

Local Media Connection LLC

ONLINE AT WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Home LifeStyle

Great Falls Studios Art Tour Set for Oct. 17-19

Falls Studios art tour is its easy accessibility.

With 50 professional artists situated within an 18-mile radius offering access to their personal working space, all a motivated art tourist needs to do is get the map and head to their destinations of choice between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. from Friday, Oct. 17 to Sunday, Oct. 19.

Participating artists have arranged an "open house" for the weekend at each stop and relish the opportunity to show off re-

One of the simple pleasures of the Great cent work. Disciplines range from traditional painting and photography to layered paper, fiber art, pottery and jewelry making. A diversity of style and vision blossoms in all directions.

> Overall, the consortium represents 113 artists; many have been plying their craft for decades; some have received national honors. The tour is free and all are welcome to any of the participating studios. Nichols says that many visitors develop a practical trip plan by following a particular theme.

For more, see www.greatfallsstudios.com



Painter Robert Gilbert in his home studio.

October is FREE WINDOWS MONTH at Renewal by Andersen.¹

Why is October one of the best times to replace your windows?

Because if you call us now, you can get your more energy-efficient windows installed before the really cold weather is here.

Our exclusive High-Performance Low E-4[®] SmartSun[™] glass is up to 70% more energy efficient[†]. It's engineered to make your home more comfortable in the colder months.



Why have our customers chosen us over another window company?

1. Fibrex® Material

Our exclusive Fibrex material was researched by Andersen for 30 years before it was installed in even one home. Our Fibrex material is twice as strong as vinyl.

2. Unique Look

Our window has the elegant look and strength of a wood window, but our Fibrex material doesn't demand the same maintenance of wood.

3. Accountability

There's no frustrating "middle man" to deal with. We sell, build, install and warrant both our windows and installation.





Call for your FREE Window Diagnosis 3-175-2256

FOR 1 YEAR ······ Plus ······ SAVE \$229 on every window¹ and **SAVE \$629** on every patio door¹ Instant Product Rewards Plan.

It's like getting

FREE WINDOWS

for 1 year¹

MONEY

PAYMENTS

INTEREST

DOWN

*Restructions and conditions apply; see your local representative of the details. Cannot be combined with prior purchases, other offers, or cruppons. No adjustments to previous orders. Offer not available in all areas. Discount applied by retailer representative of time of contract execution and applies to minimum purchase of 5 or more windows and 4 cr more patio doors. Offer only available in all areas. Discount applied by retailer representative of time of contract execution and applies to minimum purchase of 5 or more windows and 4 cr more patio doors. Offer only available in all areas. Discount applied by retailer representative of time of contract execution and applies to minimum purchase of 5 or more windows and 4 cr more patio doors. Offer only available is applied to restruct execution and must purchase during the initial visit to qualify. To qualify for discount offer, initial contact (of 5 APR for 12 months. Remarks Plan, As part of the Instant Product Rewards Plan, All processors and y provide reade ratio 10 days after the initial contact (55 APR for 12 months. Remarks Plan, As part of the Instance is provide reade and planted test areas and planted test areas and planted test areas and addirected test areas and test and addirected test areas and conditions areas and addirect test areas and addirected test areas and in addirect. Any finance tests and addirected test areas and test and tests areas areas and tests and test and the most areas areas and conditions areas and tests areas areas and tests

Home LifeStyle Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Clifton residents to hold open-house tour of newly remodeled homes for the benefit of local widow.

By John Byrd

eighbors help each other. That's what communities have always been about. Long-time Clifton resident Bob Gallagher is rallying his friends and peers to help his neighbor Elsa Armendaris.

Armendaris, a mother of seven, needs funds to repair the badly deteriorated driveway to her home, which is also a local day care center. To help out, Gallagher, who is a principal at Sun Design Remodeling, has organized a tour of three newly remodeled Clifton homes, each the handiwork of a different remodeler.

"The homes are all pretty spectacular in their own right," Gallagher says. "We've found that homeowners really enjoy seeing what their neighbors are doing. But this is also about helping a local person in need; that's the sense of community which Clifton has always exemplified."

In addition to showcasing a home recently renovated by Sun Design Remodeling, the tour will feature recent work by Daniels Design and Remodeling and Kohlmark Group Architects and Builders, all active in Clifton and environs for years.

Tim Reed of Tibbs Paving will be donating the labor, equipment and trucking needed for the driveway re-paving. Armendaris has also raised several thousand dollars for the project.

ARMENDARIS' STORY IS ONE of quiet determination in pursuit of the American Dream.



