

Potomac

ALMANAC

HomeLifeStyle

PAGE 9

'Tis the season for picking out Christmas trees. Volunteers at the Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department man the lot daily, Mondays-Fridays, 3-9 p.m. and Saturdays-Sundays, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. In the front are Greg and Lukas Bastien; in the back are Zach Ebaugh and Shane Andersen. All proceeds support CJPVD. More volunteers are needed to help sell the trees.

Lining Up Christmas Trees

New Rector At St. Francis

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Source of Oil Spill Identified

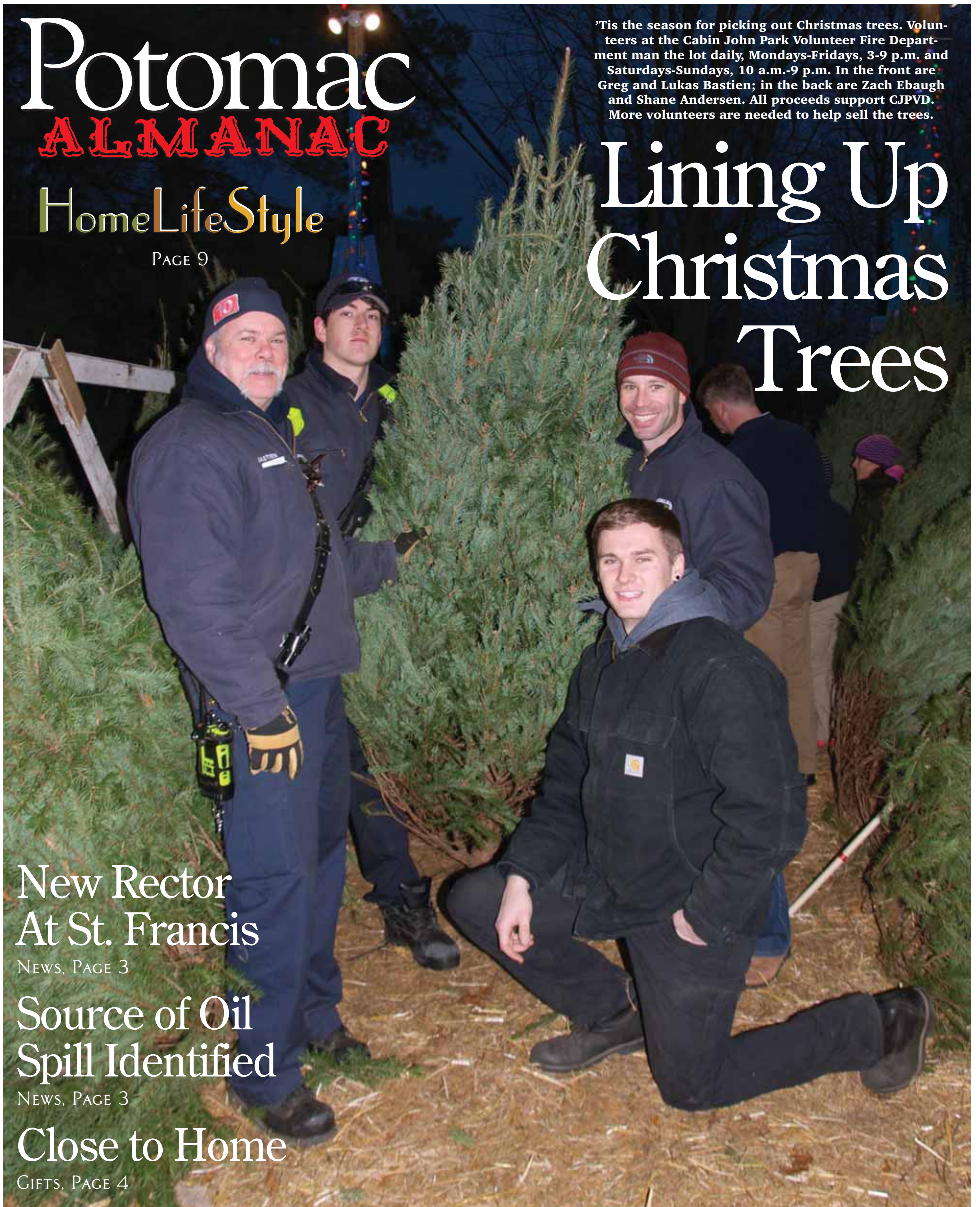
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PHOTO BY DEBORAH STEVENS/THE ALMANAC



DECEMBER 14-20, 2016

ONLINE AT POTOMACALMANAC.COM

NEWS

Fire Advisory

Heating, cooking and holiday decorations top list of safety concerns.

BY PEGGY MCEWAN
THE ALMANAC

When the weather turns cold and the heaters go on, heating becomes the number one cause of house fires in Montgomery County Pete Piringer, public information officer with Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service said.

"Typically it is just clutter too close to the heat source," he said. "Or it's not properly maintained."

Piringer recommends that residents get their furnaces and chimneys inspected and cited the importance of proper disposal of

fireplaces ashes.

"We've already had a couple of instances of [fires] from improperly disposed fireplace ashes," he said. "They put them in a plastic or paper bag in the garage or on the deck. We recommend [ashes] be placed in a metal container with a cover."

As for space heaters and fireplaces, he said Montgomery Fire and Rescue recommends a circle of safety around any heat source. Three feet is the rule of thumb, he said.

Most of the year cooking is the main source of house fires, Piringer said and holiday time is no exception to that danger. A few hints from the Fire and Rescue Service

website:

- ❖ Never leave cooking food unattended.
- ❖ Wear close fitting clothing when cooking.
- ❖ Put pans on back burners and turn all pot handles toward the back of the stove. Never leave a child unattended in the kitchen. Close supervision is essential, whether children are helping an adult cook or simply watching.

With the distractions of the holidays, Piringer said, people tend to forget things, like what's cooking on the stove.

The good news, he said is that they do not have many fires involving Christmas trees, but it's always important to keep them

watered and to check electric wires.

"If you are still using lights your grandmother had," he said, "It's time to change them."

Piringer also warns of the danger of leaving candles burning and recommends residents check wires on all holiday decorations and extension cords.

A holiday safety check list available on the Fire and Rescue Service website also reminds residents to have smoke detectors on every level of their homes and to check them monthly.

For more information visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcfrs-info.

BULLETIN BOARD

Email announcements to almanac@connectionnewspapers.com. Include date, time, location, description and contact for event: phone, email and/or website. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to assist sexual assault, domestic violence victims, and their families through the Victim Assistance and Sexual Assault Program (VASAP) of

the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services. Interviews are currently being conducted for a December 2016 training session. 240-777-1355 or www.montgomerycountymd.gov/vasap.

