

Spring 2013 HomeLifeStyle

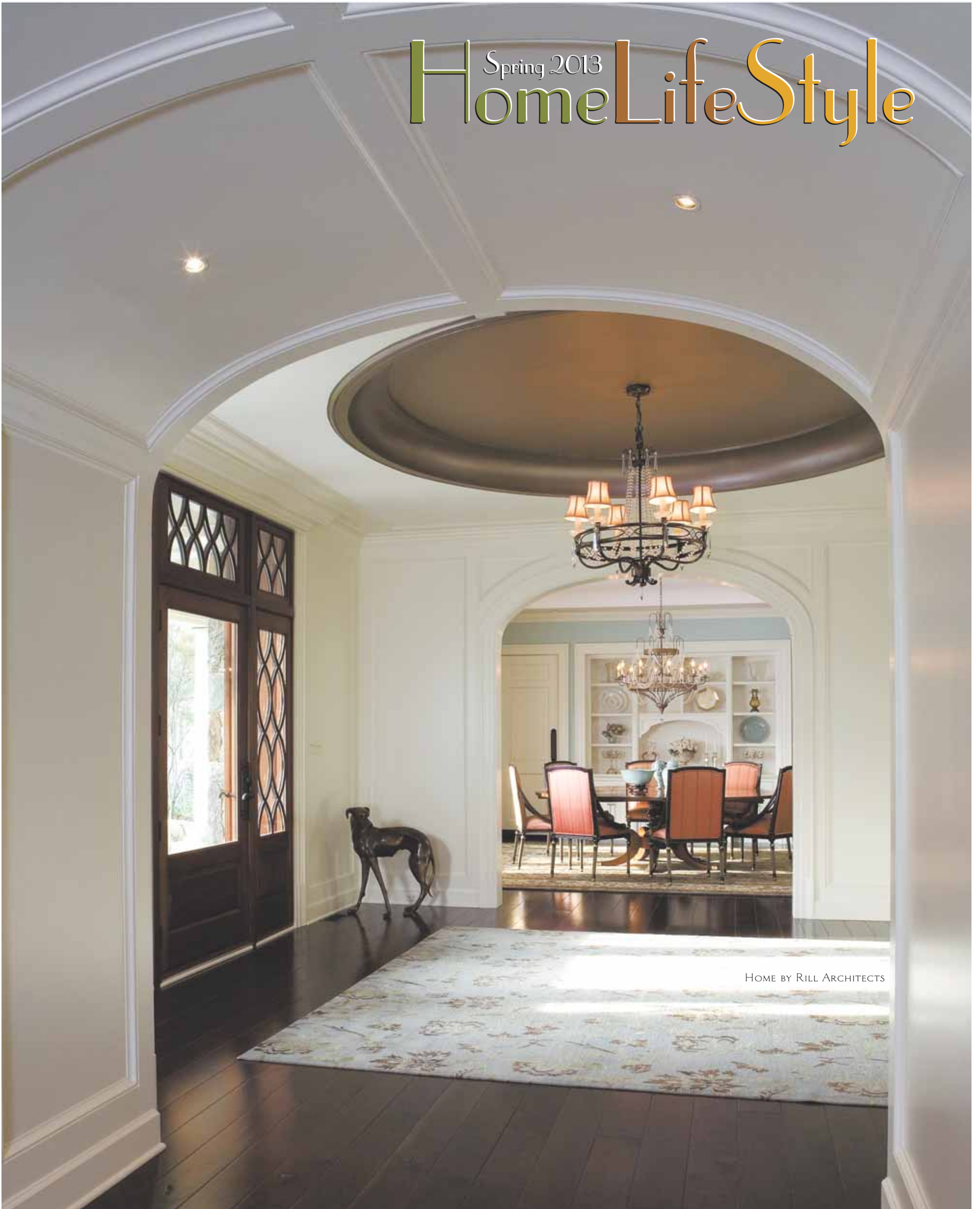


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HomeLifeStyle

**'How to
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Your
Home
Again'**



Hopkins & Porter, Inc. will offer 'How to Fall in Love with Your Home Again,' a free design and remodeling seminar on Thursday, March 21, 6-8 p.m. This seminar will include a complimentary supper with opportunity to discuss one's own project with professional staff. This workshop will provide informal no-obligation discussions with Hopkins & Porter designers. Topics include how to open up a floor plan, checklist for a successful re-

modeling project, how to increase natural light, kitchen and bath details, and additions.

