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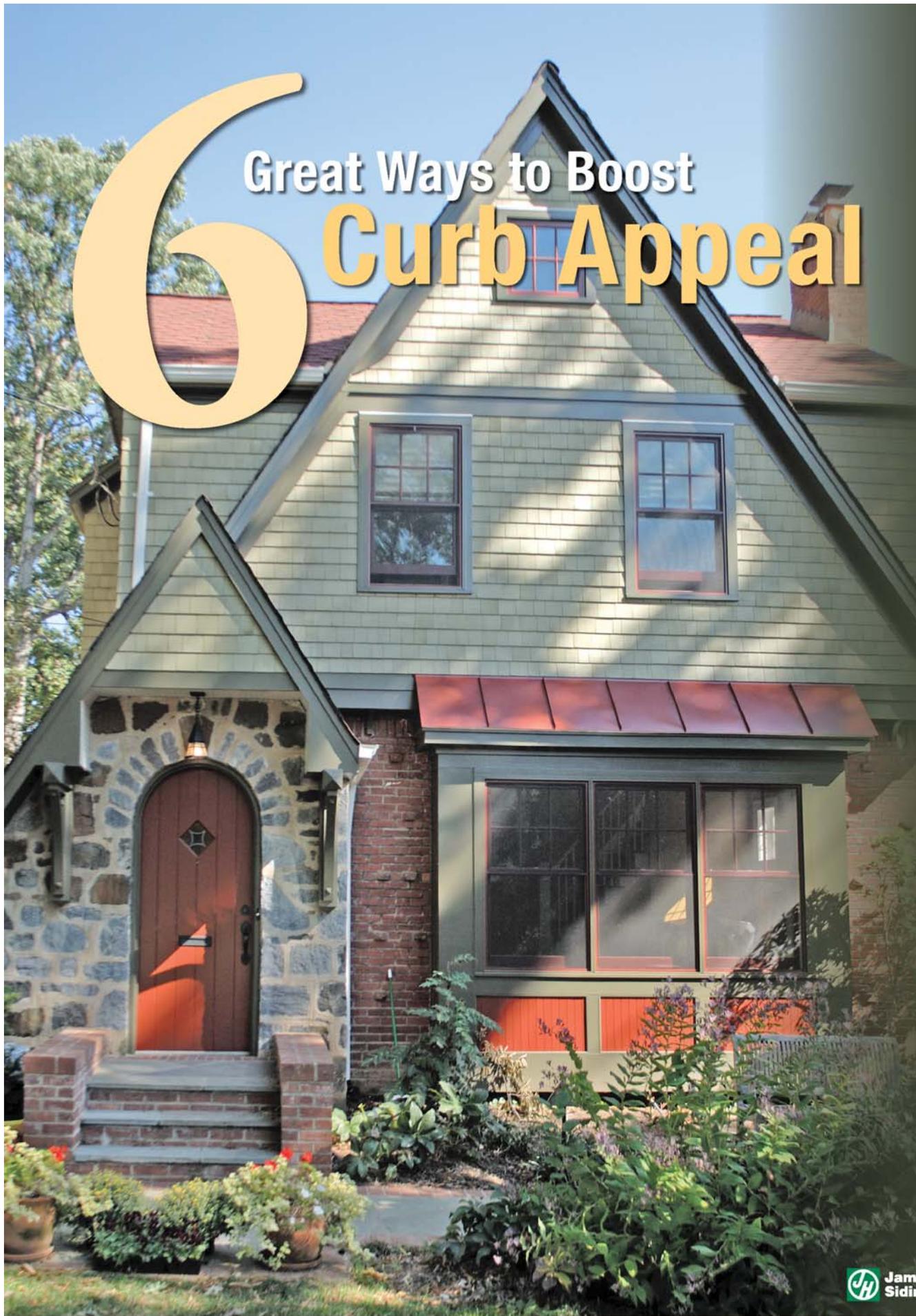
Home Life Style



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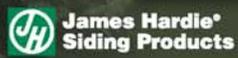
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Natural Setting in Great Falls

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE

Jane Luce moved to Great Falls three years ago after finding she was running out of garden space at her home in Reston.

A landscape architect and artist, Luce wanted a place with more land. She eventually found a deck house made out of teak and mahogany wood in the perfect location.

She describes the architecture of her home as “a little bit eccentric” and said you can hear the sound of Great Falls from her property on a quiet night.

“For me, it was primarily the landscape and the closeness to the park [that drew me to the house.] It is perfect for an artist, this home,” said Luce.

Luce and her husband have done some additional work to the house, such as adding a new master bedroom on the ground floor. They also built a serene, year-round spa area, with a whirlpool, at the rear of the home.