DONATE MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Donations are being accepted for InterPLAY, a nonprofit organization of adult musicians who have cognitive disabilities. They are mentored by professional and amateur musicians, high school

seniors, and others. The orchestra performs year-round at Strathmore (check www.interplayOrchestra.org). Whitman High School junior Lucas Polack is in charge of this project, and he in need of guitars, violas, cellos, basses, flutes, clarinets, marimbas, electronic keyboards and percussion instruments. However, all donations are greatly appreciated. Contact lucasmusicaldrive@gmail.com or 240-506-4390.

THURSDAY/DEC. 15

Legislative Breakfast. 7 a.m. at

Bethesda North Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, 5701 Marinelli Road. Leggett, Pugh to appear on interview panel discussing "Common Ground" opportunities between Montgomery County and Baltimore; also speaking will be Montgomery County's new council president, delegation chairs. 301-822-9200

FRIDAY/DEC. 16

Entry Deadline. The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Committee announce the call for nominations for the 2017 Annual

Humanitarian Award and the Children of the Dream Awards presented at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration on Monday, Jan. 16, 2017 at 3:30 p.m. The annual tribute and musical celebration will be held at The Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane. The theme for this year's program is "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." www.montgomerycountymd.gov/humanrights.

Christmas Trees, Wreaths, Garland, Lights, Fountains, Statuary, Centerpieces

Garden Accessories, Garden to Table, Bulbs

Bird Feed, Bird Feeders, Planters, Florist



Christmas



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Gift Gallery, Garden Supplies, Tools, Mulch, Soil, Spray, House Plants



Acolytes lead the procession at the end of the Nov. 20 service.



Long-time parishioner Nancy Mion reads the first lesson in the renovated nave.



David Tozer, the designer of the new space, paid particular attention to improving the acoustics in the new nave, as appreciated by the St. Francis Choir.

St. Francis Episcopal Church Gains New Rector

Interior of the church recently renovated.

BY COLLEEN HEALY
THE ALMANAC

St. Francis Episcopal Church, located on River Road in the heart of Potomac, welcomed a new rector for the first time in 27 years.

The Rev. Mark Michael is a native of Clear Spring, Md., a small town in the western part of the state where his family has lived for generations.

He studied history at Duke University and trained for the priesthood at Wycliffe Hall, an Anglican theological college that is part of Oxford University in the United Kingdom.

Prior to coming to St. Francis, he has led Saint Timothy's Episcopal Church in Herndon, Va.; Christ Episcopal Church in Cooperstown, N.Y.; and Saint Paul's Episcopal Church in Sharpsburg, Md. He is married to Pastor Allison Michael, a Lutheran minister who is currently studying for a doctoral degree in historical theology. They live in the St. Francis rectory and have two sons and a dog.



Although slightly hidden by trees, St. Francis Church sits on River Road, in the heart of Potomac Village.

PHOTOS BY
BOB CRESSY



The Rev. Mark Michael celebrates the first church service in newly renovated St. Francis Church on Nov. 20.

He has enjoyed getting to know the Potomac community: "It has been wonderful to live in a small town. The neighbors are friendly and I am still surprised to see parishioners in Giant and around town. At St. Francis people value being together and cultivating community. Our church participated in Potomac Day and it was a great introduction to the community. My family and I have enjoyed living in the neighborhood. I hope the parish will thrive and be a blessing to the

SEE NEW RECTOR, PAGE 5



PHOTO BY COLLEEN HEALY/THE ALMANAC
Inside the newly renovated St. Francis Episcopal Church

EPA Finds Source of Oil Slick on Potomac River

WSSC reports no danger to area drinking water.

BY PEGGY MCEWAN
THE ALMANAC

The Environmental Protection Agency on Monday, Dec. 5, named the NRG Dickerson Power Plant as the source of the oily substance seen on the Potomac River.

"It was determined from samples taken of the sheen on the river, looking for a fingerprint [of the substance]," Terri A. White, of the EPA said. "The samples matched that

of the samples from NRG."

U.S. Coast Guard laboratory analysis of the samples identified the product as lubricating oil, the EPA reported in a press release.

The mysterious oil plume floated down the Potomac River last week, baffling authorities and environmental activists and prompting the Potomac Riverkeeper Network to offer a \$1,000 reward for information leading to its source.

Just one day later, on Dec. 2, the group increased the reward amount to \$1,500.

"We'd sure like to know who did this," Jeff Kelble, president of Riverkeeper, a non-profit environmental watchdog group, said. "Six million people drink out of this river

system."

Kelble said the oil was first observed on Sunday, Nov. 27.

"It looked brown and gunky up close and looks like a rainbow from above," he said. "I understand it was a petroleum product [that was] either leaked or drained or dumped [into the river]."

Several communities draw water from the Potomac in the area of the slick, including the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, which provides drinking water to Montgomery and Prince Georges counties. WSSC has a water filtration plant on River Road west of Potomac and draws water from the river there.

Lyn Riggins, a spokesperson for WSSC,

said they were taking precautions including placing booms in front of the intake pipes and testing the water more frequently.

"Booms in front of the intake divert [the oil] from entering," she said. "There is no issue with the water drinking quality, it's a situation and everyone is watching it."

In a Dec. 5 press release, WSSC continues to assure the public that the oil leak has no effect on area drinking water.

"To date, the oily substance has never been observed at or near the WSSC's Potomac River intake. WSSC's Potomac plant continues to operate at full capacity and the Commission has not experienced any adverse impact to its drinking water quality," the press release stated.

GIFTS

Close to Home

Variety of gifts available locally.

BY PEGGY McEWAN
THE ALMANAC

Potomac residents have several shops right in or near The Village where they can find gifts for just about everyone. Whether checking your list once or twice, local shop keepers can help find just the right something special to give this season.

Decorator Terri Downs of JT Interiors at Potomac House, 9906 River Road, decorated her home accessory showroom for the holidays with gifts and ornaments. Several Christmas trees help shoppers get in the spirit of the season, especially the glittering silver and white tree just inside the door.

This is Downs' fourth Christmas at Potomac House and she said business is good.

"This Christmas has been the best in two years," she said. "It has been a phenomenal Christmas so far. Election years typically aren't good for small retail," she said, adding that she can't explain why this year is different.

She said she thinks people are relaxing after the tension of this year's elections and ready to enjoy the holidays.

West of Potomac Village, Isabel Chiotti and her daughters Alessandra and Cristina, just opened Sonoran Rose, a boutique clothing and gift shop at 12211 River Road.

Though they opened the "brick and mortar" store Nov. 10, Cristina Chiotti said they have been in business for two years.