The seminar will take place at the offices of Hopkins & Porter, 12944-C Travilah Rd., #204, Potomac, MD 20854. Space is limited to 15 participants per session, reservations required.

Call 301-840-9121, ext. 17 or email dana@hopkinsandporter.com to reserve a space.

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The Power of Light

Designed with a bounty of large windows, a new Potomac home pays homage to natural light.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

When architect James Rill of Rill Architects, PC designed a family home in Potomac, recently, he had to think light in more ways the one.

“The clients wanted a house that had a presence, but not an ostentatious presence, more of a subtle elegance,” said Rill. “While it is a large and formal house, the design is more organic than severe,” said Rill. “There are a lot of turrets and soft lines, not hard lines. The gambrel-style roof is not sharp, and the stone that was used gives it a series of natural materials so that it fits within the landscape.”



There is wide-plank, walnut hardwood flooring throughout this nine-and-half bathroom, eight-bedroom home by Rill Architects.



There are windows in the stairwell of this Potomac home. “The staircase is about light — they’re not just stairs,” said James Rill. “The idea behind the windows is light and connections to the outside.”

The four-story home is approximately 17,000 square feet and features wide-plank walnut hardwood flooring throughout. One immediately notices the high ceilings and rows upon rows of large windows. “The house pays homage to natural light,” said Rill. “There aren’t any rooms in the house that don’t have big, natural light.”

Most of the windows are about eight feet high. There are even windows in the stairwell.

“It’s an incredibly lighted stairway. The staircase is about light. They’re not just

stairs,” said Rill. “The idea behind windows is light and connections to the outside.”

A covered porch surrounds the home and flows into an outdoor living room that features a fireplace, which gives way to a terrace and pool. “The porch allows the landscape into the house,” said Rill,

“There are no rooms in this house that don’t have large windows and big natural light.”

— James F. Rill, Rill Architects, PC

noting that a bay window in the breakfast room offers views of the outdoor living room and pool.

THE HOME WAS BUILT for a family that entertains frequently, especially for charity, said Rill. “The homeowners were very giving people,” he said. “Sometimes they started making lunch and there would be 15 people. Guests would come to stay for two weeks and end up staying for two months.”

Designed with the family’s lifestyle in mind, the home has nine and a half bathrooms, eight bedrooms, including a master suite, an attic suite and a guest suite above the garage, and a playroom with courts for lacrosse and baseball.

SEE POWER OF LIGHT, PAGE 7

PHOTOS BY LYDIA CUTLER/RILL ARCHITECTS



There is solid mahogany woodwork throughout this Potomac home. It was designed by James Rill of Rill Architects.

The Region's Best Home Designs

Local contractors get top honors for remodeling projects

By MARILYN CAMPBELL
THE CONNECTION

From designing a kitchen with a concave glass tile backsplash to creating a backyard with a fireplace and pool, some local home remodelers were honored recently with the National Association of the Remodeling Industry's (NARI) 2013 Regional Contractor of the Year awards for design acumen. Winning projects ran the gamut from historic preservation projects to environmentally conscious conceptions.

CABIN JOHN, MD., BASED firm Anthony Wilder Design/Build, Inc. received kudos in the "Residential Exterior, \$100,000 and Over" category for a backyard space that includes a pool and fireplace. "The homeowner wanted four separate living spaces in the backyard," said company spokeswoman Danielle Frye. "He wanted a dining room, a living room with a heat source, a place to sunbathe near his pool and a place to play cricket on his lawn."

Frye said the Wilder team, which included architect George R. Bott and lead designer Anthony Wilder, developed a backyard plan that

replaced overgrown grass with flagstone and a badly worn fence with foliage to create a sense of privacy. "There is a sundeck and spaces for a sofa and dining table, but the fireplace is the focal point," said Frye. "We used really tall bamboo to shield the view from the hotel across the street."

