

Home Life Style

Arlington Family Outgrows Home but Stays Put

Family builds addition to accommodate their growing needs.

hen a family of five realized that they'd outgrown their home in the Cherrydale neighborhood of Arlington, they pondered two options: purchase a new home or build an addition onto their existing home. They decided to stay in their home.

"They liked the neighborhood and knew their original 1937 brick colonial had great bones, but just needed updating to fit their current and future needs," said David Vogt, senior project designer of Case Design/Remodeling, Inc., the company that built the addition.

The design team looked at the left side of the home that had an existing first floor addition. "It just needed to be reworked to create a separate first floor office and mudroom with a new master bathroom above it," said James Woods, project manager at Case Design/Remodeling, Inc.,

Designers created a three-story addition to the back of the home, which gave the



PHOTOS BY JUNE STANICH FOR CASE DESIGN/REMODELING, INC

The expanded 1937 colonial features white washed brick create continuity with the side and rear additions.

family a lower-level playroom, a main-floor family room, and a top-level master bedroom with an adjoining master bathroom.

"There are now three full bathrooms on the second level," said Vogt. "The side and back additions added approximately 1,215 square feet of space to the original 2,090 [square-foot] colonial. To blend the bricks, the exterior was whitewashed, making the new spaces feel as if they'd been there for a

while."

The family's home now includes space for ping-pong on the lower level, a family room on the second floor, a master suite and a mudroom with window seats.

- MARILYN CAMPBELL



The renovation of this Arlington, Va., home includes a new mudroom with window seat storage and a door to the separate office space.



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Home LifeStyle

Empty-Nesters Re-invent the Family Home

Built-ins, cleverly articulated interior increase usable space without need to add-on.

By John Byrd

ometimes life's second act requires a bold set change. How else are others to know that the featured players have moved on, embracing new beginnings?

Reinvention is after all the quintessential triumph of creativity, and can be a very personal process when the thing reinvented is your home itself.

"Of course, large-scale life changes don't necessarily demand a whole house makeover," recently retired teacher Cindy Borer said. But in the past year, her only son moved out to start a new career and her husband is now traveling less, so the timing was right for discoveries.

BUT TO START AT THE TOP: last spring the Borers had celebrated 20 years residency in their two-story, four-bedroom Colonial-style house in Burke, and were taking stock of what they wanted from the years ahead.

At just over 800 square feet, the home's primary living area had been serviceable enough; even so, the formal dining room and adjacent den on opposite sides of the front facing foyer were hardly ever used and the rear family room was dark and cramped.



By borrowing a mere nine square feet from the dining room, the designers found space for a small mudroom with bench immediately to the right of a side kitchen door.

Evaluating options, Borer considered enlarging a few rear rooms. She also wondered if some of the home's interior walls could be modified in way that would allow for more natural light. What to do?

It was at this juncture that Craig Durosko, founder of Sun Design Remodeling, was called-in to discuss possible space improvement scenarios.

Durosko pointed out that the couple

didn't so much lack square footage as a sensible space plan tailored to how they actually use their home. The existing "center-

SEE EMPTY-NESTERS, PAGE 4

Kitchen Confidential

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL THE CONNECTION

hen Allie Mann of Arlington, a designer and senior interior specialist at Case Design/Remodeling, Inc. was tasked with giving the first



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From light-filled to dramatic, local designers create dream kitchens.

floor of a McLean, Va., home a face lift, she had to think free-flowing and airy.

"[The] client wanted to focus on making the kitchen feel open and connected to rest of home," said Mann. "[They] needed to have plenty of space to cook and entertain plus lots of storage."

Mann said the homeowner was making a cross-country move and settling in Virginia, so adhering to a strict timeline and budget were critical.

homeowner wanted to make a change

"At nearly 85 percent job completion, client decided they wanted to completely remove the wall between the kitchen and family room. In the original design, we partially removed the wall," said Mann. "This meant a shift and redirection of scope, additional



Photo courtesy Nicely Done Kitchens

However, near the end of the project, the A vertical, glass subway tile backsplash adds a dramatic flair to this kitchen by Nicely Done Kitchens.

> engineering [because] the remaining portion of the wall housed a three-story fireplace, relocation of cabinets had already been installed and modifications to counter tops. And still deliver a project close to on

The finished kitchen is a light-filled space with cabinets by Crystal Cabinetry, honed Vermont Marble countertops and appliances SEE KITCHEN, PAGE 4

Home LifeStyle

From Page 3

hall" configuration defined rooms were consistent with tradition, vet were functionally underutilized most of the time. This accounted for daily traffic patterns that didn't work as well as they might, and a nagging sense that the entire first floor was space-restricted.