“When you are in [the spa], it feels like you are in a tropical place,” she said.

Luce spent a lot of time outside in the woods as a child and has tried to keep all qualities of her home nature oriented.

“I have tried to keep a view to the outdoors no matter which way you are facing inside,” she said.



A skylight spa leads from the new master bedroom.

Luce has used her artistic attention to detail when decorating the home. When she couldn't find an appropriate grasscloth wallpaper for the kitchen, she started painting her own design directly on the wall.

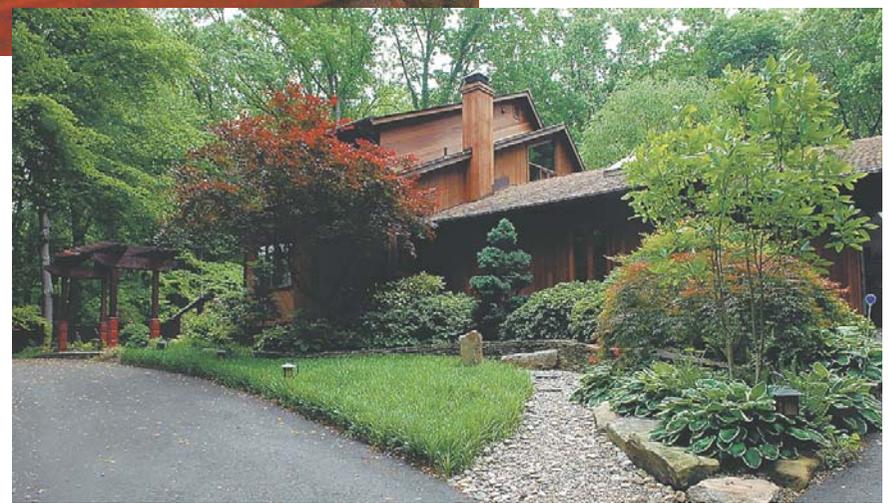
A landscape architect, Luce also designed the entire outdoor



The theme of the woodland and the water is reflected in the artist's choice of window treatments and colors throughout the home.



Detail of windows above the spa.



A Chinese Maple rises up by the drive at the entranceway to the Luce-Smith home in Great Falls.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT

SEE NATURAL, PAGE 4

Landscape

Natural Setting in Great Falls

FROM PAGE 3

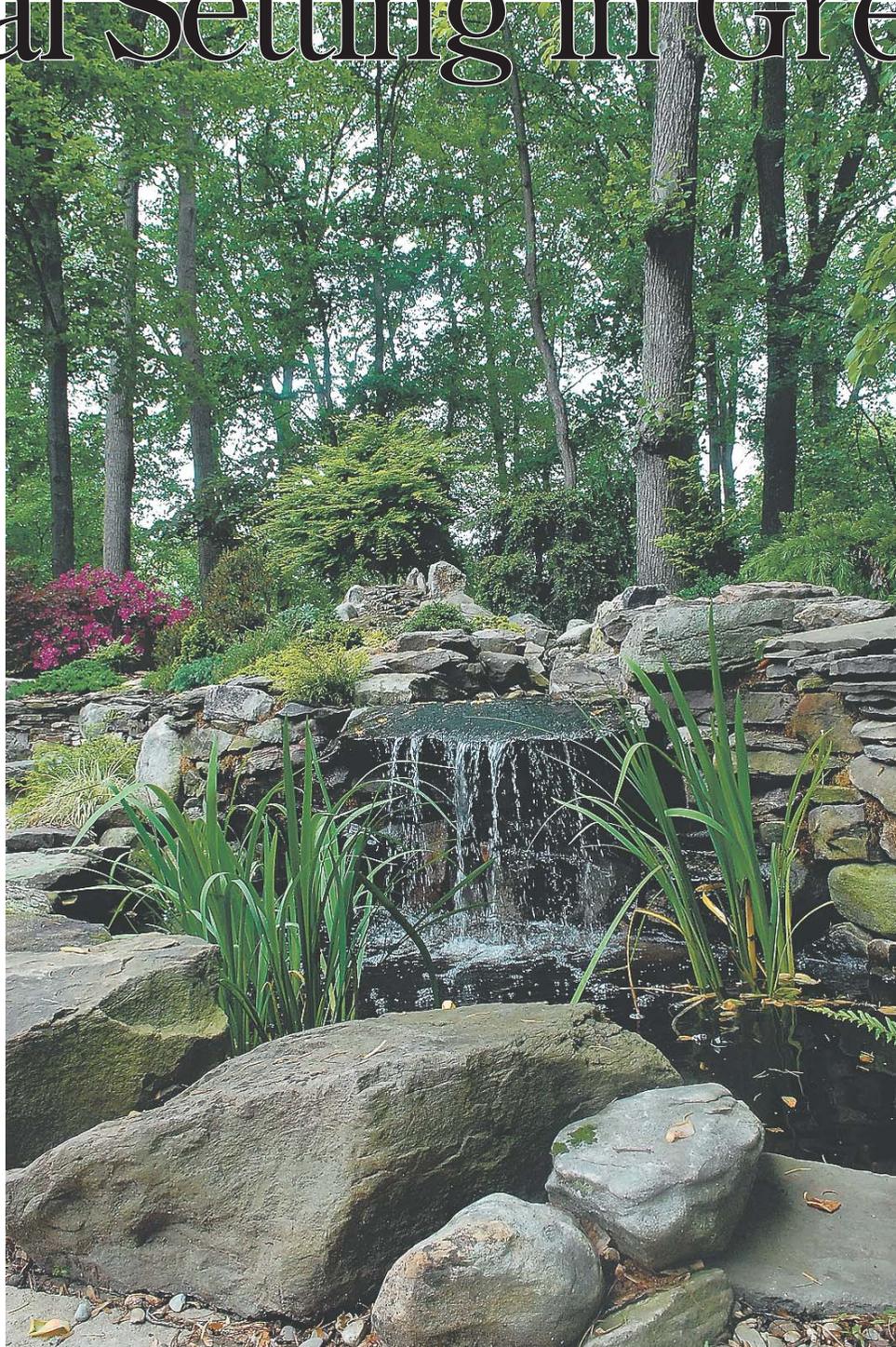
area at her home.