A BETHESDA HOME addition garnered a top prize in the "Residential Addition Over \$250,000" category for A.R.T Design Build Inc. with team member Grossmueller's Design Consultants, Inc.

"The client wanted to expand their one story house to have a separate area for [bedrooms] and create a more functional first floor with more communal spaces, the kitchen, family room [and] dining room," said Cindy G. McClure of Grossmueller's Design Consultants.

The design team added a new second floor to the home, which accommodates a laundry room, a master suite, two additional bedrooms and a bathroom. A stair tower and cathedral foyer create an open floor plan and connect the first and second levels.

"Elements of the old house, like the wide chimney on the front and the contemporary 1960 style were played upon and accentuated," said McClure. "The result is a functional home that meets the needs of today's family, remained within budget and was completed on time."

FAIRFAX-BASED FIRM RJK Construction, Inc. received top honors in the category of "Residential Ad-

dition \$100,000 to \$250,000" for a home in the Mantua area of Fairfax County. Company president Robert Kalmin says the homeowners' goal was to blend their interior and exterior spaces. "They wanted to make their exterior landscaping a visual point because they entertain a lot," he said. "The windows act as murals to the exterior landscaping bring the outdoors in and the indoors out."

The owners requested an open floor plan that allowed guests to move freely between the kitchen and the backyard. "They were very specific about how they wanted people to meander from the outside to the inside," Kalmin said. "We had to relocate the powder room so that people are able to use the restroom without having to go anywhere else."

An abundance of windows allows natural light to flow throughout the home. "The kitchen has red oak flooring and other colors and finishes that compliment the natural scenery outside," said Kalmin.

A MCLEAN KITCHEN by BOWA took top honors in the "Residential Kitchen Over \$120,000" category. The homeowners were looking to create a free-flowing, light-filled space.

"Their kitchen was not as open as they would have liked," said Josh Baker, founder and co-chairman of BOWA. "They wanted to make it more integrated and useful for the family."

To accommodate a larger kitchen, the design team, which included BOWA's George Hodges-Fulton, built an addition and added



PHOTO COURTESY OF MORGAN HOWARTH

This backyard oasis, designed by Anthony Wilder Design/Build, Inc., won a Contractor of the Year Award in the "Residential Exterior, \$100,000 and Over" category. The homeowner wanted a backyard space with a place to sunbathe near the pool, a dining room, a living room with a heat source and a place to play cricket.

a sitting room, screened porch and additional windows to allow an abundance of natural light to stream into the space. The new kitchen also included a butler's pantry and a family dining area.

Baker, who founded BOWA with his college friend Larry Weinberg, says an open dialogue is essential to a successful remodeling project. "The key is finding a person or company that you communicate very, very well with and whose process is in line with how you like to do business," he said. "This is a customer service business. It is not just a construction business. The entire process is important, not just the end result."

HARRY BRASWELL of Harry Braswell, Inc. in Alexandria, was named Contractor of the Year in the "Entire House \$500,001 to \$1,000,000" category for the renovation of a home that had not been updated since the 1950s.

"The house was outdated, too small for the family's needs," he said. The renovation included a kitchen outfitted with cabinet-front appliances and porcelain sinks including an apron farm sink and an island sink in a pale aqua. "That color is carried throughout the house," said project manager Gretchen Brown.

A concave glass tile backsplash

surrounds the durable, brown-toned quartzite counter. "Quartzite doesn't stain easily," said Brown. "It is strong like granite, but is more expensive."

The Braswell team also got a nod for energy efficiency for this project, which was named "NARI Green Project." Brown noted that the team installed energy efficiency lighting and energy star appliances.

"The homeowners had specific criteria about wanting to meet [Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design] certification because they are dedicated to protecting the environment," said Braswell.