On a second subject: the mid-house floor-to-ceiling bearing wall dividing the front and rear sections of the house could be completely deleted by installing concealed vertical supports at strategic intervals, Durokso said. Such a move would dramatically increase natural light, creating the floor space needed for an alternative layout more appropriate for both daily use and entertainment.

"On the first visit Craig pretty much solved our space plan problem," Borer said. "From this point on, I was mainly to think about the interior design de-

So Borer's meeting with Jon Benson, the makeover's lead designer, proved a revelation from the start.

A veteran home remodeling specialist as well as a nationally recognized furniture designer, Benson's input shaped a floor plan focused on personal requirements in which custom built-ins eliminate unneeded walls while sharply improving both room function and interior design integrity.

To create a more functional relationship between the kitchen and the dining room, for instance, the designer replaced an interior pantry with a 27.5-squarefoot food preparation surface and dining counter that serves both rooms equally.

By borrowing a mere nine square feet from the dining room, Benson also found space for a small mudroom with bench immediately to the right of the side entrance to the kitchen.

Re-situating the front hall closet to the right of the front door not only widened the front foyer but also created dramatic front-to-back sight lines that make the entire house seem much larger.

Measured in square feet, the changes are small. Yet such revisions liberate the first level circulation plan, re-organizing the home's primary living area into rooms that are both interactive and ar-

To visually differentiate the front-facing library from the family room, the designer converted existing overhead beams into an elegant tray ceiling supported by Craftsman-style piers.

A floor-to-ceiling bookcase—also a the plasma TV that now hangs above it. spatial freedom of an open floor plan.



Photos by Bryan Burris Photography

To differentiate the front-facing library from the family room visually, Sun Design converted existing overhead beams into an elegant tray ceiling supported by Craftsman-style piers.



The new transitional-style interior employs decorative elements to create distinctive use-zones in an open floor plan.

Sun Design's Jessica Page.

"Jessica helped me discover the design style I'd been looking for," Borer said. "She opened up a lot of resources. Ideas that I liked were added to a project scrapbook which we both referenced regularly to keep the decision process on track."

As space plan modifications proceeded, Benson original—provides an elegant vet Borer's research revealed a strong personal useful wall for the new reading room. attraction to transitional-style interior de-The new family room fireplace hearth sign, a contemporary concept that seeks to was custom-designed to accommodate reconcile traditional architecture with the tional and open really works well for us,"

Additional interior design decisions On this score, Benson's original floorplan really enlightening." emerged from Borer's collaboration with sketch anticipated the use of loveseats as



Transitional interior design style seeks to reconcile traditional architecture with the spatial freedom of an open floor plan.

space dividers between the family room and the den. Meanwhile, Borer's preference for soft white and grey duotones inspired an interior paint scheme that combines sharp white and khaki.

In the kitchen, Giallo Sioriato granite surfaces are set off by a vividly original glass tile and stone backsplash which lends an invigorating streak of color to the broader visual panorama.

"Its very comfortable balance of tradi-Borer said. "I found the whole process

Empty-Nesters Re-invent the Family Home Kitchen Confidential

by Sub-Zero, Wolf, KitchenAid and Miele.

NICELY DONE KITCHENS in Springfield, Va., created a kitchen with drama for a Centreville, Va., family. "White semi-custom cabinetry and a contrasting dark island creates a dramatic look," said Stephanie Brick, designer. Brick cited the focus on the vertical, subway tile back splash.

The rest of the back splash in the kitchen is horizontal, which is the standard for subway tile, said Brick.

The kitchen also includes ample, easily accessible storage space.

"The paneled refrigerator helps conceal the appliances and helps them to blend in with the cabinetry to give the aesthetic more continuity," said Brick. The kitchen includes easily accessible storage space and ogeeedged granite counter tops.

OPENING UP and adding light were priorities when Guy Hopkins Semmes, partner and founder of Potomac-based designmodeled the kitchen of a Bethesda, Md., drawers."

