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The Shriver Home

A blend of family and philanthropy.

BY CAROLE DELL

A line of tux and gown-clad guests chatted in the evening air as they made their way through the columned entry and into the Potomac home of Eunice and Sargent Shriver.

Inside, their son Anthony, and any other Shrivvers who happened to be on site at the moment, greeted guests in the loosely formed receiving line at the 2007 Best Buddies Ball.

While a student at Georgetown University, Anthony Shriver founded Best Buddies, which pairs high school and college students with people with disabilities. The organization has grown from one effort into an organization helping more than 400,000 people worldwide.

This year, on its 20th anniversary, the ball will be held at the Shriver home for the last time. On Oct. 18, the scene repeats: receiving line, glamour guests, auction, entertainment, diplomats and Democrats, Republicans and the also-rans, and those still running will become “buddies,” if for a night. But within the flare and glare of this 800-person fundraiser, there will be a poignancy permeating the gaiety.

The home, built by Eunice and



PHOTO BY CAROLE DELL

A rear view from the lawn shows the symmetry of the house with its extensive terrace.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BEST BUDDIES

Eunice and Sargent Shriver

The 2008 Best Buddies Ball could be the last grand occasion for this family in a house whose imposing scale and classic lines were background to so many events.

On the Market

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4 A Place of Their Own

Judy Polk-Sebring and her husband Stuart had heavy hands in the design and construction processes of their 11,000 square-foot home and couldn't be happier with the results.



The backyard and patio of Stuart Sebring and Judy Polk-Sebring features a firepit, a grill, a beer tap, swimming pool, not to mention ample seating for guests and a spiral staircase to an overlooking second-floor balcony.

PHOTOS BY AARON STERN/THE ALMANAC

BY AARON STERN
THE ALMANAC

The age-old adage of doing something yourself if you want the job done right may be a bit shopworn, but that didn't stop Judy Polk-Sebring from embracing its spirit when she was building her dream home.

Unhappy with the company she was using as her general contractor, she dismissed them and took the reins of building the 11,000 square-foot Potomac Falls home herself.



The living room and theater area. The family wanted a place where they could comfortably watch movies but that wouldn't be shut off from the rest of the house the way a private movie theater would be. The ground floor of their home is the primary entertainment area, as several doors open up to the sprawling patio outside.

"You can't build a home like this and not have full-time supervision," she said as she recalled finding

herself at the job site more often than the people who were supposed to be overseeing construction. "I



Stuart Sebring and Judy Polk-Sebring in a sitting area on the first floor of their new Potomac Falls home. On the floor is a zebra skin, behind and around them are books and other items they have collected on their travels around the world.

was here all day anyway," so, she figured, why not?

Almost two years later she is more than pleased with the final result – an airy and sprawling structure that is at once rustic and refined, spacious and cozy.

She and her husband Stuart Sebring – grandson of Bullis School founder Commander William F. Bullis – moved into the six bedroom, ten-and-one-half bathroom, S-shaped home in May of this year.

Walnut floors and maple and cedar accents abound, as do stone walls, slate and granite surfaces and enormous windows. Nearly every room in the house has access to the outside – even many of the upstairs rooms have small balconies – and the generously proportioned windows offer sweeping views of the outside.

Sold: Million-dollar Homes

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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6 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. This 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," 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.

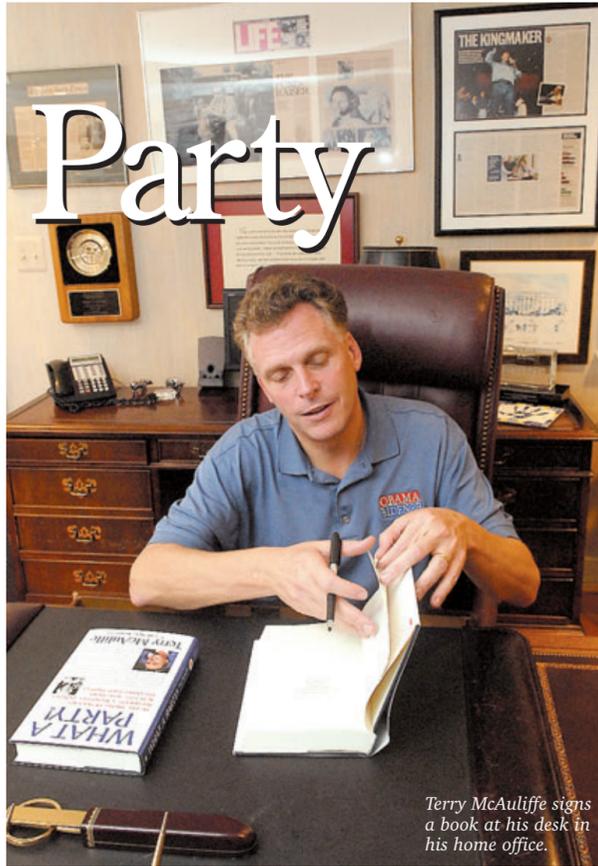
All of the home additions match the architectural style of the original farmhouse. A similar gray stone was used to build the stand-alone guesthouse. But McAuliffe maintained the 100 year-old wooden floor and door latches in the original part of the house – which includes his home office.