LET'S TALK Real Estate



By Michael Matese

Green is the New (Affordable) Luxury Item

Today, it's not just about your home. It's about being your home being green. "Green" renovation is a trend that engineers, constructors and designers are encountering more and more each day. Going green is not only an ecologically aware choice, but it is also one that is becoming economically sound, with many green renovations providing tax deductions and reduced energy costs, offsetting or negating the cost of their installation in immediate terms—and proving priceless over time, as green renovations reduce the harm of civilization on nature and ecology. Green construction is making a big splash in today's modern home market, with architects, builders and even luxury home construction and sales joining in. Gone are the days of waste and inefficient energy consumption—welcome to the new world of eco-friendly, green luxury!

What's new on the green home front? Alternative energy sources, such as passive solar heating, along with things like photovoltaic solar panels that provide electricity for off the grid homes. Wall insulation that's made from alternative materials such as cellulose, cotton or rock wool instead of the insulation made with formaldehyde are big innovations. Double paned windows are becoming standard, low E glass that reflects the heat out during the summer and reflects heat back into the room during winter are also gaining in popularity. Heated floors, pellet stoves that heat with an alternative source to the usual forced air systems are making big news in the home building market as well. Maximum efficiency of heating and cooling units is an issue that builders are concerned with and high energy efficient ratings are paramount, being used to augment solar energy instead of being the only source of heating and cooling these days. Today, it's keen (and affordable) to be green!

For professional advice on all aspects of buying and selling real estate, call: **MICHAEL MATESE Long & Foster Realtors 301-806-6829** Mike@michaelmatese.com

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Recycle, Reuse, Remodel Repurposing materials helps others and keeps debris out of landfills.

By JOSHUA BAKER
BOWA

Remodeling often affords an opportunity to repurpose existing materials by donating to those less fortunate. Ask your remodeler if there is a plan or policy for saving materials for re-use rather than sending it to a land fill. Every project is different. And some materials are more easily



removed and saved than others. Here are a couple of organizations that accepted used materials.

A WIDER CIRCLE

This organization provides basic-needed items to families transitioning out of shelters and those living without life's necessities. A Wider Circle furnishes the homes of more than 1,000 children and adults each month. If you wish to donate furniture and other home essentials that are in good condition (no rips or stains), you can drop off items at their Center for Community Service in Silver Spring, Md. You can also schedule a pickup in most ar-

reas throughout greater Washington, D.C. Refer to their website for a full list of accepted items and their "wish list" of the most needed items at www.awidercircle.org.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY - RESTORE

ReStore is a resale business that sells new and used building materials and home items to the general public. All donations are tax deductible and donated by individuals, local retailers, building contractors and suppliers. Donated items are then sold at 50-90 percent off the retail price, with all proceeds benefiting Habitat for

Humanity, an organization that provides safe and affordable housing to low-income families. ReStore accepts appliances, furniture, cabinets, roofing and flooring materials, exercise equipment, countertops, electronics, lighting and plumbing fixtures, among many others. All materials and items must be in good and working condition. Items may be dropped off at ReStore locations during their business hours or for larger donations you may schedule a pickup. You can check out the Montgomery County store location in Gaithersburg - www.habitat-mc.org

GOODWILL

Founded in 1902, Goodwill accepts gently used clothing, furniture, housewares, working electronics, and other household items. These items are then sold at their retail locations, with the proceeds used to fund employment, job training, and placement services for the disadvantaged and those with disabilities. Visit www.dgoodwill.org.

SALVATION ARMY

Although the Salvation Army is involved in many community programs, proceeds from items donated to their stores will benefit

their Adult Rehabilitation Centers. Each rehabilitation center offers residential housing and work, along with individual and group therapy. This enables many to be reunited with their families and resume a normal life. Items commonly donated include appliances, clothing, furniture, and household goods. For more information on their donation program, please visit www.satruck.org.

BOWA HOME CLEANUP DAYS

As a thank you to the neighbors in the communities in which we work, from time to time BOWA

hosts Home Cleanup Days. Home Cleanup Day is a great opportunity to donate and recycle gently used household items, toys and clothing, and dispose of any debris or other unwanted clutter. A BOWA employee will help folks unload their items and a Goodwill representative will be on hand to accept donations and provide receipts.