The landscaping goes from a more natural, wild feel to a more cultivated look as it wraps around the house. She wanted the design to flow from the dense woods around her property to the yard.

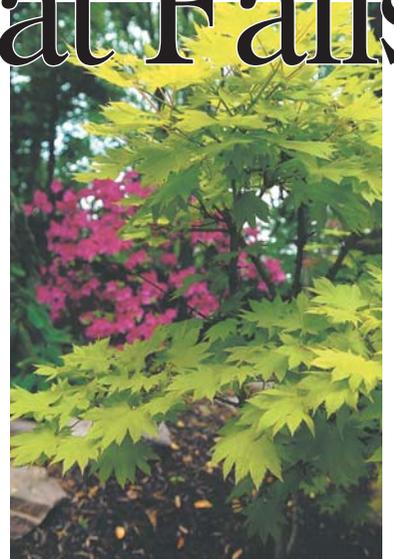
Many of the large stone benches Luce built herself at the side of the house are rugged and look as if they just happened to grow out of the ground. But the rear of the home has a wooden deck and manicured lawn.

Luce uses a mix of native plants like ferns, which would grow wild in that area, and cultivated species, like orchids, that need human attention and care.

“The ferns make it feel like the woods where I grew up,” said Luce.



Entering the garden, a waterfall flows.



A Full Moon Maple, *acer japonicum aureum*.

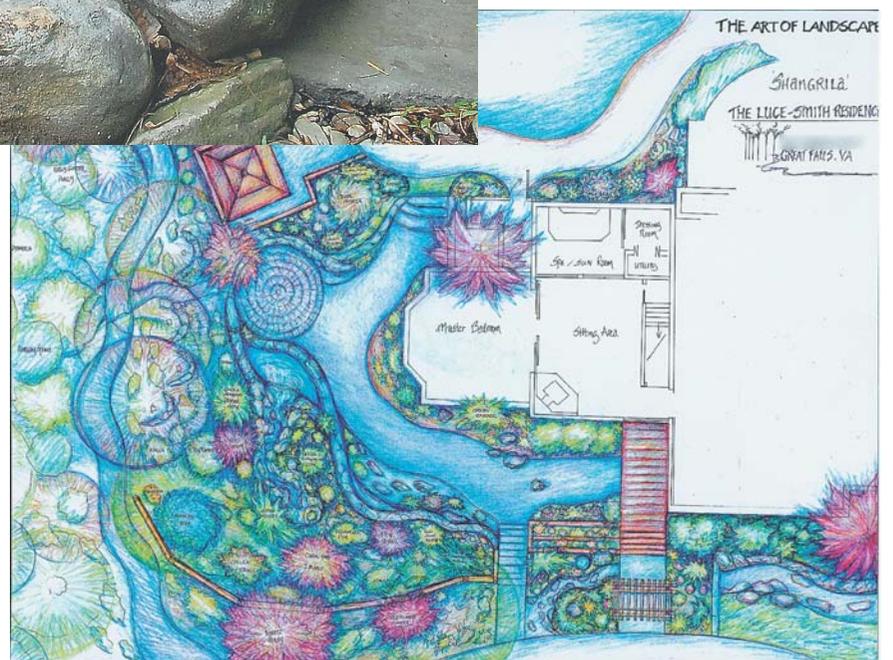


A goddess of compassion greets visitors to “Shangrila”



Landscape designer Jane Leigh Luce

Luce’s rendering of the garden and the master suite addition that was added to their Great Falls home.