"The kitchen was small, but we were able to add a lot more space, by making few out a stairway wall to the second floor and minor changes," said Semmes. "Before there replaced it with a triangular opening so light was an enclosed porch next to the kitchen. from stairwell came down into the kitchen." We opened the wall between the kitchen and the adjacent enclosed porch."

elimination: appliances. "We got rid of the when you work with what you've got."



of Case Design/Remodeling, Inc. created a free-flowing and elegant feel in this McLean, Va. kitchen.

refrigerator and moved it downstairs," said build firm Hopkins and Porter and Lea Semmes. "All of the other appliances are Allen, one of the firm's senior architects, re- located under the counter and open up like

> Semmes also found a creative way to make the space more light-filled. "We took

The kitchen now has maple cabinetry and white Silestone countertops. "It was done Hopkins and Porter removed walls Semmes and Allen made another major on a budget. It's amazing what you can do to create space and add light to the



Guy Semmes and Lea Allen of Potomac-based design-build firm kitchen of this Bethesda, Md. home.

ouse and garden tours will take

place across Virginia during the

81st Historic Garden Week. Gar-

den week runs from Saturday, April 26-Sat-

Tour proceeds fund the restoration and

preservation of Virginia's historic gardens.

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than 250 of Virginia's most beautiful gar-

dens, homes and historic landmarks dur-

ing "America's Largest Open House." This

eight-day statewide event provides visitors

an opportunity to see gardens at the peak

of Virginia's springtime color, as well as

beautiful houses sparkling with over 2,000

flower arrangements created by Garden

Statewide tour passes are available for

\$175. The Alexandria tour takes place Sat-

urday, April 26, tickets are \$35. The Vienna

tour takes place Tuesday, April 29 and tick-

ets are \$25. There is a 240-page guidebook

with detailed descriptions of properties on

each tour. The \$10 charge covers the ship-

ping and handling cost of the book. Free

copies of the guide are available at Virginia

businesses, visitor centers, and some AAAs.

Visit www.vagardenweek.org.

Club of Virginia members.

urday, May 3.

David Watkins of Merrifield Garden Center savs cold season annuals like these yellow pansies can add bright color to a garden now.



Getting Your Garden Ready for Spring

Local experts tell you what you should do now, in spite of the cold weather.

By Marilyn Campbell on the environment. It reduces bad bug THE CONNECTION populations and is safe over all."

t doesn't feel like spring. Last WHILE EAGER GARDENERS may be last thing on your mind. However, local annual flowers in pots on patios, but you gardening experts say this is the ideal can plant annuals like pansies, which are time to start preparing your landscape cold season annuals," he said. "They to yield colorful spring foliage.

Potomac, Md., said spring garden prepain like petunias and geraniums." ration plans differ from year to year. "It depends on the landscape beds you have and whether or not you're planning to and surrounding them with flowering put in a vegetable garden," he said.

damage that might have been broken ornamental," he said. "It is nice to have during the snow load," said David plants in the pots that stay year round. I Watkins of Merrifield Garden Center, put a Japanese maple in a pot on my which has locations in Fair Oaks, deck. In another pot I put ilex verticillata Merrifield and Gainesville, Va., Don't go [winterberry] and I had red berries all overboard, however: "You don't want to winter long. In the spring, I'll put petuprune plants before they bloom. A good nias in the soil around it, and around the rule of thumb is to prune a flowering edge I'll plant a flowering plant that will plant right after it blooms."

Instead, spend some time tidying up. "Right now is the time to fertilize your shrubs, remove old mulch, put down new so cold, there are going to be some plants seeds into the soil." that won't have made it."

ing the yard for winter damage," saud enous plants. "Look for sources for na-Mann. "This is a great time of the year tive plants — they help sustain our local to look for insect damage and deer dam- wildlife. If we didn't have local plants,

Mann expects extensive deer damage except for plants like azaleas and rhodo-

difficult to identify. "This is the time to wisteria vine," said Wilson. do damage-control by using safe or or-
If a new patio is in your plans this time of year and it is a lot safer and easier the better."

week's snow made it seem like excited to start planting spring flowers warm weather might never arrive, in their newly cleaned plots, Watkins ofso planting a garden might be the fers a caveat: "It is a little early for most don't like heat, so in June they start to Bill Mann, of Behnke Nurseries in whither. Then you can put other flowers

Watkins recommends planting hearty, ornamental shrubs in patio flowerpots plants to ensure year-found foliage. "A "This is the time to inspect shrubs for nice thing to do in pots is plant a woody trail down over the pot from April to October. Then the rest of the year I'll get

Sowing grass seeds is also an ideal mulch and just clean up," said Watkins. project to begin now. "The seeds won't "Everybody is sick of winter, especially germinate until it gets to be 52 degrees," this winter. This is the time to clean up Watkins continued. "So even if we get old leaves. Because the winter has been another snow storm, it helps work the

Randee Wilson of Nature By Design in "In March, a lot has to do with inspect- Alexandria encourages the use of indigbutterflies would be gone."

