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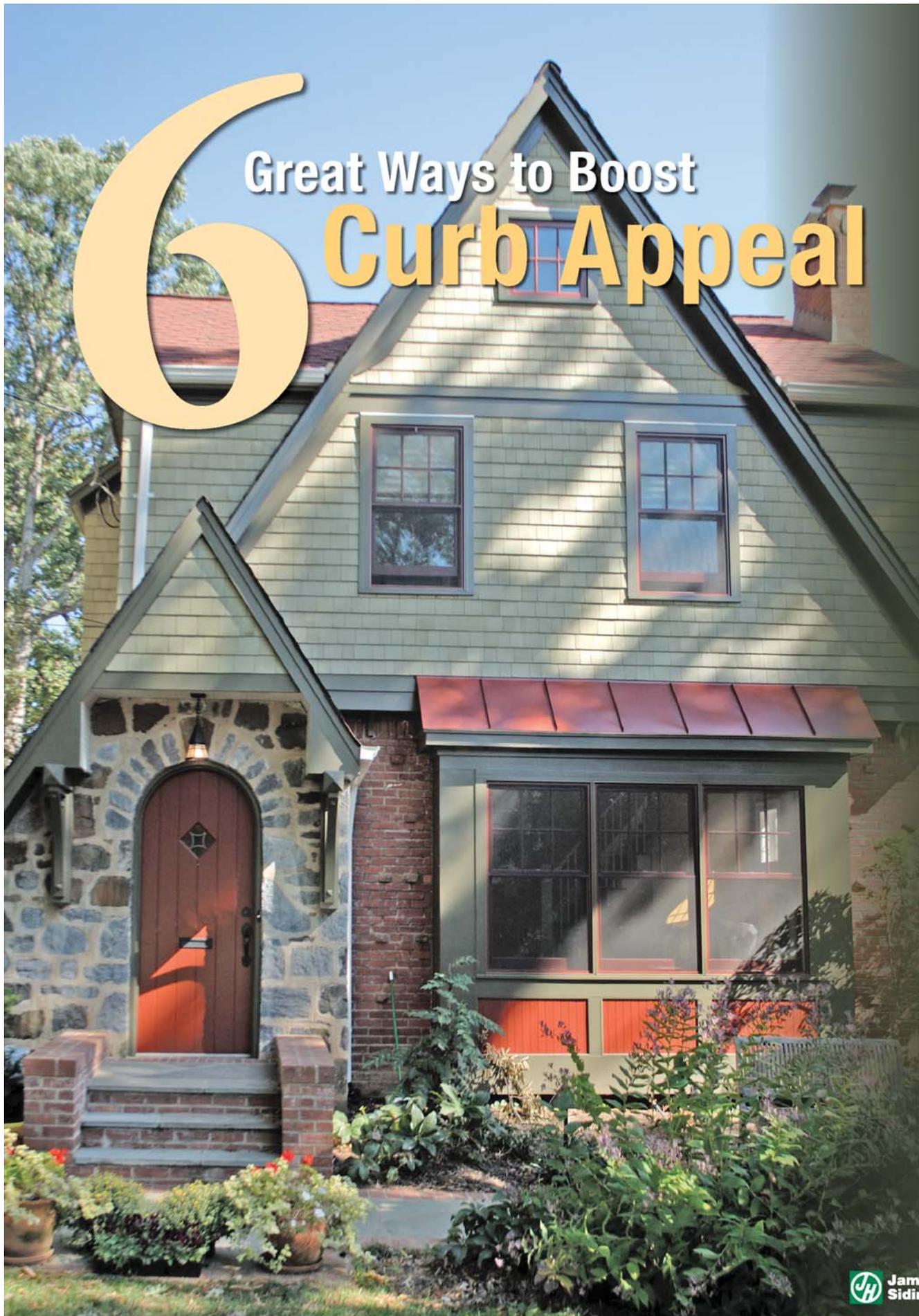
Home Life Style



MARCH 2009 ❖ VIENNA CONNECTION

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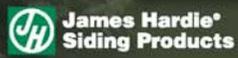
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Two-level addition wins
Contractor of the Year award.

“In all it’s really a seamless complement
to the old house.”

— Mike Martin

3



HomeLifeStyle ❖ Vienna Connection ❖ March 2009

Whole Greater than Sum of Parts

BY JOHN BYRD

When Mike Martin bought a two-story contemporary on five acres of Great Falls almost twenty years ago, he knew changes were inevitable.