Suzie Buck selects a few fabrics from her fabric closet in her quilting studio at her North Arlington home.

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PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT

In the Arlington Quilting Studio of Suzie Buck

BY LOUISE KRAFFT

The children were almost out of school and Suzie Buck became inspired.

She gathered years of her son's t-shirts from age six through his college years and got to work. She began by making the blocks and then one by one sized them, backed them and proceeded to sew them into a quilt. The quilt was her college graduation present to him. That was Suzie's first quilt.

Many, many, many quilts later Suzie is still up early in the mornings and heads straight into her studio to continue working on one of her many open

projects. She smiles as she describes her husband's outlook on her work: "Suzie may be the only person I know who wakes up early and heads straight to her studio and begins working before having a cup of coffee."

Suzie joined the McLean Chapter of Northern Virginia Quilters Unlimited. The chapter presently has over 125 members of the 1,300 member quilters in Northern Virginia. The McLean Chapter meets monthly at the McLean Baptist Church on Chain Bridge Road. Smaller bees meet weekly in homes or at the church.

For more information on Quilters Unlimited visit www.quiltersunlimited.org.

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Remodeled 13 Times for Family and Functions

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE

Bill and Bobbie Kilberg's red cedar house may be in the same place it was when their family first moved into it around Christmas in 1977 but the structure bears little resemblance to what the home was at that time.

In addition to a successful legal career that included arguing two cases successfully in front of the U.S. Supreme Court, Bill has also managed to oversee 13 additions and renovations to his McLean home since 1984.

In almost 32 years, the family has seen the size of their McLean home triple, from 3,000 square feet to 9,000 square feet above ground. Every room has changed. The kitchen alone

has been moved three times and is on its fourth renovation overall, he said.

"[Bill] is really just a lawyer who is also a frustrated architect," said Bobbie, president and chief executive officer of the Northern Virginia Technology Council, one the largest such organizations in the country.

The Kilbergs' major home projects included the addition of a handicapped accessible bedroom, bathroom and billiard room, originally built for Bill's father.

The couple also transformed a small, figure-eight-shaped pool into a larger, rectangular pool after a child's accident with wood

"There have been many times that [the architect] has told me I have a great idea, it just violates the laws of physics."

— Bill Kilberg

stain left the outdoor area with permanent foot print marks.

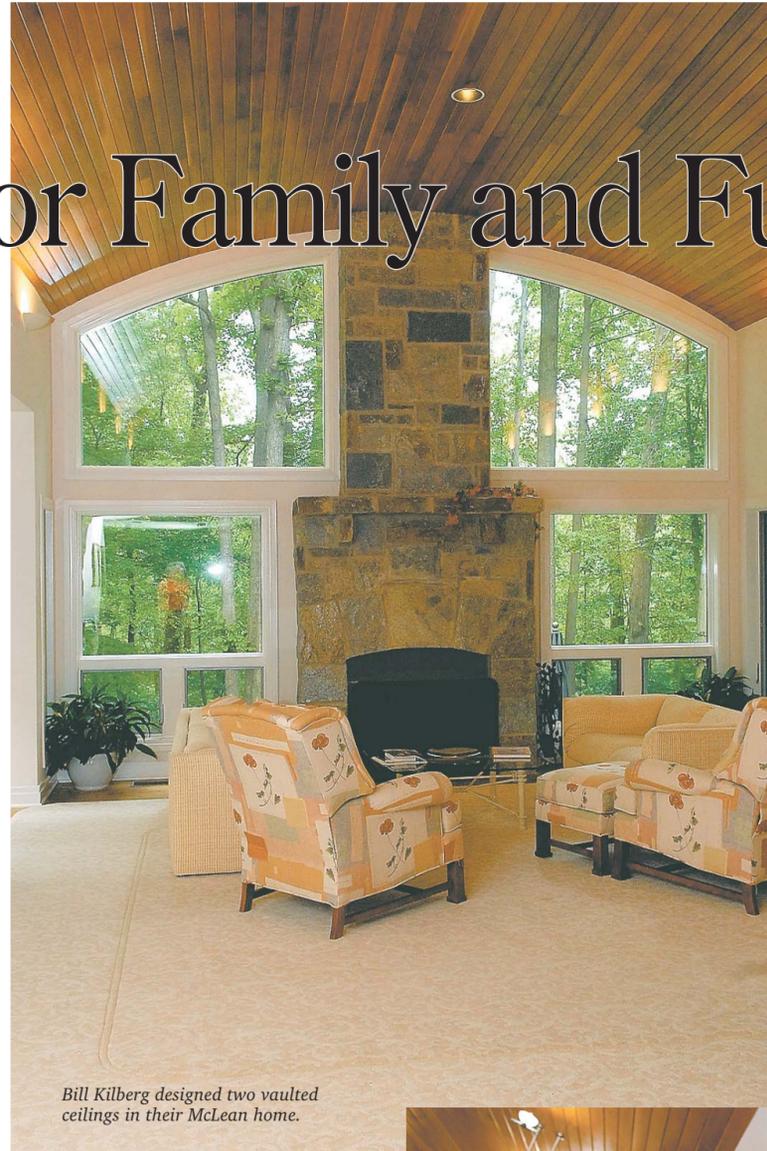
The house originally had a brick accent on its façade but Bill decided to replace it with stone, after using the same material to build a deck at the back of the house.