A native of El Salvador, Armendaris lost her husband, David, to leukemia six years ago and, as the sole means of her family's support, decided to set up her home as a day care center.

With its tree-shaded lot and sizable liv-

ing and family rooms, the house provided a perfect setting. Among other features, the two-level structure is off the main road, down a winding driveway. A safe place for kids.

Initially, the center did well. Since it was

Details

Remodeler's Charity Home Tour, Nov. 15, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Visit www.RemodelersCharityHomeTour.com or call 703-425-5588 for more.

Photo courtesy of Home Fronts News LEFT: Granite surfaces, marble tile wall covering, a coffered ceiling are among the finishwork details distinguishing the Layfield kitchen by Sun Design Remodeling.

convenient to nearby Clifton Elementary, parents would leave their children with Armendaris before and after school. Many of the children at the center were friends with her own children

But when Clifton Elementary closed in 2010, the day care center lost more than half its students. Not long after that, the winding asphalt driveway leading to the house began to seriously deteriorate.

Armendaris says that she and her children with the help of a friendly neighbor have been patching the drive for years. However, it eventually become obvious that her own fix-up efforts wouldn't be enough.

Soon she began soliciting bids from professional pavers, some of whom were simply working the neighborhood.

"I wasn't sure what I really needed, or who was reliable," she recalls. "But what really slowed the process was the cost."

That's when her friend, Christina Gallagher, whose children had attended the day care center, offered to ask her husband, Bob, for ideas.

"I just thought there must be a way that a community as old and close-knit as Clifton could help one of its own," said Bob Gallagher, who grew up in Clifton where his father practiced medicine. "My company has learned a lot from doing our own home tours, so a coalition of remodelers already active in Clifton seems like a logical way to reach out to the community."

See Neighbors, Page 4

Planting for Fall Planning your autumn garden and yard.

By Marilyn Campbell The Connection

s the first few weeks of fall unfold, carrying with them the promise of rich and vibrant colors, many local residents are starting to plan their fall gardens, both ornamental and edible. Pruning and and overall garden cleanup will make way for fall plants. In fact, this is the perfect time to clear away summer foliage and plant, horticulture gurus said.

"Because the ground is still warm and air is cool, there is less transplant shock for plants when you take them out of the con-

tainer to plant them," said Kelly Grimes of Good Earth Garden Market in Potomac, Md. "Now is a great time to put in a landscape."

The first step is preparing the ground. "You have to amend the soil; that is mixing in compost and soil so the plants' roots can grab a hold of the soil with compost," said Grimes. "That really helps any planting."

Katia Goffin of Katia Goffin Gardens in McLean, Va., likens planning a garden to putting together a puzzle. "Everything has to [look] like it belongs," she said. "It's about designing your bed line so it enhances your property, versus 'I stuck this in my garden and doesn't it look good?" Take a few minutes and actually plan out your garden because no matter what you decide to plant for fall, an aesthetically appealing garden starts with an effective strategy. "It is getting a good plan together," Goffin said. "It is a question of scale and putting it together right. You have to look at your plot of land and decide where you want plants to go and how you want it to look."

FOR DECORATIVE GARDENS and yards, mums and pansies are among fall's

See Planting, Page 8



For more information. call 703-778-9431 or email sales@connectionnewspapers.com

Home LifeStyle Neighbors Helping Neighbors: Clifton Home Tour

From Page 3

THE TOUR

The tour has been conceived to provide a close-up look at how Clifton residents live today, and to profile several design trends now being applied to local homes. It also will reflect some of the community's varied to age-in-place.

MAKEOVER IN COLCHESTER HUNT

and Maureen Landry are putting the finishing touches on a forward-looking retrofit executed by Tom Flach at Kohlmark Architects. The Craftsman-style architecture emsee as perfect for a host of regular social pursuits such as book clubs and after-church gatherings.

Referring to the house as "his last home," Steve Landry, 65, says he and his wife actually looked for a larger house "further out" had was their best option.

"It was Tom Flach's clever ideas that were the deciding factor," Maureen Landry said. system, is a gathering spot with a panoramic The plan included needs for the immediate future, and also elements that might be needed to age in place over extended time.

For instance, the former 400-square-foot **TRANSITIONAL STYLE** garage has been converted into a well-appointed master suite complete with 14-foot cathedral ceiling, a full bath and an 8-foot wall of windows focused on the garden and two-tiered pond. While the couple's initial plan is to use the new space as a reading Sun Design Remodeling. room, Maureen Landry said that the suite is a nod to an aging-in-place strategy that Kelly said, "so we wanted a plan that would

calls for frequently used spaces to be on the make it easier for everyone to interact, and same floor.