“For starters, the front door faced west, and the street view is from the south. Ascending the drive, you were looking at a side elevation that simply had no cohesive architectural style,” the homeowner explains.

Reflecting on long-forested plans to shift the home’s front elevation, Martin acknowledges that his unsatisfactory experience with an earlier contractor had made him wary. Ten years ago, he had added a 600-square-foot wood-clad postmodern wing to what had then been the home’s rear elevation. He got the added living area, but architectural problems remained with the original 5,400-square-foot home.

“I was looking for a process that would put me in the middle of things. Michael Nash proposed a conceptual outline that nailed down the cost range, yet allowed me to make line-



Above, the gallery quality entrance to the new addition. At right, the renovated home. Below, homeowner Mike Martin standing in front of the home before work began.

item decisions as the project moved forward,” Martin recalls. “The previous contractor would only offer a fixed price loaded with details that I couldn’t change without incurring added costs.”

The good news arising from Martin’s long wait was that the project’s scope and challenges had become crystal clear. At this point, the list of new and enlarged rooms called for a 2,000-

square-foot addition, which the owner wanted built on the existing structure’s south side as a primary component in the home’s new façade.

Out of the gate, Shawn Nazemian, Michael Nash’s designer, proposed changing the old addition’s cladding from wood to brick, while selectively extend-

ing the blue quarry stone motif that had been used in the earlier addition. He then developed a more integrated design for the façade’s roof slopes that now would

feature a prominent entrance tower stepped forward to sharpen the symmetry. Two porches with pillars on either side of the tower provide added visual unity.

Creating an interior design that redeploys old exterior walls inspired a whole series of innovations. The former west-facing brick wall, for instance, was incorporated into a spacious foyer that unfolds as one enters. As a textural complement, the foyer flooring consists of thoughtfully assembled, multi-hued flagstone panels.

Recessed lights and *objets d’arte* complete the gallery-like ambiance. To the left, through a pair of glassing-facing doors, one enters Martin’s home



office; on the right, the old front door and double-hung windows have been converted into generous archways accessing, respectively, the living room and a hallway that leads to the renovated kitchen. The addition’s second floor accommodates a guest suite, the laundry and a substantially enlarged master bathroom suite. The new addition includes 270 square feet for a master bathroom suite, a luxury spa in every sense. A whirlpool bath on a raised ceramic dais is neatly tucked under a front window.



At Home with History

BY DONNA MANZ

Judi Medwedeff was not looking for a new home in 1984 when she came upon the historic house on Windover Avenue. “I happened to be cutting through Windover and saw the ‘For Sale’ sign,” says Medwedeff. “I said to myself, ‘I have to have it.’ I knew nothing about it except that it was an old house.”

The house was built in 1892 by one of Vienna’s most prominent townsmen of his time, E. C. Bouton. The original structure is featured in Mayo Stuntz’s “This Was Vienna.”

In the 1950s, the house, in what is now known as the Historic Windover

District, was moved from its original location, about a hundred yards away, to its current site. The relocated house was moved to a triangular lot that narrows toward the back. Changes had been made to the structure over the years, but it was Judi and David Medwedeff who threw themselves into expanding and restoring it.

In 1988, the Medwedeffs added on two new levels in the back, an architectural challenge.

“We hired an architect but we knew what we wanted,” David Medwedeff says. “We wanted lots of light and windows but we didn’t want it to look modern.” Today, the house is approximately three times the original size.

“We tried to keep everything original that we could,” says Judi Medwedeff. Throughout the original upper level are heart pine planks, and the 1892 windows and moldings remain in the earli-



The family room was designed around an antique mantle that the Medwedeffs found in Millwood, Va.

est rooms.

For the additions and restoration, the Medwedeffs commissioned custom millwork to match the original trim and casings.

There is a piece of stained glass

art, bought at an antique auction, accented by an unrepaired hole that Judi Medwedeff believes is a bullet hole.

Interior stairs leading down to a lower level were outside the house

in the 1950s. A razed 100-year-old Baltimore house provided baseboard trim. The warm, art-filled family room was designed around a finely detailed mantle purchased from an antique shop in Virginia.

Windover house retains original charms.