About 10 years ago, Bill also got the idea to add a "great room" with a rounded wooden ceiling, similar to the bow of a ship. Now, the house includes several "half moon" overhangs at its rear.

"Nothing here is the way it was originally," said Bill about the back of his house.

Most recently, Bill imported large wooden beams from Canada to raise the ceiling of his old living room at the front of the house and create a new library off the main entrance.

The lawyer, a senior partner at the law firm of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher, often finds inspiration for new renovation projects from visiting other homes or looking



Bill Kilberg designed two vaulted ceilings in their McLean home.

through magazines, he said.

Sometimes, architect Mark Malloy – who has worked on 10 of the Kilberg renovations – has to rein in Bill and dial down his vision.

"There have been many times that Mark has told me I have a great idea, it just violates the laws of physics," said Bill.

The Kilbergs are not only creative when it comes to architecture but have also invested in one-of-a-kind home decor.

The couple asked New Mexico artist David Ross to design a table and seven kitchen chairs that each reflected a different member of their family.

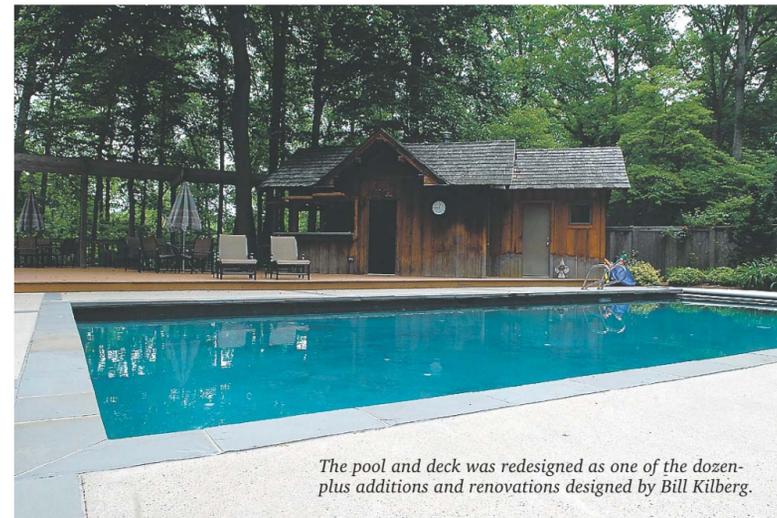
The backs of the chairs include portraits of a horse one child rode in New Mexico, two family dogs and Curious George, one daughter's favorite story book character as a child.

In the library, a hand-woven rug was created by weaver Christina Bergh. It took almost a year to complete.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT



Bill and Bobbie Kilberg at home in McLean.



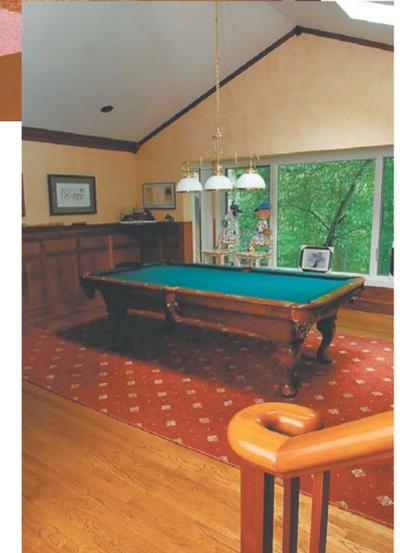
The pool and deck was redesigned as one of the dozen-plus additions and renovations designed by Bill Kilberg.