"We've even got ideas and costs for an elevator, should we need one," she said.

Meanwhile, a new two car garage has been added to the home's front elevation. The eye-catching period facade incorporates "mesa red" windows, a new entrance pordemographics — which range from young tico articulated in cedar truss beams and families to retirees retrofitting their house French doors that open directly onto a frontfacing patio,

With the former powder room absorbed into the new suite, and interior walls re-In Clifton's Colchester Hunt section, Steve moved, the architect developed the new open floor plan.

The kitchen and dining zone is now formed into a 600-square-foot family kitchen that revolves around a two-tier food braces an open floor plan which the Landrys preparation island and dining counter. Mounted on a cherry wood base, the island is surfaced in both walnut butcher block and Vermont soapstone.

Adjacent to the kitchen/dining area, delineated by a peninsular fireplace, the 300square-foot family room/sitting room probefore deciding that improving what they vides ample space for an enlarged social gathering. The 225-square-foot sunroom, now mainstreamed into the home's HVAC view of the wooded surroundings.

KITCHEN SUITE IN ELEGANT

Not too far away in Clifton Heights, Rick and Kelly Layfield are reveling in a new family-friendly kitchen and outlier zones custom-designed for their active daily household needs by Jon Benson, lead designer at

"We have three children under age 12,"

that also offered sightlines from the kitchen to the backyard where the kids play."

That meant re-working a course of windows on the rear elevation, making it easier to access the outside from several directions and introducing a floor plan more conducive to free-flowing traffic.

The starting point, however, was the offending two-tiered ceiling, a reminder of the fact that the back half of the kitchen has a separate roof unconnected to the structural supports in the first half of the kitchen which are busily engaged in holding up the home's second floor.

"Structurally, the existing plan is perfectly logical," Jon Benson said. "Aesthetically, it was a strange effect ... one that Kelly Layfield wanted to change."

Benson proposed a coffered ceiling. The end product unifies the room visually and reintroduces the classical design elements found in the home's formal front rooms that had been curiously missing in its kitchen.

The ceiling also set the tone for a much more refined and elegant plan featuring several of Benson's original built-ins.

There is a new granite-surfaced island and dining counter. While the kitchen also formerly provided a spot for family breakfasts, Kelly Layfield said it mostly seemed space restricted.

Benson created a larger exit door in the middle-of the kitchen's rear wall, allocating expanded corner space for a L-shaped window bench which will provide built-in from the family room to the screened porch. Benson added a grilling deck next to the

screened porch and just outside the new kitchen door. Rick Layfield, who is the to add 2,000 square feet to the rear of the



mantle years before he knew where he would use it.

to interact with friends and family while floors almost down to the studs. pursuing a favored recipe.

FAMILY HOME ON HUNTING **HORSE DRIVE**

Those who know their way around Hunting Horse Drive sometimes might wonder what happened to the circa-1970s Colonial style house that used to be perched up on age." He also wanted better lines-of-sight. the overlook. Clearly, the sprawling manor house there now is an entirely different home, but how did it get there?

Owner and professional remodeler Ted Daniels says the makeover was the result of an inspired plan to create an environment that would work better for himself, wife Gavle and their two children.

Purchasing the 4,400-square-foot produc- of daily family requirements." tion house in 2000, Daniels initially thought acre wood lot had everything to offer in the trating on how his family would use the new Gayle's vanity. way of a lovely bucolic setting.

But after living in the house for a while, Daniels developed a growing list of possible ily into a rear-facing great room that fea- gated by a fully-wired well-appointed room improvements, which prompted a decision tures floor-to-ceiling windows flanking a the kids use for homework.

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

The Layfield kitchen remodeled by Sun Design Remodeling includes granite surfaces, marble tile wall coverings and a coffered ceiling.



Details

Remodeler's Charity Home Tour, Nov. 15, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. www.RemodelersCharityHomeTour.com or call 703-425-5588 for more.

seating for the breakfast table as well as **Remodeler Ted Daniels added 2,000 square feet to his personal residence on Hunting Horse Drive and reconfigured the first** handy storage. There is also now a door floor to include a comfortable family room adjacent to a large gourmet kitchen. Daniels had purchased the cherry wood

in a way that inhibited traffic, and the intefloor place where the kids could do their homework. Also, there wasn't enough stor-Upstairs, the master bedroom was too small. The sitting room, which offered the best view, also became a kind of clutter-

"It was as if we were living in someone that would really support a whole spectrum

the master bath.