"We've been around since 2014 online and doing trunk shows and corporate gifts," she said. "My mom always liked this space and when she saw it was available she said, 'let's call.'"

Cristina said the barn-like space works perfectly with Sonoran Rose's boho chic look and feel.

"It's very much our aesthetic," she said.

Besides women's clothes, the store offers home décor items, jewelry, soaps, candles, chocolates and a line of shaving needs for men.

Many items are from local and small businesses, Alessandra said.

"We like to support smaller businesses too, because we are small," she said.

If it's a do-it-yourself gift or something for a child, FiberArt.Studio, 9812 Falls Road, in the Potomac Promenade Mall is the place to go.

The studio features traditional fiber arts instruction, supplies and gifts. Anja Caldwell opened her studio in January of this year with a mission in mind.

"I'm from Germany and we learn this stuff

[knitting, crochet, and sewing] in school," she said. I feel it's a dying art. Like vocational classes are missing from schools, so are the crafts. I set out to change that."

There is no glitter or glue in her studio, she said.

Children as well as adults can find one-of-a-kind yarns, patterns and the help they need to create fiber arts at the studio. Caldwell also teaches wet and dry felting techniques and hosts children's parties where guests make craft items to take home.

Over the years, Caldwell said she has taught at Glen Echo and the German School but decided to open her own shop so she would not have to carry supplies around.

Also, she said, she likes teaching and the classes and open studio times give her that opportunity.

For the holidays, she has a few Danish-made toys, tote bags made from antique fabrics and some of her knitting samples for sale. But her real desire is to sell the makings and let people learn as they go and create their own gifts.

That may not be easy during this busy time of year because, she said, "The main ingredient in fiber arts is patience."

Still it's something to think of for those long winter night ahead.



The showroom at JT Interiors at Potomac House on River Road is a wonderland of holiday gifts.

Another source for holiday decorating and gift giving is Potomac Petals and Plants, 9545 River Road. From Christmas trees to poinsettias, wreaths and centerpieces, Potomac Petals and Plants provides fresh greens for every need. The store also has a florist shop, a wide variety of gardening gifts and holiday specialties.



Alessandra Chiotti, co-owner with her mother and sister of the newly opened Sonoran Rose on River Road west of Potomac Village, arranges candles and other gifts.



A dry felted Christmas ball hangs from a light at FiberArt.Studio in Potomac Promenade Mall.

PHOTO BY PEGGY McEWAN/THE ALMANAC

Details

JT Interiors at Potomac House, 9906 River Road, 301-229-0485. Open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, noon to 5 p.m. Sunday.

Sonoran Rose, 12211 River Road, 301-983-0231. Open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday; 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday.

FiberArt.Studio, 9812 Falls Road, 240-600-0170. Open 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. daily except Sunday. There are also special studio and craft hours, call for more information.

Potomac Petals and Plants, 9545 River Road, 301-765-7670. Open daily 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

POTOMAC ALMANAC

www.PotomacAlmanac.com

Newspaper of Potomac
A Connection Newspaper

An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Free digital edition delivered to your email box. Go to
connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

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Potomac Almanac is published
by Local Media Connection LLC

**Five Time First Place
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Graphics and Design



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Reflections Contest Winners

Potomac Elementary School students show their certificates for the Reflections arts contest. The entries were in four categories: literature, photography, visual arts and dance. Potomac Almanac writer Colleen Healy served as literature judge for this annual PTA contest, along with painter Yolanda Prinsloo and photographer Dan Gross.

SCHOOL NOTES

Email announcements to almanac@connectionnewspapers.com.
Deadline is Thursday at noon. Photos are welcome.

Hannah Chenok, a graduate of Walt Whitman High School, and **Lauren Rosenbauer**, a graduate of Winston Churchill High School, have been inducted

into the national Phi Eta Sigma honor society this year at Colgate University.

Mohit Bisbey of Potomac, a seventh

grade student at Randolph-Macon Academy Middle School, has earned a spot on the principal's list for the first academic quarter of the 2016-17 school year.

New Rector Joins St. Francis Episcopal

FROM PAGE 3

larger community. I hope to cultivate a relationship with other faiths and that our congregation will grow and be part of community life. We are very welcoming on Sunday mornings."

He added, "My goal is to meet with each parish family at their home or my office. As a spiritual leader I want to build community by getting to know each other. My most important role is to listen, build trust and learn how to love these people God has called me to love. I hope to have a relational ministry and tend to our relationships and care for each other and build friendships so we can be involved in each others lives. With guidance, strength, love and grace God will help us make it through with the love we share. An important role model is the love God has for his people. We must work to form that into a community that loves one another and others outside our community."

Parishioner Chris Rigaux said, "We are not a church waiting for

someone to darken our door. We want to engage in the community and serve our community. The congregation was excited about Father Mark and his family coming to our church. He was the unanimous candidate. We are very fortunate to get Father Mark. He has a lot of respect for St. Francis and Potomac."

The interior of the church has recently been renovated by David Tozer, a designer who enhanced the interior with blue and white colors and acoustic woodwork near the organ along with new wooden floors and benches. The project took years and was finished recently.

During the holiday season St. Francis will have an Advent service and a Christmas pageant and Christmas services. Jan. 8 marks the beginning of the new rector's ministry and the bishop will come to the church service at 4 p.m.

St. Francis Episcopal Church is located at 10033 River Road in Potomac. For more information call 301-365-2055 or visit www.stfrancispotomac.org.



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Rev. William D. Byrne, Pastor
9200 Kentsdale Drive
Potomac, Maryland 20854
301-365-1415 www.olom.org

**CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS
WITH US**

Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24
Prelude music begins one half-hour before each Mass

4:00 pm Cherub & Children's Choir/ Cantor/Flute (Church)	4:00 pm Piano/Cantor/ Trumpet (McAuley Hall)
6:00 pm Cantor/Hand Bells	8:00 pm Choir/Strings/Trumpet/Flute
10:00 pm Schola/Strings/Trumpet/Flute	

Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25
Prelude music begins fifteen minutes before Mass (no 7:00 am Mass)

8:30 am Choir	10:45 am Vocal Quartet
12:30 pm Vocal Quartet	5:00 pm

ADDITIONAL MASS INFORMATION

Monday, December 26, 2016 -Saturday, December 31, 2016
9:00 am no 7:00 am or 8:30 am Mass

New Year's Eve Saturday, December 31, 2016
Vigil Mass: 5:00 pm

New Year's Day, Mary, Mother of God Sunday January 1, 2017
no 7:00 am Mass 8:30 am, 10:45 am, 12:30 pm & 5:00 pm

Monday, January 2, 2017
9:00 am no 7:00 am or 8:30 am Mass



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ENTERTAINMENT

Email community entertainment events to almanac@connectionnewspapers.com. Include date, time, location, description and contact for event: phone, email and/or website. Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

ONGOING

2016 Inaugural Video Art

Exhibition. 5-7 p.m. at Glen Echo Photoworks Gallery, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Photoworks showcases a group of female visual artists who use video to reveal the personal, the intimate and the artistic. Desires, dreams and fears are all visually explored in Photoworks' Inaugural Video Competition and Exhibition, curated by Na'ama Batya Lewin. Free. Visit www.glenechophotoworks.org for more.