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

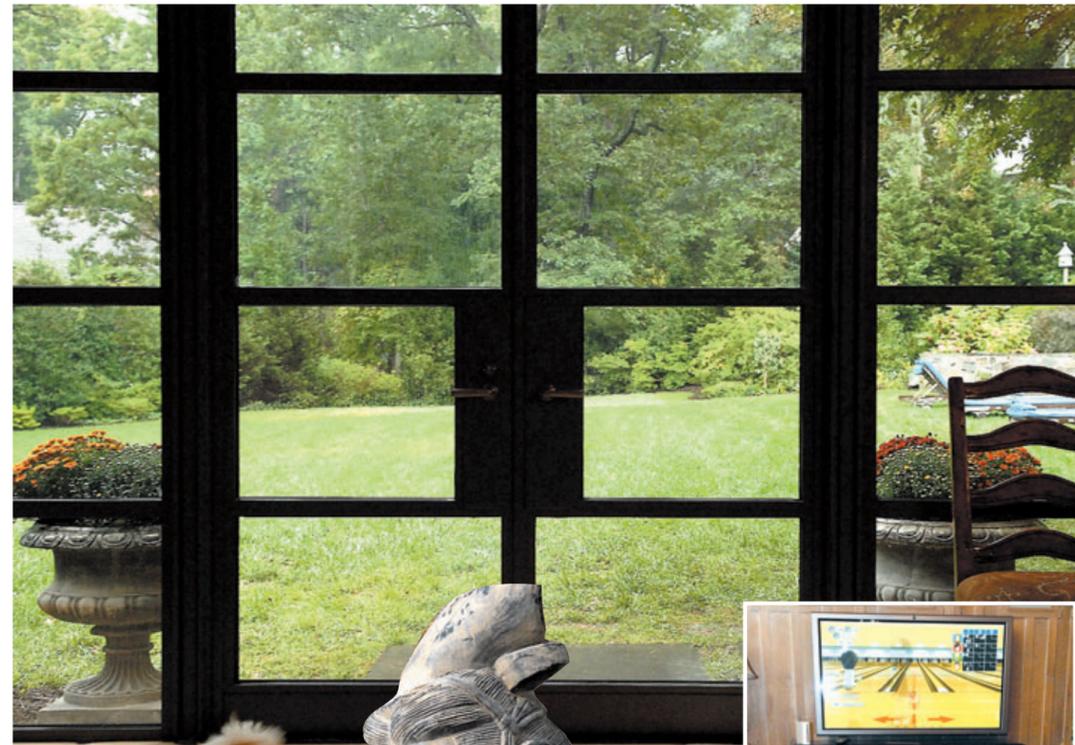
"We went to undergrad together and had a relationship from school," he said.

The home upgrades, particularly the pool area, have made the McAuliffe's house ideal for hosting large parties. "We mostly entertain outside," 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



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



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



The guest/pool house at the McAuliffe's.

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



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

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



Dorothy McAuliffe talks with Karen and Dan DuVal.



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



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



Party host Terry McAuliffe.



Supervisor John Foust talks with Terry McAuliffe.

A Place of Their Own

FROM PAGE 4

“We tried to create kind of an indoor/outdoor feel,” said Polk-Sebring. “We didn’t want anything that was formal and stuffy, we wanted something that was warm and rustic ... and something that was elegant as well, and comfortable.” Family and daily living are accounted for with details such as a small office in back of the kitchen and a first-floor shower area and mudroom designated for the family’s five dogs.

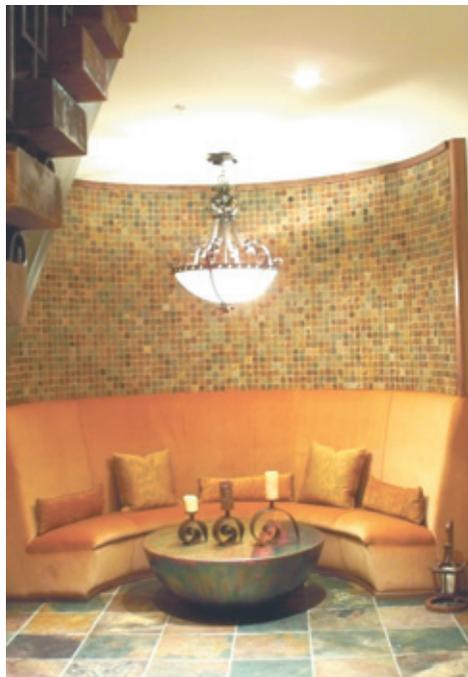
There is a small suite with elevator access for her parents to live in at some point so that they don’t have to go to an assisted living facility, and down one hallway on the first floor are two bedrooms that Polk-Sebring built with her two sons and her daughter – and their future families – in mind.

“A lot of people when their kids all leave [for college] they start to downsize,” she said. “I’m home for my kids and I want them to have a place to come back to and bring their kids back to.”

She and her husband like to entertain, so the lower level has a full-sized, copper-topped bar and theater room that open up onto a sweeping patio area with an expanse of tables, benches and small ledges for guests to settle with plates and drinks. The lower level floor is slate so that cleanup after parties is easy.