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

central French door. The many original builtfamily's grilling chef finds it a great place house, and gut the entire first and second ins include a food preparation island and knee-high walnut cabinets which provide a "For starters, I didn't like the way the first space divider between two primary activity floor was configured," Daniels says. "The zones. The inside corner of the kitchen ackitchen and family room were partitioned commodates a family dining nook.

The primary focal point of the family rior was really dated. I wanted a quiet first room is a hand-carved cherry wood mantle piece Daniels bought years ago, having no idea when or where he would use it.

"It's comforting to see an impulse buy become a real focal point," he said.

Upstairs, Daniels built a 715-square-foot master bedroom suite that opens directly prone foyer between the walk-in closet and to a sprawling balcony with views in three directions.

"This is the spot where we can have some else's house," Daniels said. "I wanted a plan privacy and still keep an eye on the kids," Gayle Daniels said. "It's quite romantic."

The luxury bathroom and large walk-in With substantial new square footage now closet are now sensibly positioned on either the house adequate for raising a family, and extending out the rear of the existing struc- side of the suite's entrance foyer. The masocused on the serious business of renovat- ture. Daniels generously reconfigured floor ter bath includes a soaking tub, a spacious ing other people's homes. Certainly, the five- plans on the first and second level, concen- walk-in shower and a private closet for

> The formal living room and dining room The 396-square-foot kitchen segues eas- are on the right side of the first floor, segre-

Maureen Landry's Craftsman-style renovation, now getting its finishing touches.



The fireplace hearth in the Layfield den was completely remade in the plan executed by Sun Design Remodeling.



6 & CHANTILLY CONNECTION & HomeLifeStyle Fall 2014

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Home LifeStyle Fireplaces Can Warm Outdoor Rooms

Tips for making your outdoor spaces comfy through the fall.

> By Marilyn Campbell The Connection

s the air turns crisp and we settle into fall, the time is ideal for cre-ating a cozy setting, whether it's elegant or rustic or modern. Many people have adapted part of their landscape as an outdoor room.

"Outdoor porches whether screened or just covered with a roof are great fall spaces," said Susan Matus, a Potomac, Md.based architect. "One can cozy them up with pillows and throws and outdoor lights, such as decorative twinkle lights or candles can create great ambiance."

Local designers reveal their favorite accessories and ideas for outdoor rooms and screened porches to help welcome the new season with style.

An outdoor fireplace commands attention and can offer a warm place for reading, napping or chatting with friends, and makes it comfortable to sit outside on a chilly evening.

"I just built a stunning fireplace in a screened-in porch that transformed the space into a three-season room just in time for fall," said Robert Kalmin of Skill Construction and Design, LLC in Fairfax, Va. "Indoor-outdoor rugs and seating in fall colors make the space great for entertaining."

When it comes to outdoor fireplaces, however, there are a few caveats: "If it is a screened in porch, be careful of your

ventilation. Whether you have a gas or wood-burning fireplace you have to have noncombustible material for the mantle and it needs to back discharge for smoke," said Kalmin. He says such fireplaces can be added to an existing space in oneto-two weeks.

Accessories in warm, vibrant colors can help can transform an outdoor room from summer to fall. "Adding some cozy throw blankets to outdoor sofas allows you to stay outside on chilly nights," said Kerra Michele Huerta of Apartment Envy. "Also, as it gets darker and cooler earlier in the day, candles are a perfect accessory, adding both warmth and light.'

Scented candles can add an aroma of fall. "There are fabulous new pumpkin chai-scented candles by Nast Fragrance of New York that are wonderful," said John Brown of J. Brown & Co. in Old Town Alexandria, Va.

In fact, lighting can transform a screened porch or outdoor room. "To a screened porch, you can add a ceiling fan with a down light and an uplight," said Kalmin. "The higher light can give you general lighting and the lower lights can create ambient lighting, and can be moved in different directions for setting a mood."

Matus suggests a finishing touch for outdoor spaces. "Another option is to hang drapery to create not only a more interior feeling but also drapery can be used to shield from the wind as a ther- **A fireplace commands attention and can offer a** mal barrier," she said.



warm place for reading, napping or chatting with friends.

Planting for Fall

From Page 3

best flowering plants. "Mums need full sunlight to open and come in obvious, bold fall colors," said Grimes. "Pansies will take part sun, are a great color and will continue to bloom through spring."

Yarrow, asters, sedums, Lenten roses, and coral bells are among the fall plants that Jonathan Storvick, natural resource manager at the Office of Sustainability at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va., recommends.

"Fall is a great time to plant larger-sized perennials and container shrubs," said Storvick. "It also happens to be the time of year when nurseries are trying to get rid of a lot of their stock, so you can find some great deals."