Winter Lights Festival. Through Dec. 31, Sunday-Thursday, 6-9 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 6-10 p.m. at Seneca Creek Park, 11950 Clopper Road, Gaithersburg. Winter Lights is a 3.5-mile drive through a holiday light show at Seneca Creek Park with more than 360 illuminated displays. Additional events include Wine Under the Lights, Run Under the Lights, Leashes 'n' Lights, and, S'More Lights & Trolley Rides. Visit www.gaithersburgmd.gov/leisure/special-events/winter-lights-festival.

“Dialogue: A Visual Conversation.” Through Jan. 5. Gallery hours at at the Dennis and Phillip Ratner Museum, 10001 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda. “A Visual Conversation” is a collection of visual arts – paintings, photographs, digital images and more – resulting from an unusual collaboration between professional artists in the Washington area, and artists receiving mental health treatment from Cornerstone Montgomery. Free. Visit www.Personalvisionsgallery.org.

Waverly Street Gallery Holiday Show. Through Jan. 7 at Waverly Street Gallery, 4600 East-West Highway. Mix of small and large pieces including ceramics, glass, photography, multi media, prints, jewelry, collage, and sculpture. Opening night reception: December 9, 5-9 p.m. 301-951-9441

Club Friday. Through March 17, 7-9 p.m. at Potomac Community Recreation Center, 11315 Falls Road, Potomac. Children grades 3-6 are invited to participate in games, crafts, movies, sports and more. Membership fee is \$88. Vstii www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec.

Children’s Storytime. Wednesdays and Saturdays, 10 a.m. at Barnes & Noble Booksellers, 4801 Bethesda Ave., Bethesda Listen to employees read children’s stories. Free. Visit www.store-locator.barnesandnoble.com/event/4824850-21.

VisArts Cocktails and Canvas Class. at VisArts in the Painting & Drawing Studio, 155 Gibbs St., Rockville. Price \$40. Visit www.visartsatrockville.org/cocktails-and-canvas for more.

Thang Ta. Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m. at Sutradhar Institute of Dance and Related Arts, 1525 Forest Glen Road, Silver Spring. Learn the ancient art of the sword and spear. \$25. Visit www.dancesidra.org.

Weekly Blues Dance. Thursdays 8:15-11:30 p.m. in the Back Room Annex at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Capital Blues presents rotating DJs and instructors with beginner workshop 8:15-9 p.m., no partner necessary. \$8 for all. Visit capitalblues.org for more.

Weekly Swing Dance. Saturdays, 8 p.m.-midnight. The DC Lindy Exchange presents a swing dance with live music in the Spanish Ballroom, Glen Echo Park, 7300

MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Beginner swing dance lesson at 8 p.m., followed by dancing. Admission \$16-\$18, age 17 and under \$12. Visit www.glenechopark.org for more.

Argentine Tango with Lessons.

Most Sundays, 6:30-11 p.m. in the Back Room Annex at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Argentine Tango lessons followed by a Milonga most Sunday evenings. Beginner lesson 6:30-7:30 p.m. and intermediate lesson 7:30-8:30 p.m. Cost is \$15/lesson and includes the Milonga. For just the Milonga, cost is \$10 and the open dance with DJ runs 8:30-11 p.m. No partner required. Visit www.glenechopark.org or call 301-634-2222 for more.

Contra and Square Dance. Fridays and Sundays 7-10:30 p.m. in the Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. The evening can include square dances, mixers, waltzes and other couple dances. All Contra and Square dances are taught, no partner necessary. Lessons at 7 p.m., followed by the called dance with live music at 7:30. \$13 for nonmembers, \$10 for FSGW members, \$5 ages 17 and under. Visit www.glenechopark.org or call 301-634-2222 for more.

Late Night Comedy. Fridays (open mic night) and Saturdays (established comedians) at Benny’s Bar & Grill, 7747 Tuckerman Lane, Potomac. Benny’s is open 8 a.m.-1 a.m. Fridays and Saturdays. Visit www.BennysBarGrill.com.

Drop in Art Activities. Every Saturday 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in the Candy Corner Studio at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., parents and children can explore a new art form or theme. \$10/child, parent combo. Drop-in only. Visit www.pgip.org for more.

Mommy & Me (& Daddy, Too). Third Tuesday each month. 10 a.m. at Rockville Town Square. Meet for a morning out with active learning and creative play with lunch specials, story time, arts and crafts, sing-a-longs, prizes and more. Visit rockvilletownsquare.com/events/mommy-and-me.

Live Music & Dancing. Fridays and Saturdays, 7-11 p.m. in Margery’s Lounge, Normandie Farm Restaurant, 10710 Falls Road. Dance to the music of Barry Gurley. Call 301-983-8838 or visit www.popovers.com for more.

Chocolate Factory Tours. Fridays and Saturdays, 2-5:45 p.m. at SPAGnVOLA Chocolatier, 360 Main St., Gaithersburg. Take a short tour of The Truffle Factory facilities. Free. Visit www.spagnvola.com.

Glen Echo Park Films. Saturdays and Sundays. Arcade Building, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Films about the Park’s history are shown on rotation in the lobby. Free. Visit www.glenechopark.org for more.

SilverWorks Studio & Gallery. Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. SilverWorks Studio & Gallery is a working silversmith studio and includes an ongoing exhibition, as well as sales of the work of artist-in-residence Blair Anderson. Free. Visit www.silverworksglenechopark.com.

Art Glass Center at Glen Echo. All day Wednesdays; Fridays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sundays, noon-4 p.m. Art Glass Center, Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Ongoing exhibitions feature work of resident artists. Sculpture, vessels, functional art and jewelry for sale. Classes are taught year-round for beginner, intermediate and advanced students. Visit www.artglasscenteratglenecho.org for more.

Yellow Barn Studio & Gallery. Saturdays and Sundays, 12-5 p.m.



Santa Visits River Falls

Santa is greeted by (from right): David Gwyn and his four children, Emily, Hayden, Payton, and Kipper; and Nick Farrel and his two sons, Thomas and Logan.