Native plants also require less maintethis year. "Deer didn't have much to eat nance. "Some native plants are cardinal flower, which is bright red; bee balm, also bright red; blue cardinal; iron weed, Insect damage is less obvious and more which has purple flowers, and native

ganic-based products like neem oil," said spring, Watkins says to get started now. Mann. "When sprayed on plants, it "We've been putting down putting pa smothers insect eggs or some insects in tios all year long," he said. "A good garthe larva stage. It also kills stinkbugs. If den center is going to get backed up you can see them, you can control them. when the weather is warmer. The sooner You can use a higher concentration this you start getting your job in the line,

Garden Club of Virginia Celebrates 81st Tour

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com



This Alexandria garden will appear on the 81st Historic Garden Week

Arlington REAL ESTATE

Photos by Craig Sterbutzel/The Connection

In January 2014, 131 Arlington homes sold between \$1,600,000-\$94,000.

Top Sales in January, 2014

1 2807 Nottingham Street — \$1,600,000







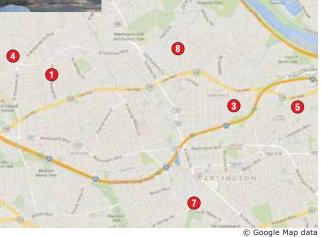


5 2527 18th Street North — \$1,375,000



3 1821 Oakland Street — \$1,427,500

6 3842 Tazewell Street North — \$1,059,000



Home Life Style

Van Metre Wins Sales, Marketing Awards

at the 2014 National Sales and Marketing Awards, hosted by the National Sales and Marketing Council.

Van Metre Homes were honored as Rookie of the Year, Sales Person of the Year, Sales Manager of the Year, Best Direct Mail Program, Best Print Campaign, Best Overall Advertising Campaign, Best Computer Sales Tool, and Best Design Center.

Individuals recognized for outstanding achievement included Omavra Dehring for Rookie of the Year, Ernie Kyger for Sales Person of the Year, and Danny Faulkner for Sales Manager of the Year. Van Metre Homes won for Best Direct Mail Program with their Fashion Week. Their Fresh Campaign won two awards for Best Print Campaign and for Best Overall Advertising Campaign. Van Metre Homes' Hologram won for Best Computer Sales Tool and the Van Metre Design Studio won for Best Design Center.

Van Metre Companies has constructed more than 16,000 houses and several thousand apartments, as personal home customization.

an Metre Homes won eight Silver Awards well as office buildings and shopping centers in Northern Virginia. Van Metre communities include their own master-planned developments, as well as neighborhoods in smaller subdivisions and thirdparty planned communities.

> The Van Metre portfolio of new homes includes condominiums, townhomes and single-family homes designed for first-time and move-up buyers throughout the Northern Virginia suburbs.

> Van Metre's exclusive Design Studio, located in Stone Ridge, Va., allows homebuyers to choose their interior finishes and options. Van Metre also offers turnkey mortgage financing services through their own lending affiliate, Intercoastal Mortgage. Through the Van Metre in-house architecture team, buyers can modify architecture based on a community's design plan and surrounding environments. They are also able to quickly adapt to market changes, as well as offer customization with Van Metre's Dream Home Portfolio — offering homebuyers an easy path to

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Extreme Temps Call for Back-to-Basics

By John Byrd

hile common sense suggests that home improvements should be put off to warmer weather, a sustained period of colder temperatures often reveals systemic problems that will need correction sooner or later.

As temperatures dropped precipitously several weeks ago, all Reston homeowner Craig Mattice knew was that his original mansard roof was plagued with ice dams and his 10-year-old, 600square-foot addition was so cold the pipes were freezing. No amount of thermostat adjustment improved the situation much.

"After living in the house for over 25 years the chill was a surprise," Mattice said.

"It wasn't just that the winter has been colder than usual ... it was beginning to look like a larger problem, particularly in the new wing, which was five degrees colder than other rooms."

To determine the cause of iceclogged gutters, Mattice turned to remodeler David Foster who had completed a number of home improvements for his son.