For example, said Joel Cook of Merrifield Garden Center, in Fairfax, Merrifield and Gainesville, Va., "Burning bushes have beautiful fall colors like orange and fire red. As far as trees, maples like Japanese maples, sugar maple or black gum maple have beautiful colors."

Another eye-catching option is the yellow twig dogwood. Its "bright yellow branches and twig color ... are also fantastic for winter," said Mark White of GardenWise in Arlington, Va. "This shrub develops in great clumps and is a wonderful contrast against any red twig. Oval-shaped green leaves turn to orange-red in fall, followed by white fruit tinged with green."

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Grasses, added Katia Goffin, are ideal for fall and can be mixed with other foliage. "You can put evergreens in your yard and add some grasses. There are tons [of grasses] that are flowering and look [good] with evergreens."

One plant that is often associated with cooler weather is a holly tree, but Eric Shorb of American Plant in Bethesda, Md., offers a caveat. "As we get closer to the end of November and the beginning of December you want to careful about planting such broadleaf evergreens," he said. "If they haven't had time to develop a sufficient enough root system they can become susceptible to wind burn because the roots will not be able to absorb moisture." He recommends deciduous trees and fine leaf evergreens. "A Leland Cyprus or an Arborvitaes that don't need as much moisture will survive better as the weather gets colder."

Ornamental vegetables also work well in fall and beyond. "There is decorative cabbage and kale, which will grow anywhere and are deer resistant, which is a big factor these days," said Grimes. "As the temperatures get cooler, they get more color and last in winter."

Then there are the edible vegetables. Good options are spinach, Swiss chard, arugula, mustard greens and red lettuces, said Storvick, who also suggested "root crops [like] carrots, radishes, parsnips and beets. You can also plant garlic and leeks now for spring harvesting."



CHANTILLY CONNECTION & HomeLifeStyle Fall 2014 & 7



SINGLE FAMILY HOMES

WESTEND AT STONE RIDGE

VILLAGE RUN Priced from the Upper \$500's. 703-764-5462 MARRWOOD Priced from the Mid \$600's. 703-764-5414 CEDARWOOD Coming Soon! Luxury Homes featuring 1-Level Living 703-764-5482

BELMONT GLEN VILLAGE Priced from the Low \$600's. 703-764-5435

BRAMBLETON

NORTHSTAR AT EMERALD RIDGE Priced from the Low \$700's. 703-764-5478 EDGEWOOD AT EMERALD RIDGE Priced from the Mid \$600's. 703-764-5481

ESTATES AT BULL RUN GOLF CLUB Priced from the Mid \$700's.

703-764-5443

VILLAS & TOWNHOMES

WESTEND AT STONE RIDGE

New Villa Model Grand Opening! Priced from the Low \$400's. 703-764-5493 VILLAGE SQUARE Grand Close-out! 3-Level Towns priced from the Low \$400's.

703-764-5493 TOWNE CENTRE CROSSING Grand Close-out! Villas priced from the Low \$400's. 703-764-5492

BRAMBLETON

SOUTHBEND AT EMERALD RIDGE Villas priced from the Mid \$400's. 703-764-5433 Towns priced from the Low \$400's.

703-764-5426 CLOVER HILL AT EMERALD RIDGE

The Townsend Collection 3-level brick from the Upper \$400's. 703-764-5441 The Brixton Collection

3-level brick from the Low \$400's. 703-764-5448

BROADLANDS

BROADLANDS STATION Grand Close-out! Priced from the Low \$400's. 703-764-5451

OLDE TOWNE SQUARE Own For Less Than Rent!

Priced from the Low \$300's. 703-764-5447

CONDOMINIUMS

WESTEND AT STONE RIDGE

CENTRE PARK Elevator Condos priced from the Low \$300's. 703-764-5487

BROADLANDS

THE VILLAGES AT BROADLANDS 50+ Active Adult Community Over 80% Sold Out! Priced from the Mid \$300's. 703-764-5482

Van Metre Design Studio

Browse Hours: Tues. & Thurs. 5pm - 8pm, Sat. 10am - 6pm & Sun. 11am - 6pm **703-348-5800**





www.VanMetreHomes.com/BestOfFall

*Offer valid on contracts written between October 1 and October 31, 2014. No adjustments on previous contracts. Some restrictions apply: Offer is valid on qualifying homes only that must settle on or before December 23, 2014. All lender allowable closing costs paid. 100% financing available for qualified buyers. This offer is not redeemable for cash or cash equivalent. Cannot be combined with other offers or discounts. Offer and prices subject to change at any time without notice. For specifics on the Best of Fall Sales Event, and individual community savings, see Sales Manager for details. 10/2014.