltimore; Karen Luria & Mary Beth Schepp, Alexandria; Tracy Morris, Washington D.C. and Ian Simpson of Smith & Hawken in Chevy Chase. In addition to the Women's Committee and the designers; members of the ASEAN Women's Circle are participating with this years show. The 10 members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations are Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam.

See www.kennedy-center.org celebrations, or call 202-416-8148.

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Of Kids and Kitchens

Oakton home designed with children in mind.

BY DONNA MANZ

Every personal need was considered in Anh Trinh Mai's 20-by-32-foot kitchen, particularly those of her children.

Along with two refrigerators, a six-burner double oven Wolf stove, a single-slab granite 5-by-8-foot island, and architectural detailing, there is also a stool for little people to stand on while preparing croissants, a television for children's programs, floor-level gliding snack baskets, and a screened-in sunroom for semi-al fresco dining.

"I used to do a lot of cooking and entertaining," said Mai. "Now, I'm getting back into entertaining, mostly with visiting family. We have a lot of extended family."



A single-slab, 5-by-8-foot island anchors Anh Trinh Mai's 20-by-32-foot kitchen.



Gleaming twin Subzero refrigerators are filled with after school snacks at a level for the children to have easy access.

Mai's kitchen was built by J.P. Brehony Homes of Vienna, and designed by Richard Forbes of Absolute Kitchens. Mai wanted built-in book shelves, but no desk area, feeling that a desk would detract from the family-friendly environment. Accent glass cabinetry shows off a China collection, and the spice door was custom-made.

Absolute Kitchens worked closely with Mai to design a kitchen that suited the family's lifestyle.

Finding a one-piece granite slab took Mai to Frederick, Md. At the far end of the kitchen, the table end, is a fireplace.

The twin Subzero refrigerators, standing sentry on either side of a doorway, serve different purposes within the family.

"My husband thought one refrigerator was all we needed. But I

don't think one is enough."

One element that Mai was adamant about was the stove ventilation system, insisting her Thermador exhaust fan vent to the outside. The builder, J.P. Brehony, constructed ductwork along a wall that channels the sucked-in air to the outside. "I don't have cooking smells in the house when the exhaust fan is on," said Mai.

Mai drew on feng shui influence when designing her kitchen. The stove was set in-place on a particular day and in a particular location. The home was blessed when completed. Anh Trinh Mai works in real estate settlement, her husband, in technology. Their home in Oakton is a retreat where all the elements, from a custom-crafted iron and wood staircase to jet-stained wood flooring, were carefully planned and brought to life.



Anh helps Maddie and Regan break open a package of croissants.

PHOTOS BY
LOUISE KRAFFT/
CONNECTION

Off the kitchen, a sunroom connects to an open-air deck, both overlooking the backyard of their two-acre parcel of land.

"You need a screened-in porch," said Mai. "The kids love to eat in the sunroom."

Daughter Maddie loves croissants, and making them for breakfast is her specialty. It's a ritual that takes place several mornings a week in the Mai home.

Mai pulls a stepping stool up to the island and seven-year-old Maddie unrolls packaged croissant dough, teaching her five-year-old brother, Regan, the subtleties of croissant baking.

"I knew exactly what appliances I wanted, what cabinets, and even the hinges," said Mai. "We wanted open areas to give the room decorative interest."

"I have young kids. I wanted something accessible to children. This kitchen is for them, too."

Cooking at Home



Maddie and Regan prepare a snack of pigs in a blanket.

Sold: Million-dollar Homes

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In Great Falls, 10 homes sold for more than \$1 million in August:

- ❖ 580 INNSBRUCK AVE (5 BR, 6 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$3,295,000 on Aug. 20
- ❖ 10725 FALLS POINTE DR (5 BR, 4 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,575,000 on Aug. 28
- ❖ 9903 DEERFIELD POND DR (4 BR, 5 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,550,000 on Aug. 19
- ❖ 11602 ROLLING MEADOW DR (4 BR, 4 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,288,250 on Aug. 14
- ❖ 1052 LEIGH MILL (4 BR, 3 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,260,000 on Aug. 22
- ❖ 9810 ORCHID CIR (6 BR, 4 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,140,000 on Aug. 21
- ❖ 323 CANTERWOOD LN (4 BR, 3 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,100,000 on Aug. 06
- ❖ 10619 GOOD SPRING AVE (5 BR, 3 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,100,000 on Aug. 26
- ❖ 317 SPRINGVALE RD (4 BR, 3 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,074,000 on Aug. 29
- ❖ 10120 FOREST BROOK LN (1 BR, 1 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,020,000 on Aug. 22

580 Innsbruck Ave. sold for \$3,295,000 on Aug. 20



In McLean, 29 homes sold for more than \$1 million in August:

- ❖ 8900 GALLANT GREEN DR (6 BR, 7 FB, 2 HB) sold for \$3,300,000 on Aug. 12
- ❖ 804 GREAT CUMBERLAND RD (5 BR, 6 FB, 2 HB) sold for \$3,004,250 on Aug. 28
- ❖ 1112 INGLESIDE AVE (5 BR, 4 FB, 2 HB) sold for \$2,380,000 on Aug. 29
- ❖ 7818 SWINKS MILL CT (5 BR, 5 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$2,350,000 on Aug. 28
- ❖ 7616 SWINKS CT (5 BR, 4 FB, 2 HB) sold for \$2,300,000 on Aug. 20
- ❖ 7823 LOUGHRAN RD (5 BR, 4 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$2,175,000 on Aug. 20
- ❖ 909 FROME LN (6 BR, 5 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,950,000 on Aug. 08
- ❖ 5921 WOODLEY RD (5 BR, 4 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,785,100 on Aug. 26
- ❖ 5919 WOODLEY RD (5 BR, 4 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,714,000 on Aug. 01
- ❖ 8403 HOLLY LEAF DR (4 BR, 4 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,677,500 on Aug. 05
- ❖ 6039 FRANKLIN PARK RD (5 BR, 4 FB) sold for \$1,660,000 on Aug. 29
- ❖ 6003 CHESTERBROOK RD (5 BR, 5 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,600,000 on Aug. 07
- ❖ 8736 OLD DOMINION DR (4 BR, 3 FB, 2 HB) sold for \$1,525,000 on Aug. 14
- ❖ 1400 MAYHURST BLVD (4 BR, 3 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,500,000 on Aug. 12
- ❖ 1957 VALLEY WOOD RD (5 BR, 4 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,500,000 on Aug. 14
- ❖ 1116 OLD CEDAR RD (4 BR, 4 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,450,000 on Aug. 29
- ❖ 8465 CLOVER LEAF DR (5 BR, 3 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,250,000 on Aug. 26
- ❖ 1332 MCCAY LN (5 BR, 4 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,200,000 on Aug. 20
- ❖ 7707 HUNTMASTER LN (4 BR, 3 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,195,000 on Aug. 20
- ❖ 1217 POTOMAC SCHOOL RD (5 BR, 3 FB) sold for \$1,150,000 on Aug. 29
- ❖ 1426 BUENA VISTA AVE (5 BR, 3 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,137,500 on Aug. 08
- ❖ 6617 MELROSE DR (5 BR, 5 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,130,000 on Aug. 29
- ❖ 1943 MACARTHUR DR (4 BR, 2 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,099,000 on Aug. 8
- ❖ 6608 TINA LN (4 BR, 3 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,085,000 on Aug. 25
- ❖ 1333 MERRIE RIDGE RD (4 BR, 4 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,075,000 on Aug. 21
- ❖ 2101 ROCKINGHAM ST (4 BR, 3 FB) sold for \$1,050,000 on Aug. 29
- ❖ 6309 STONEHAM LN (4 BR, 2 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,049,000 on Aug. 26
- ❖ 1011 PRIORY PL (6 BR, 4 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,024,999 on Aug. 20
- ❖ 1490 HIGHWOOD DR (3 BR, 3 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,012,000 on Aug. 29

8900 Gallant Green Drive sold for \$3,300,000 on Aug. 12



804 Great Cumberland Road sold for \$3,004,250 on Aug. 28

In Potomac, 11 homes sold for more than \$1 million in August:

- ❖ 10100 NORTON RD (9 BR, 7 FB, 2 HB) sold for \$2,355,000 on Aug. 25
- ❖ 8806 BEL AIR PL (6 BR, 5 FB, 2 HB) sold for \$2,075,000 on Aug. 28
- ❖ 11604 LUVIE CT (5 BR, 5 FB, 2 HB) sold for \$2,050,000 on Aug. 15
- ❖ 8809 POTOMAC STATION LN (6 BR, 5 FB, 3 HB) sold for \$1,980,000 on Aug. 22
- ❖ 11716 LAKE POTOMAC DR (6 BR, 6 FB, 2 HB) sold for \$1,960,000 on Aug. 21
- ❖ 9737 BEMAN WOODS WAY (5 BR, 4 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,425,000 on Aug. 14
- ❖ 10113 SORREL AVE (5 BR, 5 FB, 2 HB) sold for \$1,350,000 on Aug. 11
- ❖ 7 CLOVERBROOKE CT (5 BR, 4 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,235,000 on Aug. 19
- ❖ 8908 ABBEY TER (4 BR, 4 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,200,000 on Aug. 19
- ❖ 11409 ROUEN DR (4 BR, 2 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,075,000 on Aug. 18
- ❖ 11902 SEVEN LOCKS RD (6 BR, 4 FB, 1 HB) sold for \$1,050,000 on Aug. 22



8806 Bel Air Place sold for \$2,075,000 on Aug. 28

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