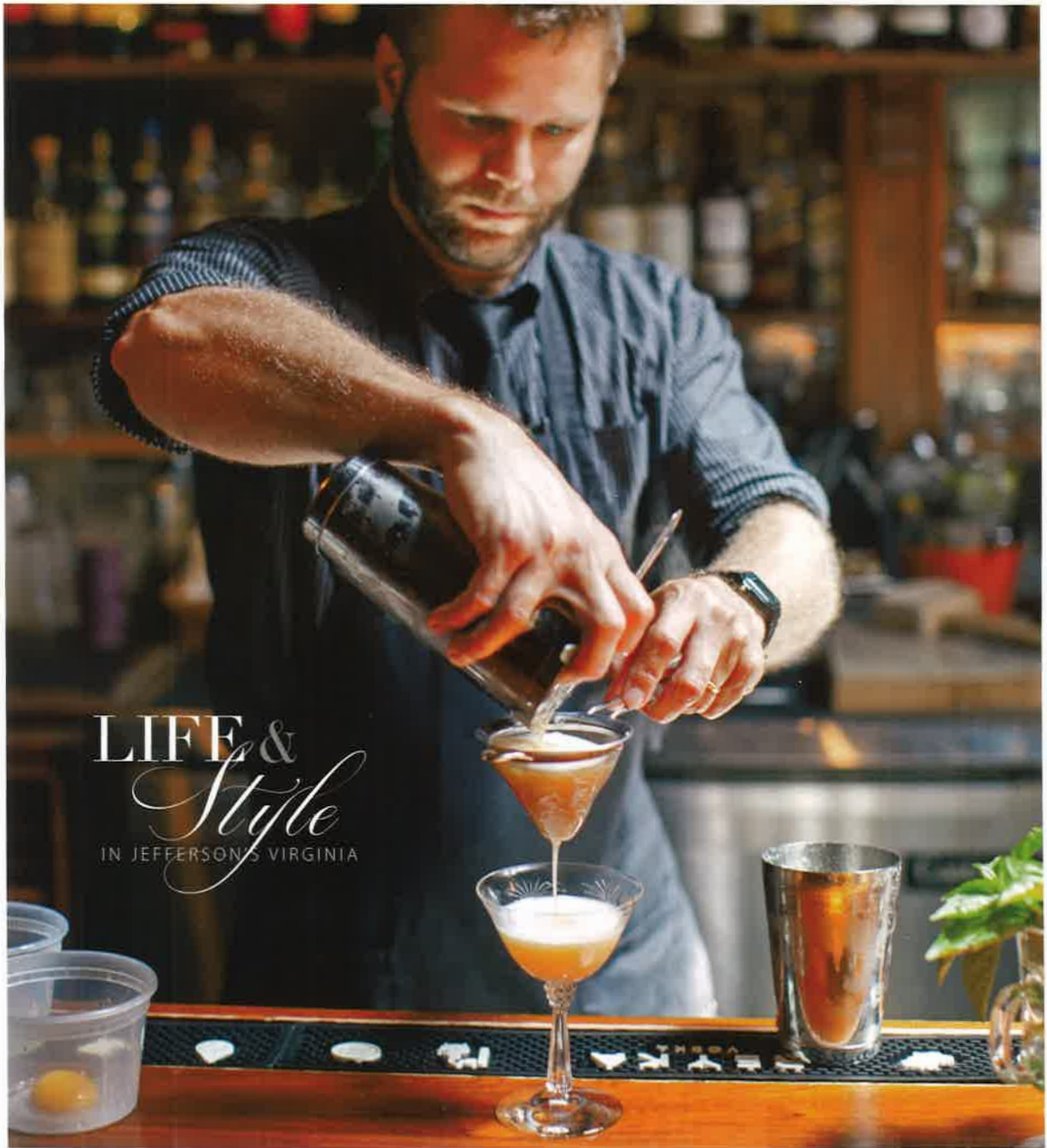


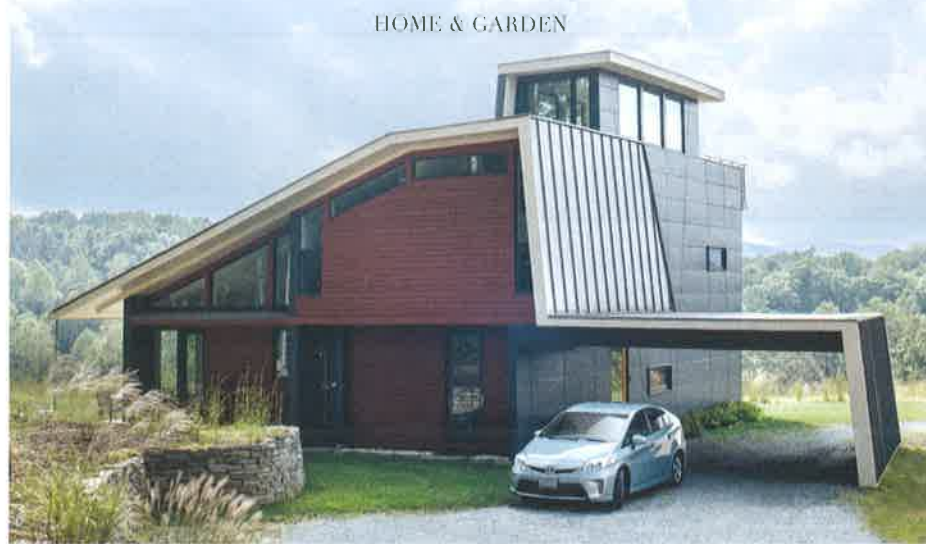
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A MODERN *Oasis*

A LOCAL HOMEOWNER & ARCHITECT CREATE
A TRANQUIL MODERN HOME

Set atop a knoll at the end of a winding gravel driveway, this stunning modern home is sited to take advantage of Blue Ridge views as well as the breezes that sweep across the hilltop. Designed by Chris Hays of Charlottesville-based Hays Ewing Design Studio (HEDS), the three-story home seamlessly blends together indoor and outdoor living while achieving a net-zero energy house.

The homeowner, a graphic designer, came to HEDS, “very well informed about the modern home they wanted,” says Hays, making for a collaborative project

between the two. An avid gardener with an interest in native plantings and sustainability, the owner is in the process of transforming the areas of the property’s 94 acres that were a formerly mono-cultured loblolly pine logging site to a working homestead with a native plant meadow, and an orchard, berry patch and organic vegetable garden.

The two worked to create a home that would exude a peaceful tranquility and oneness with its environment. The exterior walls running north and south are clad in red cedar while the exterior and interior walls running

WORDS BY BECKY CALVERT | PHOTOGRAPHY BY ROBERT RADIFERA



west are clad in Hardipanel and
od. Bringing the exterior materials
e home helps create the connection
exterior site, reflecting both Hays and
meowner's modern philosophy.

Interior is warm with natural finishes
ood, stone and natural light, expressing
listic, clear and breathe-easy design.
ost an airy aura in the home, a 'solar
y' ventilation system flows through
acing low windows on the first floor