Bill Kilberg smiles as he reminisces about the birthday card he received from Charlton Heston on his 50th birthday. Heston made note that he as Moses only wandered with his people in the desert for 40 years whereas Bill had spent 50.

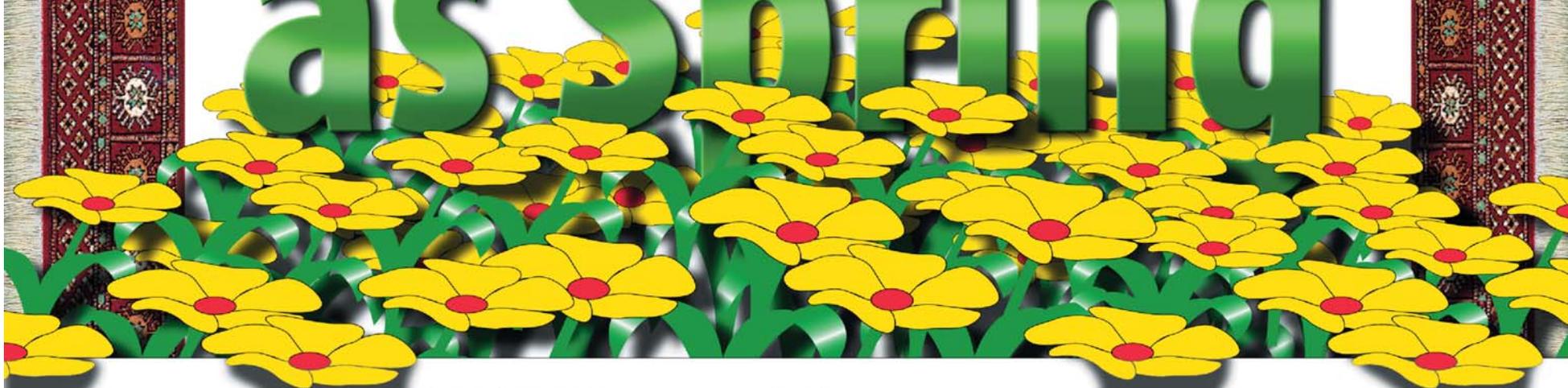


A detail from one of the kitchen chairs.



A pool parlor was added as part of one of the many additions for Bill's dad to enjoy while he stayed with the family.

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Home Spa in Vienna

9



HomeLifeStyle ❖ Great Falls Connection ❖ May/June 2009

BY JOHN BYRD

Dr. Andy Axelrad—who has lived in Vienna with his wife and two children since 2003, says the prize feature of his family exercise center, the resistance pool, evolved from his search for an alternative work-out routine.

A treadmill, the surgeon had decided, was the wrong exercise for him. What he needed was a way to stretch and loosen up that would also promote deeper relaxation.

After experimenting with several pool variants, he eventually discovered a model that generates a steady front-to-back current and eliminates the need for chlorine. It was a match perfectly suited to Axelrad's requirements, but not to the space limitations of the existing 200-square-foot family fitness center. The existing center had also begun to feel a bit dark and cramped, particularly in contrast to a lovely wooded setting just beyond a windowless bearing wall.

"The aesthetics were important to me," said Axelrad, 45, describing the steps through which his decision to expand the fitness center merged into a plan to introduce an indoor/outdoor continuum. "We were looking for a warmly finished interior... but also a way to maximize our connectedness to nature."



A resistant lap pool sits under skylights surrounded by views of the terraced garden.

Axelrad employed Sun Design Remodeling, a Burke-based design/build outfit.

"I knew this wasn't an easy assignment," Axelrad recalled. "The pool requires a six foot excavation, and all the electrical and HVAC systems were going to

be affected. I was pleased that the project designer, Jeremy Fleming, had a firm grasp of all the challenges".

Among the issues, Axelrad wanted the 12-by-6 foot pool placed into position with crane with minimal disruption to the



Kaleen Kitay and Andy Axelrad at home in their spa.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT

bountiful landscaping. He also wanted to upgrade an adjoining spa bath and to create a warmly textured interior that would exude Mediterranean ambiance ... even when it was snowing outside.

"[Jeremy] plainly got our vision and ran with it.

