

HOMES

FROM PAGE 3H

Squirrel Hollow, she has a “great home office,” but prefers to write in her sunroom, “a cozy nest” she and her husband added onto their 100-year-old home.

Her second favorite place to write is in the adjacent carriage house, an apartment over a garage that she calls Squirrel’s Nest. “I sit in a slip-covered chair, light an aromatherapy candle, pour some tea, and scribble away.”

She writes her first drafts in longhand.

• *On furnishing her rentals.* “Dumb it down. Make sure your basic pieces are super sturdy and neutral. Add color and interest

with art, pillows and bedding. Don’t put in anything you would cry over losing.

“I’ve made mistakes. I bought some adorable antique chairs that, in a year, were broken. Then I got commercial-strength chairs from a restaurant that was remodeling. They are still going strong.

“On walls, I like to use vintage signs that reflect the area.” One reads: “No fishing, swimming or crabbing from any part of the bridge.”

A property rental company manages and markets the cottages as Mary Kay Andrews properties. “So I want them to reflect my aesthetic,” she said. That includes lots of red, white and blue, gingham check, Florida coastal colors, seascapes, and paintings

with boats or birds.

• *On making fictional worlds come alive.* “A little goes a long way,” she cautions.

The goal is to capture the essence. She once saw a home where the owner loved “Gone with the Wind” and wallpapered a room with pages from the book.

“Know the difference between inspiration and obsession.” Don’t take a good thing too far.

Marni Jameson is the author of seven books, including the newly released “Rightsize Today to Create Your Best Life Tomorrow: A Motivational Guide for Those Seeking Their Ideal Home Later in Life” and “What to Do With Everything You Own to Leave the Legacy You Want.” She can be contacted at www.marnijameson.com.



“I look for things that reflect me and make me smile,” said Mary Kay Andrews, pictured here in her home office.

R&G Properties for SALE *Call for your appointment!*



1425 Quarrier St, Charleston
\$489,000

Immaculate Historic East End home offers exquisite woodwork, 6 bedrooms (1 on main) and 4 full bath. Beautifully updated kitchen with second kitchen on the third floor, 2 laundry areas, ample storage, updated electrical, plumbing, windows, gutters all according to comply with historical society. Third floor is a 2 bedroom apt. that is a rental. 1390 Sq Ft in unfinished basement.

Mara Ellis
304-541-7336
GRI | ABR | SRS | MRP



OLD COLONY REAL ESTATE
Experience. The Difference.
Mark Mansour, Broker
oldcolony.com



1103 Edgewood Drive, Charleston
\$220,000

Charming Cape Cod located in Historic area of town with a mid century flair. Beautiful 6 panel wood doors and built ins throughout, 2 fireplaces, chairlift takes you from garage to main floor. Offering main level living including primary bedroom, kitchen with stainless counters, breakfast room, spacious living, dining, family room with wet bar and laundry. Newer \$50k roof and hvac and whole house generator. Unfinished lower level needs new owners cosmetic touch.

Mara Ellis
304-541-7336
GRI | ABR | SRS | MRP



OLD COLONY REAL ESTATE
Experience. The Difference.
Mark Mansour, Broker
oldcolony.com



We capture every audience

**Print
Mobile & Web
Social Media**



Charleston Gazette-Mail
304.348.4852 • realestate@hdmediallc.com
www.WannaGoHome.com

twitter.com/CGMRealEstate
facebook.com/GazetteMailRealEstate