To find a BOWA Home Cleanup Day in your area, please visit our <http://info.bowa.com/communityblog/>

Josh Baker is founder of BOWA; learn more at www.bowa.com.

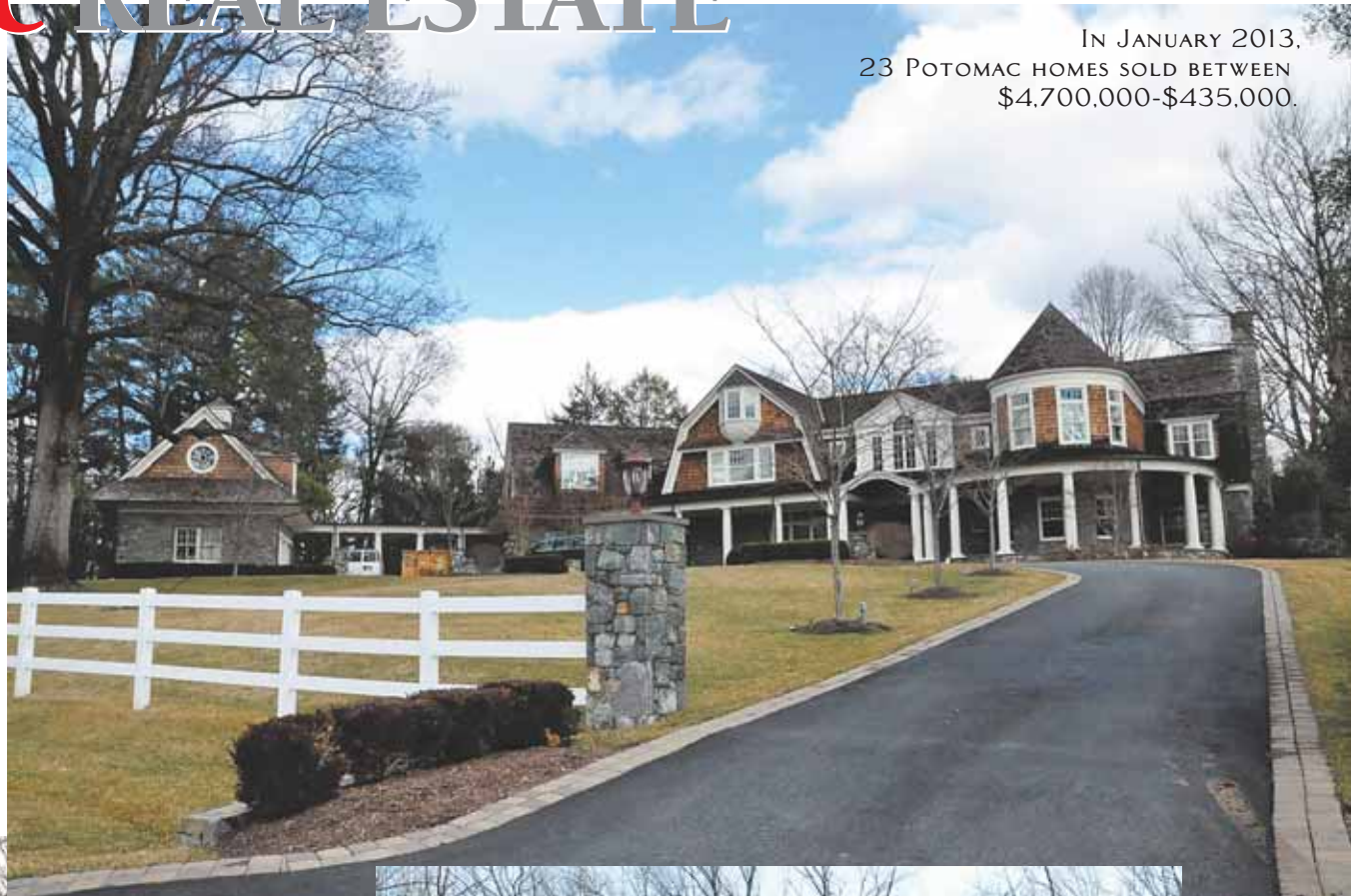
Potomac REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY DEB STEVENS/THE ALMANAC

IN JANUARY 2013,
23 POTOMAC HOMES SOLD BETWEEN
\$4,700,000-\$435,000.