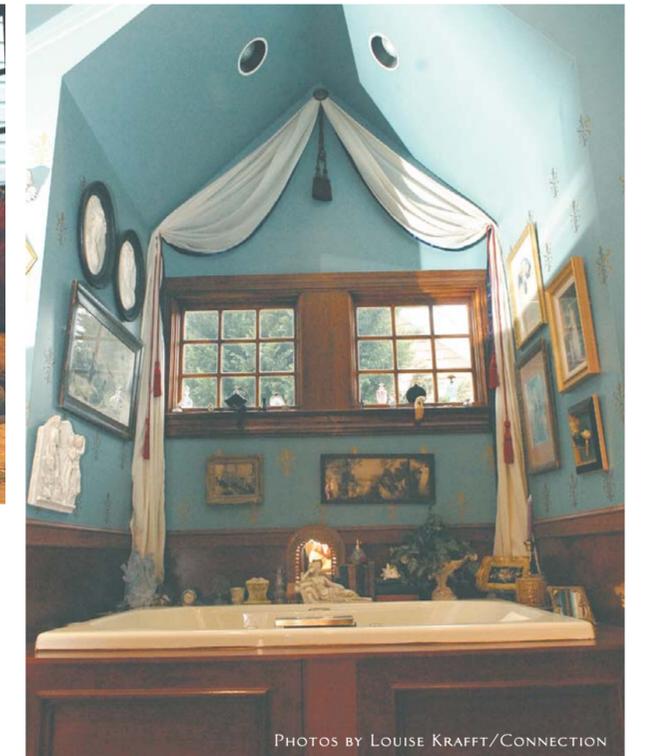


David and Judi Medwedeff in the newly added family room.

Transom windows were lined up with the top of the mantle by the architect. “An old home has all the character built right in,” says Judi Medwedeff.

Rooms and hallways are painted in faux paint style after trial and error. The upstairs hallway paint effect was created using a paper Safeway bag.

The Medwedeffs’ two sons, both students at James Madison High School, sleep and study in bedrooms of antique furnishings and



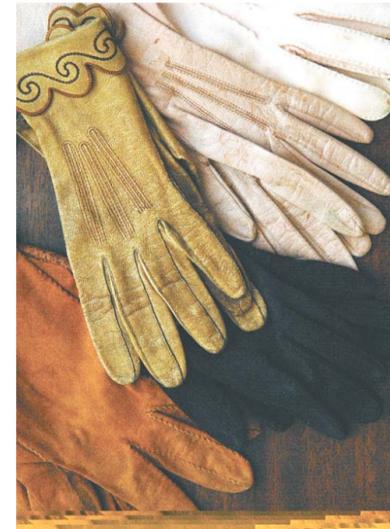
The master bath.

100-year-old windows. David Medwedeff even indulges his historic passion outside his home. He has coached and refereed lacrosse for 20 years, and is now trying to arrange a visit from a

lacrosse team from England, where he once coached lacrosse. Judi Medwedeff calls her home a “dream” house. “I like antiques, old things. I like the idea of preserving an old house.”



A detail of the Victorian couch.



A collection of gloves from David’s great-aunt.



An antique lamp lights the way up the back stairwell. On the wall is a painting by David’s sister.



The walls in the upstairs hallway were painted dark and then textured with a lighter rose with the help of plastic Safeway bags.



Lace curtain diffuse the light entering from the street.



Faux etched glass adds a touch of Victorian charm to the vestibule.



Antiques and heirloom furnishings in the dining room.



Beaded lampshades add to the ambiance.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT/CONNECTION

6 To the Point



A small footstool by Lori Mazza received a second prize.



Sara Leigh Merry, owner of the Scarlet Thread Needlework Shop on Walker Road in Great Falls, entered this piece of cross stitch.

Woodlawn's annual needlework features over 600 works from around the country. The exhibit also includes work done by Eleanor "Nelly" Parke Custis Lewis, the first mistress of the mansion.

Nelly was the granddaughter of Martha Washington. She grew up at Mount Vernon with her brother George Washington Parke Custis as part of George and Martha

Woodlawn's 46th annual Needlework Exhibition

Washington's family. Nelly married a nephew of George Washington's, Major Lawrence Lewis. Washington as a wedding gift gave the land on what was known as Gray's Hill to the Lewises.



Woodlawn's annual needlework exhibition opened March 1.