Get Ready To Welcome Santa

Cabin John Park Volunteer Fire Department escorts Santa through area neighborhoods. (Schedule is subject to change due to weather and immediate emergency response.)

THURSDAY/DEC. 15

Congressional Manor
Carderock Springs
Clewerwall (the neighborhood)
Glengarry
Carderock
The Palisades

FRIDAY/DEC. 16

Avenel
River Road Estates
Williamsburg Estates
Concord
The Village (the neighborhood)
Williamsburg Gardens

SATURDAY/DEC.17

Congressional Country Club Estates
West Bethesda Park
Cohasset
Bradley Park
Burning Tree Valley
Frenchmen’s Creek

SUNDAY/DEC. 18

(Also a make-up night)
Locust Ridge
Oakwood Knolls
Monday/Dec. 19
Alvermar Woods
Potomac Hunt Acres
Tara
Potomac View Estates

TUESDAY/DEC. 20

Merry Go Round Farm
Beallmount
Lake Potomac
Stoney Creek Farm
Saddle Ridge

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 21

Potomac Village
Camotop
Falconhurst
Bradley Farms
McAuley Park
Kenddale Estates
Bradley Blvd. Estates
Congressional Forest Estates

THURSDAY/DEC. 22

Bannockburn
Bannockburn Estates
Al Marah
Wilson Knolls

FRIDAY/DEC. 23

This will be a make-up day for inclement weather or missed area.

SATURDAY/DEC. 24

Noon: Santa delivers donated toys to children.
(Children’s presents may be brought out to Santa as he passes by on the fire truck or dropped off at either Cabin John Fire Station. Toys are given to the National Center for Children and Families (Bethesda), the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots (Washington) and Children’s National Medical Center. For more information, visit www.cjpvfd.org.

The Yellow Barn Studio & Gallery presents free exhibitions of emerging artists’ work. Each weekend features the work of a different artist. Most artwork is also for sale. Visit www.yellowbarnstudio.com for more.

Acoustic Open Mic. Wednesdays, 7-11 p.m. at Benny’s Bar & Grill, 7747 Tuckerman Lane. Everyone welcome to perform. Wine bottles are 50 percent off. Visit www.bennysbargrill.com.

Potomac Games Group. Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m. at Potomac Community Recreation Center, 11315 Falls Road, Potomac. The world is in the midst of a Golden Age of new board and card games for players of all ages. Free. Contact event host Randy Hoffman at 412-983-5411 or wrandyhoffman@gmail.com for more.

CAMPS, CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Art Explorers Open Studio. Every Saturday, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at The Candy Corner Studio, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. Art activities for parents and children. Activities change weekly and there is no pre-registration; \$10 per child. Visit www.glenechopark.org/saturday-art-explorers for more.

Ceramic Classes. Various dates and times. VisArts, 155 Gibbs St, Rockville. An opportunity to try the new ceramic workshops. Visit www.visartsatrockville.org/ceramics for a list of class dates, times.

DEC. 16-JAN. 3

Jingle Bowl Partnership with Feeding America. At Bowlmor Bethesda, 5353 Westbard Ave. \$1 from every purchase of a select food and drink item will go to Feeding America. Bowlmor expects to reach up to \$50,000 worth of donation nationwide, doubling the company’s efforts from 2015. www.jingle-bowl.com

THURSDAY-FRIDAY/DEC. 15-16

Bob Stout Concert. 7-11 p.m.at Margery’s Lounge at Normandie Farm Restaurant, 10710 Falls Road. Sing along or dance the night away. 301-983-8838 or popovers.com

SATURDAY/DEC. 17

National Philharmonic Performs Handel’s Messiah. 8 p.m. at The National Philharmonic Music Center at Strathmore 5301 Tuckerman Lane. Hear Handel as the National Philharmonic Orchestra and Chorale perform his most beloved oratorio, the Messiah. Visit www.strathmore.org.

Gala Art Exhibition and Auction. 7:30-10:30 p.m. at Beth Sholom Congregation, 11825 Seven Locks Road. \$20/person or \$36/couple. www.bethsholom.org

SUNDAY/DEC. 18

National Philharmonic Performs Handel’s Messiah. 3 p.m. Times vary at The National Philharmonic Music Center at Strathmore 5301 Tuckerman Lane. Hear Handel as the National Philharmonic Orchestra and Chorale perform his most beloved oratorio, the Messiah. Visit www.strathmore.org.

Tom Saputo. 7-10:30 p.m. at Margery’s Lounge at Normandie Farm Restaurant, 10710 Falls Road. He brings the piano to life. 301-983-8838 or popovers.com

WEDNESDAY-FRIDAY/DEC. 21-23

Moscow Ballet’s Russian Nutcracker. 8 p.m. at The Music

ENTERTAINMENT

Center at Strathmore Concert Hall, 5301 Tuckerman Lane. CityDance students perform in Moscow Ballet's Russian Nutcracker. Visit www.strathmore.org.

THURSDAY/DEC. 22

Bob Stout Concert. 7-11 p.m. at Margery's Lounge at Normandie Farm Restaurant, 10710 Falls Road. Sing along or dance the night away. 301-983-8838 or popovers.com

DEC. 27-30

Recreation Centers Pool Hours. 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Potomac Community Recreation Center, 11315 Falls Road, and North Potomac Community Recreation Center, 13850 Travilah Road, will have modified schedules, closing at 3 p.m. on the eves of the holidays.

WEDNESDAY/DEC. 28

Tom Saputo. 7-10:30 p.m. at Margery's Lounge at Normandie Farm Restaurant, 10710 Falls Road. He brings the piano to life. 301-983-8838 or popovers.com

THURSDAY/DEC. 29

Bob Stout Concert. 7-11 p.m. at Margery's Lounge at Normandie Farm Restaurant, 10710 Falls Road. Sing along or dance the night away. 301-983-8838 or popovers.com

FRIDAY/DEC. 30

Tom Saputo. 7-10:30 p.m. at Margery's Lounge at Normandie Farm Restaurant, 10710 Falls Road. He brings the piano to life. 301-983-8838 or popovers.com

SUNDAY/JAN. 8

Waltz Dance Featuring Audacious. 2:45 p.m. in the Ballroom at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Waltzes with a few other couple dances, including Hambo, Schottische, Swing, Tango, and Polka. WaltzTimeDances.org info@WaltzTimeDances.org or 301-634-2222

SATURDAY/JAN. 14

River Clean Up. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Fletcher's Cove, 4940 Canal Road, Washington, D.C. The Potomac Conservancy is looking for volunteers to help kick off 2017 by honoring Martin Luther King Jr. with a day of service along the river. potomac.org/