January 2013 Top Sales

1 9009 Congressional Court
— \$4,700,000



2 14000 River Road —
\$1,995,000



3 11212 River
View Drive —
\$1,890,000

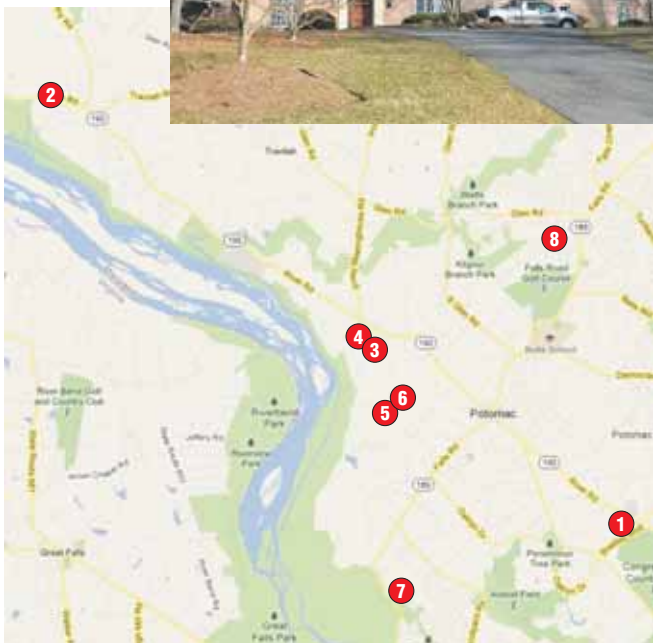
5 10935
Martingale
Court —
\$1,500,000



6 10901 Burbank Drive — \$1,345,000



8 9528 Woodington Drive — \$1,290,000



Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Postal Code	Subdivision	Date Sold
1 9009 CONGRESSIONAL CT	8	7	3	POTOMAC		\$4,700,000	Detached	2.10	20854	BRADLEY FARMS	01/15/13
2 14000 RIVER RD	6	7	1	POTOMAC		\$1,995,000	Detached	3.41	20854	POTOMAC	01/23/13
3 11212 RIVER VIEW DR	5	4	3	POTOMAC		\$1,890,000	Detached	1.84	20854	MARWOOD	01/30/13
4 10506 RIVERS BEND LN	4	6	2	POTOMAC		\$1,510,000	Detached	0.94	20854	MARWOOD	01/31/13
5 10935 MARTINGALE CT	6	6	1	POTOMAC		\$1,500,000	Detached	2.93	20854	POTOMAC MANOR	01/03/13
6 10901 BURBANK DR	4	3	2	POTOMAC		\$1,345,000	Detached	2.23	20854	POTOMAC MANOR	01/25/13
7 10921 PICASSO LN	5	3	0	POTOMAC		\$1,315,000	Detached	1.15	20854	POTOMAC	01/31/13
8 9528 WOODINGTON DR	5	4	1	POTOMAC		\$1,290,000	Detached	0.53	20854	CLAGETT FARM	01/17/13

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The Power Of Light

FROM PAGE 3

“There is solid mahogany custom-made cabinetry in the breakfast room and in almost every room of the house,” said Soren Jensen, cabinetmaker and owner of Danish Builders. “In the basement, the bedrooms and even the game room, there are solid, mahogany cabinets are integrated into the architectural detail.”

Rill says his clients appreciated detailed design, a quality that is apparent in the ornate kitchen. “The counter top is marble,” he said. “The cabinets and cabinet front appliances are mahogany with a glazed finish.”

The kitchen also has a custom-made mahogany door that leads to the butler’s pantry. “It has custom-made lead glass that was designed by an artist who designed it around the door,” said Jensen.




PHOTO BY LYDIA CUTLER/RILL ARCHITECTS


Large windows in this Potomac home by Rill Architects offer views of the outdoor living room and the pool.

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Your Guide through Every Step



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