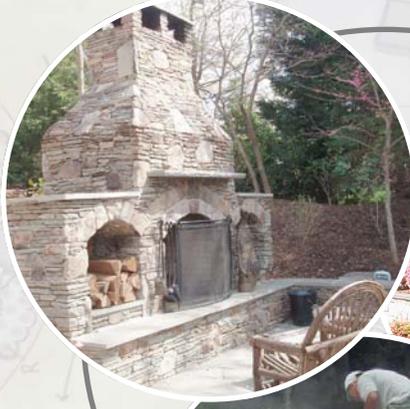


Lori Mazza, owner of Waste Knot Needlepoint on Lee Highway in Arlington, took a first place for a needlepoint pillow in this year's show.

The show continues until March 31. See www.woodlawn1805.org or call 703-780-4000.



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Oakton

- ❖ 2779 Marshall Lake Dr (a 6 BR, 6 FB, 1 HB Detached Home on 1.17 acres) in Timber Lake sold for \$1,620,000 on Jan. 30, 2009

Great Falls

- ❖ 11199 Branton Ln (a 5 BR, 6 FB, 1 HB Detached Home on 1.35 acres) in Chadwick Property sold for \$2,085,000 on Jan. 13, 2009
- ❖ 309 Springvale Rd (a 3 BR, 3 FB, 1 HB Detached Home on 2.18 acres) in Great Falls sold for \$1,400,000 on Jan. 30, 2009
- ❖ 800 Grace Meadow Ct (a 4 BR, 3 FB, 1 HB Detached Home on 1.97 acres) in Dogwood Farm sold for \$1,050,000 on Jan. 23, 2009

McLean

- ❖ 818 Clinton Pl (a 4 BR, 4 FB, 2 HB Detached Home on 1.12 acres) in Langley Forest sold for \$2,300,000 on Jan. 21, 2009
- ❖ 1203 Alps Dr (a 4 BR, 4 FB, 1 HB Detached Home on 1.48 acres) in Courts The sold for \$1,350,000 on Jan. 26, 2009

Reston

- ❖ 11990 Market St #1502 (a 3 BR, 3 FB Hi-Rise Unit — 9+ floors) in Midtown At Reston sold for \$1,050,000 on Jan. 07, 2009

The residence at 1203 Alps in McLean recently sold for \$1,350,000.



The residence at 2779 Marshall Lake Drive in Oakton recently sold for \$1,620,000.

PHOTOS BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

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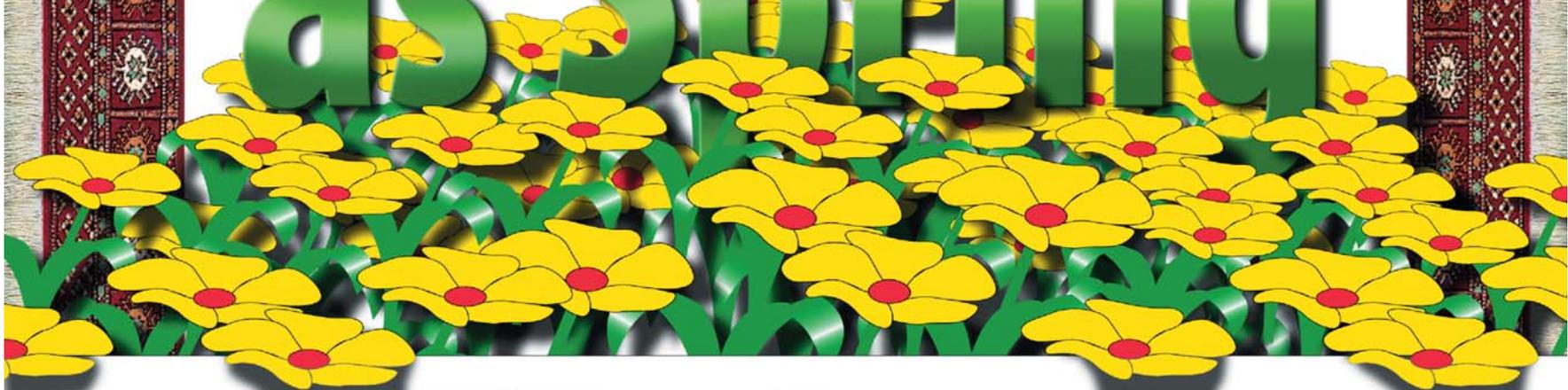
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