The cobblestone wraparound driveway leads the way to Judy Polk-Sebring and Stuart Sebring’s new 11,000 square-foot home in Potomac Falls.



The Sebrings like to entertain. A small alcove just off the side of their main downstairs living room offers a crescent-shaped seating booth for guests who want to have a private conversation.

Nowhere is the theme of old and new, rustic and refined anymore apparent than in the master bedroom. Cabinets pop out of pillars beside the master bed to house all the traditional belongings of a nightstand, and a hidden



The kitchen in the center of the S-shaped house has a high, peaked ceiling – there is no second floor in that part of the house – and a massive island topped with leatherized granite.

mechanical door whirs inward to give access to the phone. Directly across from the bed is a massive flatscreen television.

In the master bathroom is a large tub carved out of a single stone boulder. A small porch area off the bedroom has a wicker bench for two.

In all, Polk-Sebring said that she and her husband couldn’t be happier with their new home.

“We really kind of mixed old and new and modern but it works,” she said. “We like it. It was a work of love, let me tell you.”



The tub in the master bath was carved out of a single Colorado boulder.

New format for NSO design show features.

Beyond Dragons

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.

Some of the local designers include Camille Beers, Reston; Sandra Meyers, Rockville; Shannon Munn, Springfield; Karen Luria & Mary Beth Schepp, Alexandria; and Ian Simpson of Smith & Hawken in Chevy Chase. Members of the ASEAN Women's Circle are participating with this year's 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.

PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/CONNECTION



Carmen Stull, Vice President for Development, Women's Committee for the National Symphony Orchestra (NSO); Mrs. Edith Chin, wife of the Cambodian Deputy Chief of Mission to the U.S.; Mrs. Linda Gaa, wife of the Philippine Ambassador to the U.S.; Mrs. Nunung Kuncorowati, wife of the Indonesian Ambassador to the U.S. and Luis Florendo, Filipino American designer.

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10 The Shriver's Home

FROM PAGE 3

Sargent Shriver in 1986, is on the market for \$11.8 million.

The Best Buddies Ball could be the last grand occasion for this family in a house whose imposing scale and classic lines were background to so many events. But, what was important to his mother, according to her son, Mark Shriver, was that it was a family house first and she designed it with that in mind.

Over the years, the house has served both purposes well. With rooms towering 12-feet and walls a pristine white, the interior has served as an endless canvas for vivid

On the Market



The formal dining room extends into a cozy breakfast room with a large fully equipped kitchen to its left. The large table is always extended as a welcome to any number of family and friends.



The neutral of a white living room serves a specific purpose: backdrop for the many photos and mementos documenting the Shriver's lifetime of service and their family history. Beyond, the cool quiet of the sunroom is a place for reflection and a good book.

PHOTOS BY CAROLE DELL



The imposing central hall is the formal entry to the house as well as a space for large gatherings. Art works, family photographs and personal mementos line both walls in gallery-like profusion.



The library, a cozy room for quiet conversations, looks out onto the hall and spiral staircase.

displays of art and the black and white of memorable photographs. Each corner, wall and surface of the house, all 16,000 square feet of it, holds its own silver-framed memory.

Paintings, family photographs and a bronze bust of Joseph P. Kennedy preside over the large

entrance hall that divides the living rooms on the right from the kitchen and formal dining room on the left. The hall serves many purposes in its centrality and is its own public space, which is often used for cocktail parties. Here, guests, lit by two crystal chandeliers, lofty above, spill out through the wide French

doors onto the terrace in fine weather.

A sunroom and bar area designed at a later date by Sargent Shriver connects the living room and library spaces and gives guests a continuous access to all four rooms during large gather

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The Shriver's Home

FROM PAGE 10

ings.

Across the hall, the formal dining room with its fireplace and French doors leading to the terrace is used each evening for dinner. There could be just two Shrivvers present, 10, or 20 guests. The table is extended to its full length and stays that way.

In a house this large, four floors and an elevator, 10 bedrooms, 11 baths, and a 26-foot recreation room, the impression is that much of the space is unused. But large families make any home small and large gatherings of guests keep the numerous rooms busy during events and holidays.

Eunice Shriver built it as a place where the family could all gather to celebrate life and share their efforts, said Anthony Shriver.

If the legacy is brightened by the laughter of the Shriver children it is heightened by other children's smiles, those who participate in programs the Shrivvers have hosted throughout the years in the house and on the vast six-acre-plus lawn. A pool, pergola, tennis court and play area are there to be used and they are. Summer days are not quiet; they echo with the sounds of Camp Shriver, Eunice Shriver's sports day camp for people with intellectual disabilities held there and at various sites around the country, as well as other outdoor



PHOTOS BY CAROLE DELL



The pool and pergola are in constant use by family, friends and Camp Shriver children all summer.

Looking through the library to the bar area where photos vie with art for attention.

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

Washington Fine Properties, 202-944-5000

events.

Anthony Shriver said he always recalls the house being alive and welcoming to all — just like his parents' outlook on life with a warm and welcoming spirit.



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