SEE FITNESS, PAGE 11

Fitness by Design

Great Falls

- ❖ 821 Polo Pl (a 5BR, 5 FB, 1 HB) Detached Home on 1.41 acres in Polo Ridge for \$1,612,500 on April 01, 2009.
- ❖ 10347 Carol St (a 5BR, 4 FB, 2 HB) Detached Home on 0.70 acres in Green Acres for \$1,525,000 on April 27, 2009.
- ❖ 10410 Van Patten Ln (a 5BR, 4 FB, 1 HB) Detached Home on 1.49 acres in Browns Landing for \$1,400,000 on April 01, 2009.
- ❖ 328 Canterwood Ln (a 4BR, 5 FB) Detached Home on 2.06 acres in Canterwood for \$1,050,000 on April 23, 2009.

McLean

- ❖ 6510 Chesterfield Ave (a 5BR, 4 FB, 1 HB) Detached Home on 0.23 acres in Chesterbrook Gardens for \$1,375,000 on April 13, 2009.
- ❖ 7837 Westmont Ln (a 7BR, 7 FB, 3 HB) Detached Home on 1.28 acres in Garfield Park for \$2,450,000 on April 24, 2009.
- ❖ 1575 Maddux Ln (a 5BR, 5 FB, 1 HB) Detached Home on 0.48 acres in Chalice Crest for \$2,104,800 on April 22, 2009.
- ❖ 7115 Capitol View Dr (a 5BR, 4 FB, 1 HB) Detached Home on 0.47 acres in Old Dominion Gardens for \$1,500,000 on April 10, 2009.
- ❖ 1135 Bellview Rd (a 5BR, 5 FB) Detached Home on 5.02 acres in Mclean for \$1,500,000 on April 30, 2009.
- ❖ 8300 Summerwood Dr (a 4BR, 4 FB, 1 HB) Detached Home on 0.83 acres in Summerwood for \$1,440,000 on April 08, 2009.
- ❖ 1859 Patton Ter (a 5BR, 5 FB, 1 HB) Detached Home on 0.26 acres in Chesterbrook for \$1,300,000 on April 08, 2009.
- ❖ 6315 Evermay Dr (a 4BR, 4 FB) Detached Home on 0.55 acres in Evermay for \$1,266,000 on April 01, 2009.



821 Polo Pl (a 5BR, 5 FB, 1 HB) Detached Home on 1.41 acres in Polo Ridge for \$1,612,500 on April 01, 2009.



10347 Carol St (a 5BR, 4 FB, 2 HB) Detached Home on 0.70 acres in Green Acres for \$1,525,000 on April 27, 2009.

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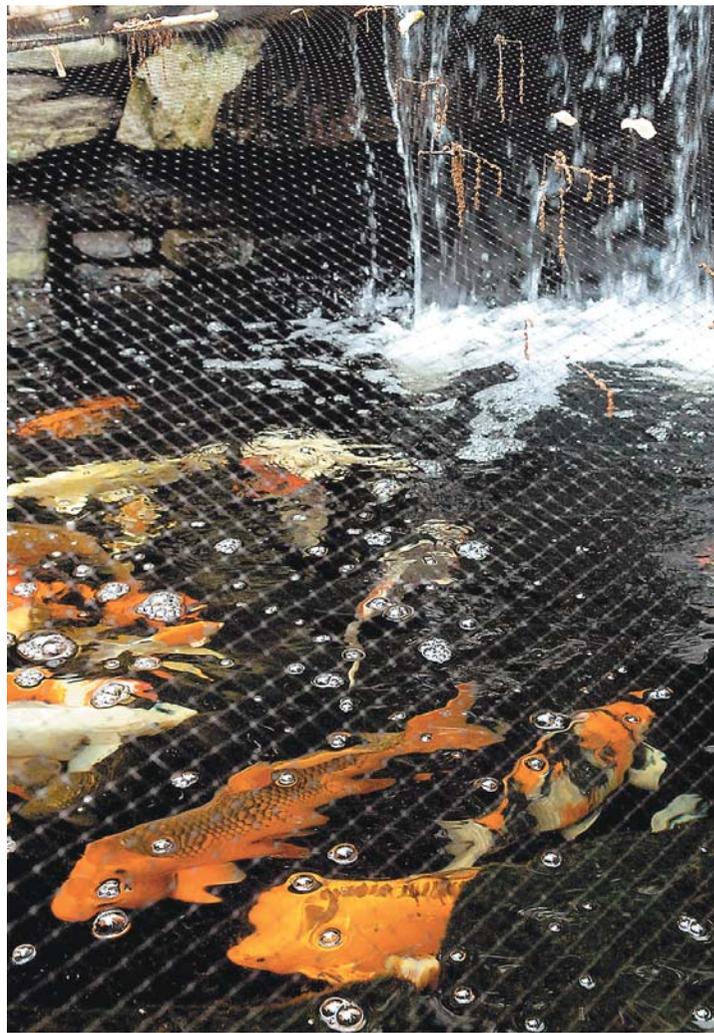
Fitness Center

FROM PAGE 9

He also answered questions in ways that made the options clear," Axelrad said.