highest north-facing windows on the
oor observatory.

ying true to the minimalistic ideals
modern home that less is more, a
ded tulikivi—a Finnish soapstone
urning stove—heats the home
cooler months, in conjunction with
ssive solar heating. One side of the
is in the main living space, with
rful slate tile wall behind it, while
er side is located in the first-floor
bedroom. A morning and evening
cycle, in lieu of all-day fire, keeps
me comfortable at all times, while a
oven, located in the portion of the

A VAULTED CEILING on the north end of the open space that encompasses the kitchen, dining and main living rooms opens up to the SECOND FLOOR via a hall that also acts as a BALCONY.



Beautiful alberene soapstone from the NEARBY QUARRY has been utilized on the kitchen's countertops and EXPANSIVE ISLAND, complementing warm wood cabinetry.

stove in the main living space, allows for further use of heat.

A blend of modern and antique pieces that have been handed down through the family furnish the home and allow the architectural elements to shine through. With three walls of large windows, the main living space has views of the woods to the east, the Blue Ridge Mountains to the west and the terrace to the south.

Beautiful alberene soapstone from the nearby quarry has been utilized on the kitchen's countertops and expansive island, complementing the warm wood cabinetry. A vaulted ceiling on the north end of the open space that encompasses the kitchen, dining and main living rooms opens up to the second floor via a hall that also acts as a balcony. The stair-wall connecting the two floors was created by Peter Johnson Builders with vertical wood, reflecting the angles of the east-west vertical walls as well as the second-floor window at the top of the stairs.