MONDAY/JAN. 16

MLK Day of Service Volunteer Fair. 1-3 p.m. at Bethesda North Marriott Conference Center, 5701 Marinelli Road. Planned projects include packaging food for the hungry, creating blankets for hospice, and cutting patterns to create shoes for children in Uganda. Most, if not all, will be pre-approved for Student Service Learning hours. 301-822-9200

HOLIDAY EVENTS



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Holiday Show

Waverly Street Gallery Holiday Show, through Jan. 7, features a mix of small and large pieces including ceramics, glass, photography, multi media, prints, jewelry, collage, and sculpture. Waverly Street Gallery, 4600 East-West Highway. The opening night reception is Friday, Dec. 9, 5-9 p.m. 301-951-9441

DEC. 16-JAN. 3

Jingle Bowl Partnership with Feeding America. At Bowlmor Bethesda, 5353 Westbard Ave. \$1 from every purchase of a select food and drink item will go to Feeding America. Bowlmor expects to reach up to \$50,000 worth of donation nationwide, doubling the company's efforts from 2015. www.jingle-bowl.com

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 17-18

National Philharmonic Performs Handel's Messiah. Times vary at The National Philharmonic Music Center at Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Lane. Hear Handel as the National Philharmonic Orchestra and Chorus perform his most beloved oratorio, the Messiah. Led by Artistic Director Stan Engbreton, the concert will feature the National Philharmonic's nearly 200 voice all-volunteer Chorale. Visit www.strathmore.org.

SUN/DEC. 18

Smooth Funky Christmas 2. At 7:30 p.m. at Bethesda Blues and Jazz Supper Club, 7719 Wisconsin Ave. Featuring Lindsey Webster. 240-330-4500

THROUGH DEC. 23

Christmas at Pemberley. A rolling world premiere of Lauren Gunderson and Margot Melcon's "Pride & Prejudice" sequel. Round House Theatre, 4545 East-West Highway. Tickets start at \$30. RoundHouseTheatre.org or 240-644-1100.

WEDNESDAY-FRIDAY/DEC. 21-23

Moscow Ballet's Russian Nutcracker. 8 p.m. at The Music Center at Strathmore Concert Hall, 5301 Tuckerman Lane. CityDance students perform in Moscow Ballet's Russian Nutcracker. Visit www.strathmore.org.



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Potomac REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY DEB STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

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4 29 Piney Meetinghouse Court — \$1,200,000



6 8033 Cobble Creek Circle — \$1,190,000

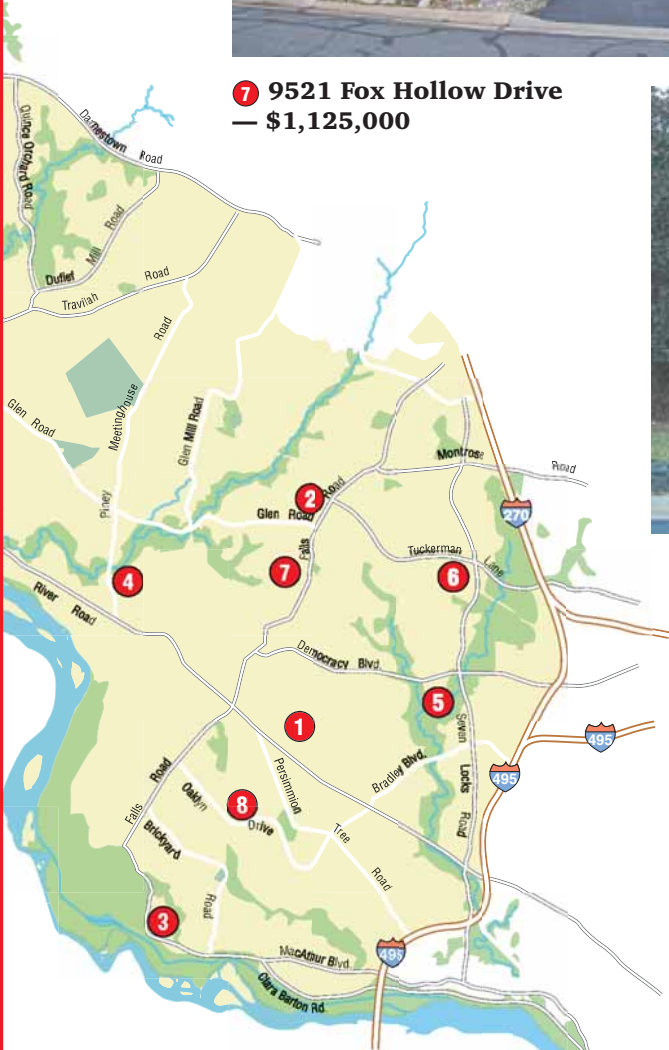
7 9521 Fox Hollow Drive — \$1,125,000



3 7820 Stable Way — \$1,230,000



8 10104 Watts Mine Lane — \$1,112,500



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2 9317 WINTERSET DR	6	..	5	..	1	POTOMAC	...	\$1,573,595	...	Detached	0.43	20854	WINTERSET	10/28/16
3 7820 STABLE WAY	5	..	4	..	1	.....	POTOMAC	...	\$1,230,000	...	Detached	.....	0.17	.....	20854	.....	RIVER FALLS	.....	10/31/16
4 29 PINEY MEETINGHOUSE CT	6	..	4	..	2	.....	POTOMAC	...	\$1,200,000	...	Detached	.....	2.01	.....	20854	.....	POTOMAC VIEW ESTS	.....	10/21/16
5 8105 GAINSBOROUGH CT E	5	..	4	..	1	.....	POTOMAC	...	\$1,190,000	...	Detached	.....	0.53	.....	20854	.....	RIDGELEIGH	.....	10/28/16
6 8033 COBBLE CREEK CIR	5	..	4	..	1	.....	POTOMAC	...	\$1,190,000	...	Detached	.....	0.18	.....	20854	.....	POTOMAC CREST	.....	10/14/16
7 9521 FOX HOLLOW DR	4	..	4	..	1	.....	POTOMAC	...	\$1,125,000	...	Detached	.....	0.21	.....	20854	.....	BEDFORDSHIRE	.....	10/28/16
8 10104 WATTS MINE LN	5	..	4	..	1	ROCKVILLE	...	\$1,112,500	...	Detached	0.26	20854	AVENEL	10/03/16

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Remodeled to Sell Couple overhauls bathrooms to minimize home's time on the market.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE ALMANAC

Shortly before Sheila and Brian Boyle decided to sell their Potomac, Md. home, they took a look around and decided it needed updating. The couple, whose daughter had recently left for college, were planning to downsize and didn't want their home to linger on the market.