Though Sun Design's solution adds only 170 square feet, the carefully angled elevations "cherry pick" sightlines, protecting privacy from one side via a course of elevated transom windows while inviting sensuous backyard views through floor-to-ceiling window walls.

"It's a full service gym and spa," Alexrad enthuses. "I can use it to start or finish my day, or both."



A waterfall flows into a pond swimming with Koi in the terrace garden at the Axelrad home in Vienna.

PHOTOS BY LOUISE KRAFFT



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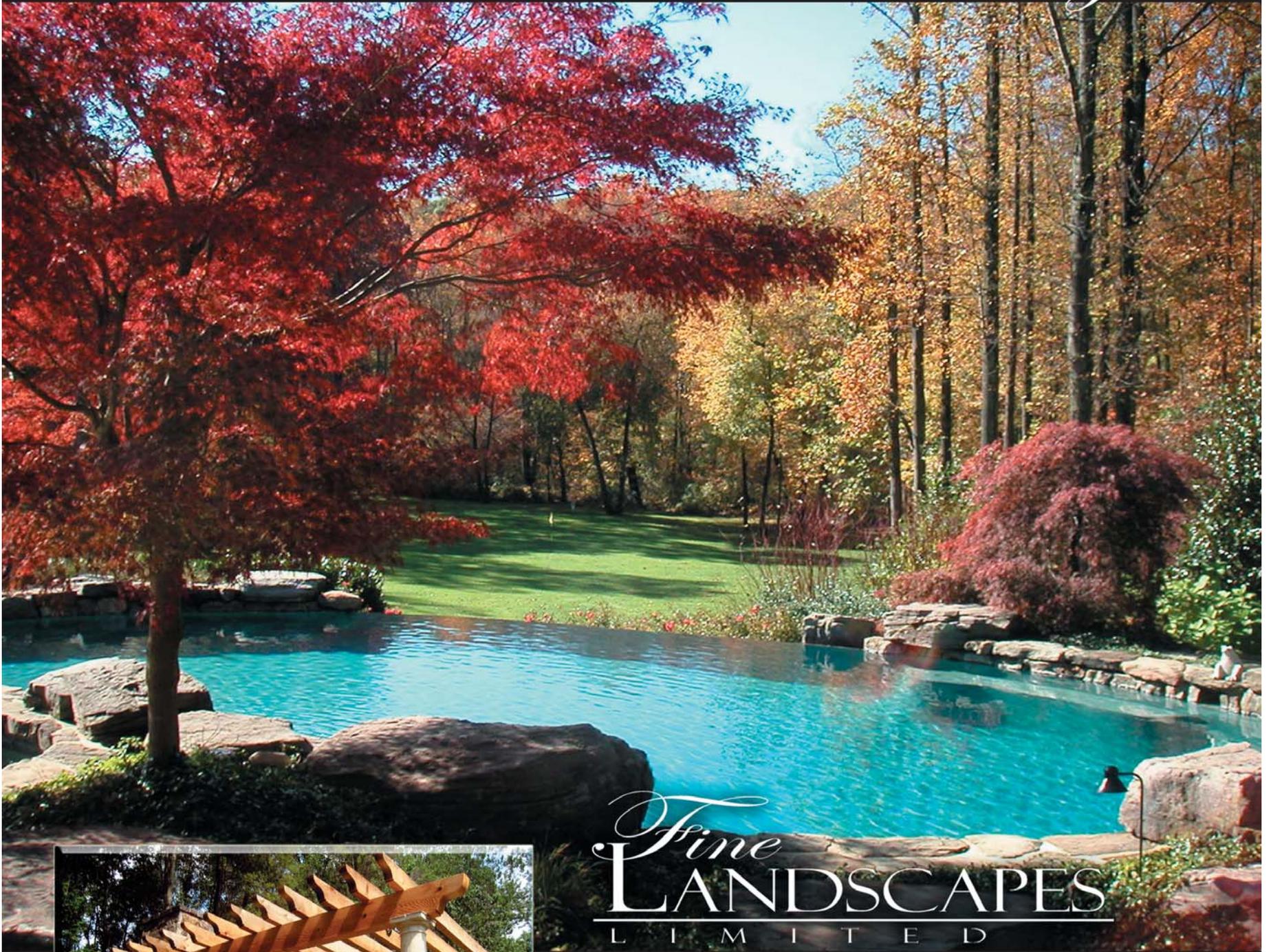
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