"The damming was literally the tip of the iceberg," said Foster, principal of Foster Remodeling Solutions. "When I inspected the attic it was clear that the envelope was not adequately sealed, insulated or ventilated, which is why the upstairs had been too hot last summer."

"It's not unusual to find that the existing insulation just isn't the best application for some of our coldest days "Foster said. "Different parts of a house can call for

different insulation strategies."

Turns out the Mattice's artfullydesigned addition was built over an unheated crawl space, and the HVAC duct wasn't even connected in the kitchen.

"An appropriate insulation strat-

egy starts with a kind of forensics," Foster said. "Where is a wall, ceiling or roof exposed to outside conditions? Is it difficult to regulate temperatures in different parts of the house? These are some basic questions we start with."



HOME SALES In January 2014, 131 Arlington homes sold between \$1,600,000-\$94,000. This week's list represents those homes sold in the \$1,600,000-\$435,000 range. For the complete list, visit www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

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										ROCK SPRING NEIGHBORHOOD
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Home LifeStyle

County Recognizes 2013 **DESIGNArlington Winners**

he Arlington County Board honored the winners of the county's DESIGN Arlington awards on Feb. 25 for their contributions to Arlington's built environment. All the winning projects display strategies for overcoming design challenges, and may serve as examples for future work.

Judges examined 43 entries for the award. The winners include public art, new construction, and renovations of private homes and commercial space. Images of the winning works can be found on the DESIGNArlington website.

This year's winners include:

- ❖ Diaz Residence (4301 37th Road North) - Residential addition/renovation – Subtle updates to the front façade and a significant addition to the rear of the home modernized a single-family home without completely changing its appearance or how it fits in with neighboring homes.
- ❖ Bromptons at Monument Place (North Nash Street and 14th Street North) – Residential new construction - Well-detailed neoclassical townhomes.
- ❖ Wood Temple in a Garden (1608 N. Cleveland Street) – Residential new construction - Welldesigned studio outbuilding incorporates materials from the existing home. New addition is modern but respectful to neighborhood character.
- ❖ "+2Edison7" (5077 27th) Street North) - Residential addition/renovation - Compact footprint is appropriately scaled for the neighborhood. It creates contrasts with neighboring buildings without competing for attention.
- ❖ Monroe House (3132 North Monroe Street) – Residential new construction - Design is respectful of setbacks and scale of neighboring homes. Meticulously detailed without looking out of place.
- Crystal Drive streetscape Commercial renovation/new construction - Transformed an autooriented street into a lively multiuse corridor. Highlights the shifting goals in urban design and placemaking.
- ❖ Egge Residence (3317 North 23rd Street) - Residential addition/historic preservation – Addihistoric home without altering its awards. character.

❖ Pentagon Row plaza – Open space renovation - Optimizes space and outdoor recreational areas. Highlights how a public space can be reinvented to adapt to new needs.

Two honorable mentions also were recognized:

- ❖ 800 N. Glebe Road Mixeduse new construction - Building engages the adjacent sidewalk. It includes a historic architectural reference to the former Bob Peck Chevrolet building, as well as a historic marker.
- ❖ "Wave Arbor" in Long Bridge Park - Public art - Kinetic art incorporated into a recreational space.

Several of the projects illustrate how the public and private sectors work together to improve the county's public spaces. The designers of the Crystal Drive project and the Pentagon Row project collaborated with county planners to amend site plans. The Egge Residence designers worked with the county's Historical Affairs and Landmark Review Board.

The 43 entrants were not in competition with each other, but were evaluated according to their own merits. A panel of four jurors examined the quality of each overall design and determined the number of awards to be granted.

The four jurors were:

- ❖ Victor Dover, Urban Designer with Dover, Kohl & Partners
- Sarah Lewis, Architect and Urban Designer with Fuss & O'Neill
- Claire Bedat, Landscape Architect with AECOM
- ❖ John Rust, Architect and Historic Preservationist with Rust Orling Architecture

DESIGNArlington is a biennial awards program, launched in 2009, aimed at increasing public awareness of outstanding design. Residents, property owners, developers and members of the design community submit nominations for new construction, renovations, additions or adaptive re-use projects. Eligible projects must have been completed within the last 10 years.

The Arlington County Department of Community Planning, Housing and Development's Center for Urban Design + Research tion nearly doubled the size of the coordinates the DESIGNArlington