"We built the house in 2001 and it needed updating, particularly the bathrooms," said Sheila. "When we built it, I put in builder grade materials that didn't match the rest of the house, which is much grander."

When overhauling the home's five bathrooms, the couple started with the basement and worked upward to the second floor. Their goal was to create modern but timeless spaces that would appeal to a wide pool of potential buyers.

"We were going for a modern look, transitional with traditional elements, not full-on modern," said Sheila Boyle. "We wanted the look to be classic."

The Boyles enlisted the help of Samantha Klickna of Case Design/Remodeling, Inc. The basement powder room was transformed from a generic space to one that is rustic but stylish. The look was achieved with porcelain tile flooring that resembles wooden planks and complements the industrial look of the sconces and mirror.

The powder room on the first floor includes herringbone pattern tile flooring. The same tile was used on one of the walls in the space. A dark wood vanity warms the room and was chosen to mimic a piece of furniture.



PHOTOS BY STACY ZARIN GOLDBERG/CASE DESIGN/REMODELING, INC.

Designer Samantha Klickna removed a wall in this bathroom that divided the vanity from the tub and toilet, allowing an abundance of light to flow into the space.



Designer Samantha Klickna used a herringbone wall tile in a guest bathroom on the second floor as a focal point in the space.

"One of the challenges was putting the different elements, like the sizes and patterns of tiles, in the right place to create balance," said Klickna. "With the herringbone pattern, for example, we had to make sure we were using the right amount without making it look too busy."

The design team then opened a

"We were going for a modern look, transitional with traditional elements, not full-on modern."

— Sheila Boyle

wall that divided the vanity from the tub and toilet in the Jack-and-Jill bathroom on the second floor, allowing an abundance of light to flow into the space. The space now has a tailored look, says Klickna, and includes an inset vanity, stone ledge, mirror and diagonal wood porcelain plank floor.

"The Jack-and-Jill bathroom

wasn't functional or easy to use," said Sheila. "It was too small a space to have an interior wall, so we opened it up and put in lots of glass."

A dark blue vanity in another guest bathroom on the second floor contrasts with the herringbone wall tile, which is a focal point in the space.

"After our house was remodeled and updated, we put it on the market," said Sheila Boyle. "It was under contract in three days in an area where homes don't move very quickly. We attribute a lot of that success to the renovations."

LET'S TALK Real Estate



by Michael Matese

Reach For The Sky(light)

A properly designed skylight in either a commercial or a residential construction can add aesthetic value to living space and contribute significantly to energy savings. The United States Department of Energy's Federal Energy Management Program has estimated that incorporation of day lighting options (skylights, tubular day lighting devices, hybrid solar lighting, etc.)—especially in commercial or industrial constructions—can reduce lighting energy usage by as much as 80%; in terms of cost, by optimal utilization of day lighting, total energy costs can be reduced by up to one-third over time. There are three main design types to consider when installing a skylight: the traditional skylight, the roof lantern, and the oculus. The traditional skylight is a conventional horizontal window, which may be either fixed or operable, that is tilted and placed on the angle of a roof or directly into the roof so that the window allows light to pass straight down into the living area. Fixed skylights do not open, while operable ones, which can be powered either by use of electricity, solar power or manual power, offer the additional attraction of energy efficiency through seasonally appropriate home ventilation and cooling. The roof lantern is much like a cupola; it is multi-paned glass (or other opaque material) structure that sits on top of a typically flat roof, providing natural day lighting to the room beneath. This architectural style may also be referred to as an orangery; in effect, a roof lantern is a type of skylight, though it bears structural similarity to both greenhouses and conservatories. The oculus is a circular or oval window that can be installed above, as a skylight, or on a building's façade to express the presence of a mezzanine. Light tubes, tubular skylights and tubular day lighting devices (TDDs) are also day lighting options available when choosing to install a skylight into a structure. Light tubes, or solar tubes, are placed into the roof of a structure and focus the admission of light to the interior area, often resembling recessed ceiling light fixtures. As light tubes have less surface area than traditional skylights, they do not allow as much heat transfer. Tubular skylights work on the same premise as a light tube, allowing natural sunlight to be directed from the rooftop by means of a tube, but in this case, the tube itself is made of a highly reflective material, diffusing the light at ceiling level. The main attraction of tubular skylights versus a light tube is that tubular skylights capture both direct and ambient light, meaning that even during low-light situations such as overcast days or times at which the sun is low in the sky they provide maximum illumination. Tubular day lighting devices (TDDs) incorporate modern technology into their design, transmitting visible light through opaque walls and roofs of the construction. In a tubular day lighting device, the tube is made up of either a simple reflective interior coating or a light conducting fiber optic bundle, frequently capped with a transparent, roof-mounted dome 'light collector'. A diffuser assembly at the end of the tube then distributes daylight evenly and efficiently to interior spaces. When you've decided to add a skylight into your home, consider these options and designs, engage the services of a licensed contractor to help choose the most optimal style for your home's purposes, and reach for the sky(light)!

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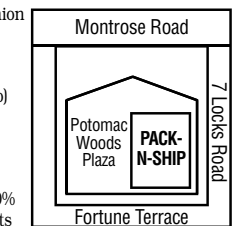
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HomeLifeStyle

2017 Color of the Year: Greenery

Pantone says color will evoke reinvigoration.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE ALMANAC

When interior designer Annie Elliott's home office began to feel lackluster, she draped the windows with green Roman shades to infuse a burst of color into the muted space. And after McLean-based designer Joseph Van Goethem decided that the time-worn décor of his kitchen and breakfast room needed brightening, he swathed the walls of with textured grass-green wallpaper, evoking a serene sense that one is sitting in nature.

"It invites ... [and] rejuvenates as should the heart of any home," said Van Goethem of Joseph Van Goethem Interior Design.

"As an accent color, [green] adds a burst of cheer and optimism to a drab spaces," agreed Elliott, principal of Annie Elliott Interior/Bossy Color, whose green Roman shades offset white and yellow walls and light gray rug. "It's the bright spot in a lovely, calm space," she said.

They're in good company. Pantone Color Institute, which calls itself the global authority on color, selected Greenery as the Color of the Year for 2017. Each year, it makes a prediction about the color that will be on trend for the upcoming year.

During the process, which takes about nine months, color gurus at Pantone trot the globe, observing the trends in industries ranging from film and entertainment to art and fashion. The selection, which is less formulaic and more instinctive, is touted as a harbinger of a shade that will be ubiquitous during year ahead and an expression of moods and attitudes world-wide.

In announcing the color selection, Leatrice Eiseman, executive director of the Pantone Color Institute, described it as "satisfying our growing desire to ... revitalize and unite. [It] symbolizes the reconnection we seek with nature, one another and a larger purpose."

Locally, some designers agree that Greenery can create a sense of hope. "2016 will go down as one of the most politically unpredictable in history," said Elliott. "We need a fresh start. Green is the color of renewal, growth and change. ... We're ready to focus on the future, and that's what green is all about."

Designers who've already been using the color aren't surprised by its selection, crediting its year-

PHOTO BY ANNE WALKER

Two-tone walls provide a preppy, fun backdrop for a strong palette of primary colors in the furnishings and fabrics in this bedroom by interior designer Anne Walker.

round versatility. "In summer, with white dishes and bright linens, [a] room feels vibrant," said Anne M. Walker, owner and principal, Anne Walker Design LLC in Potomac, Md. "In winter, with reds and dark greenery, the room feels festive. When you think of it, green is paired with just about every other color in nature, which is exactly why it works so well inside, too."

Van Goethem believes that the hue works best with other rustic shades. It's most often found in paint and textiles. For example, the wall covering he selected for his kitchen and breakfast room is a hand-crafted and hand-painted fabric called, "Un Nid de Verdure" or "Nest of Greenery" from French manufacturer, Elitis.

"Greenery is highly personal to my wife and me as...[I]t is incorporated as an integral element in the

SEE COLOR, PAGE 11

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PHOTO BY ANNE WALKER

Shades of green foliage found in a painting that hung in a client's dining room was the creative inspiration for interior designer Anne M. Walker.

Color of the Year: Greenery

FROM PAGE 10

design of our home," said Van Goethem, who not only designed his kitchen, but did most of the work himself. "I complemented [the wall covering] with a palette of deep, rich wood tones, blues, some red, other hues of green and neutrals."

Praising the choice of Greenery as a fresh tactic for breathing whimsy into a muted space, Victor Sanz, project architect at DMG Interiors in Reston, calls the new color of the year energetic, vibrant and fresh. "Although its use as the dominant color might not be suitable for more conservative designs, this color can be used as a fun contrast, especially if used in modern fabric patterns or wall coverings," he said.

Almost 10 shades of sun-drenched, tranquil, green foliage found in a client's painting, "French Lane," served as the creative inspiration for a custom paint color used by Walker.

"I kept mixing until I got a soft, earthy

green, which is the perfect backdrop for the artwork," she said. "Greens will bring serenity to a room the way few other colors will, and they are incredibly versatile."

Open spaces in interior and exterior design and floor-to-ceiling windows allow the green outdoors to become part of a room's backdrop and ambiance. "Green is a fantastic color for interiors," said Walker. "It's such a chameleon — it can create a feeling of fresh, high energy or make a room feel like a peaceful outdoor sanctuary."

"Many people say you shouldn't use green in a dining room because it isn't flattering to skin tones and it isn't a stimulant to appetite," she continued. "Au contraire — this elegant, soft green really comes alive in the glow of candlelight."

Greenery, say designers, has the power to deliver a burst of color, with the added benefit of creating the illusion of nature indoors. "Hooray for green," said Walker. "Now, more than ever, we all need to take a deep breath, oxygenate and reinvigorate."

No Urge

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



It's not often; heck, it's extremely rare, that I don't write a cancer column, as I call them. And my reaction to not having the 'urge' to write yet another cancer column is, somewhere between simply taking a break/brake in the action and having no need to impose my cancer-centric self-indulgence on you faithful readers.

I'll be the first to acknowledge that I write these columns because I need to, and because I'm allowed to; thank you Mary Kimm. Not that the related purpose is to avoid therapy (however, I did go on a handful of appointments with a psychologist but it seemed pointless and especially so, when the therapist expressed that she felt I was fairly well-adjusted). Ergo, I really didn't see a purpose per se.

Oh sure, I will admit that the writing of these columns gets out of me some very personal and occasionally painful prose outlining the anxieties and fears of a cancer patient undergoing life-sustaining treatment that is better out than in, if professionals are to be believed. And maybe I'll further acknowledge that, based on feedback I've received in the six-plus years that I've been writing them, that the content is, generally speaking, much appreciated (I'm not ready to characterize them as having served a greater purpose/been for the greater good however, because it's only me I'm writing about and there's a much bigger world than what I perceive in my head) and helpful. Nevertheless, I can't imagine that it's just me I'm writing about, mostly; and a la Las Vegas, sort of: in that what happens to me only happens to me. Hardly.

Just because I've made public something very personal and presumably private doesn't make me the go-to-guy for cancer chat, it just makes me a person willing to open the doors wider than are typically opened. So what? A little honesty never hurt anyone; self-indulgence though, can be really boring and tiresome. (I mean, sometimes, too much of a good thing is simply too much. To quote my deceased mother: "It's enough already.") And as much as I'm cognizant of possibly droning on and wasting what attention-span you've allocated in my direction, I am trying not to drone on and trying not to lose you in the process.

Possibly there is a means to my hopefully-not premature end. Perhaps admitting the error of my ways and/or addressing the cancer concerns as I regularly do has contributed/caused my rather unexpected (based on my oncologist's original "13 month to two-year prognosis from FEBRUARY 2009) living "unexpectedly." Perhaps laughing in the face of danger extends one's life more than giving in to it. All I know is, whatever I've done/been able to do emotionally was not/has not been thought out. I've just continued to be me, myself and I — which has included my weekly cancer columns. Moreover, the three of us, collectively, have likely survived for so long because so much that could have bothered us/me, didn't.

Whether it was the outlet I had/have in my column, my personality, encouragement from family and friends, or my connection to The Connection, there's no way to know. What I do know is, the weeks when I don't write a cancer column are my favorites. Those are the weeks when I feel that cancer doesn't have a hold on me and in turn, I feel that I have a hold on cancer. And if there's one thing us cancer patients want to feel, it's control. Even if it's only for a week or two, here or there, the benefit is exponentially greater than the time we actually get to experience it.

Kenny Lourie is an Advertising Representative for The Potomac Almanac & The Connection Newspapers.

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Spirit of St. Nicolas

On Saturday, Dec. 3, 19 children attended the Advent wreath making and St. Nicolas workshop at St. Francis Episcopal Church, making their own advent wreaths and took home daily devotionals. Parishioner Devar Burbage (left) interpreted St. Nicolas and his spirit of giving to the poor. Stepping Stones Shelter will be receiving gift packages from the parish. Dr. Adam Schneider, his wife Karen, Karen Meyers, Mary Ashworth, Mary Blehar, and Carol Jarvis along with Sunday School director Missy Belle coordinated the workshop and lunch.



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