



WESTOVER
HILLS
neighborhood
association

WESTOVER HILLS RAG

The neighborhood is springing into lots of fun events!

IN THIS ISSUE:

HOME TOUR 2023 – PAGE 3

Here's a special preview of the homes that you can visit on the home tour on May 7.

MERCHANT AREA CHANGES – PAGE 7

What's going on in the merchants' area? Find out about recently announced plans for the empty Bank of America property and more!

NEIGHBORHOOD HISTORY – PAGE 14

John Coski continues his series of articles about the history of our beautiful neighborhood.

WHNA PICNIC

You won't want to miss this wonderful event! Food, music, cold adult beverages and fun for the kids are all on tap. Join in the fun May 13 (or the 14th if it rains!) from 4:00-7:00pm on the block of Prince Arthur between New Kent and Evelyn Byrd.

Buy tickets in advance at www.eventbrite.com/e/58300722029

WHNA YARD SALE

**Saturday, June 3 (Rain or shine)
8:00am-12:00pm**

It's not too early to start cleaning out your clutter and sign up to participate in the annual WHNA Yard Sale. The WHNA will provide all advertising of the event in local media outlets and signage directing shoppers to participating addresses.

As an added convenience to participants this year, Furbish Thrift, the new animal charity thrift store in the Stratford Hills Shopping Center, has volunteered to pick up your leftover goods at the end of the yard sale. Their truck will come through from noon to 2:00pm that day. Please stack items as close to the street as possible and put a marker that says "FURBISH THRIFT" visibly with your things. Note, they can't take exercise equipment, mattresses, stuffed animals, or torn/broken furniture. Upon request, receipts can be provided for your donations.

Sign up either through the WHNA website or by contacting Louise Freedman at (804) 477-4064 or LFreedman5111@gmail.com.

MUSIC IN THE PARK RETURNS TO FOREST HILL PARK

Grab a blanket, snacks and the whole family for this Sunday evening tradition. It's a great time to catch up with friends from across the Forest Hill corridor. Todd Ranson and friends have pulled together an incredible line-up.

- May 14, 6:00-8:00pm
Andrew Ali/Josh Small (Blues)
- June 11, 6:00-8:00pm
Dance Candy (Funk & Soul)
- July 9, 6:00-8:00pm
Vagabond Dandies (Rock)
- August 13, 6:00-8:00pm
Afro Zen Allstars (African Groove)
- Sept 10, Time TBD
Rob Williams (Alt-Country)
- October 8, Time TBD
Eastern Standard Time

Rain Dates - 7/16, 8/20, 9/17, 10/1

CALENDAR

May 7
WHNA
Home Tour
1:00-5:00pm

May 9
WHNA Meeting
7:00pm
O'Toole's
Restaurant

May 13
WHNA Picnic
4:00-7:00pm

May 14
Music in the Park
6:00-8:00pm
Andrew Ali/Josh
Small (Blues)

June 3
WHNA
Yardsale
8:00am-12:00pm

July 4
Children's 4th
of July Parade
10:00am



Median Sales Price

\$510,000

Median Days on Market

7

Median Price per Square Foot

\$275

I am delighted to deliver this information from the first quarter of 2023. If you are considering a move, I would love to share my intimate knowledge of this great neighborhood.



Jennie Barrett Shaw

Associate Broker

804.399.9190

jennie.shaw@sothebysrealty.com





**WESTOVER
HILLS**
neighborhood
association

Home Tour

Sunday, May 7, 2023 • 1:00-5:00 PM

Co-chairs Jennie Barrett Shaw and Katherine Whitehead are excited to bring some amazing homes to the tour this year. This is a rare chance to see inside the wonderful houses you may have admired in the neighborhood. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to benefit Westover Hills Elementary School.

The homes you'll be touring include:

- 1. 5101 Caledonia Road**
The home of Cynthia Schmitz & Bill Sweeney

- 2. 5306 Caledonia Road**
The home of Sherry & Robert Kelly
- 3. 5008 New Kent Road**
The home of Jenn & Todd Cornell
- 4. 5310 New Kent Road**
The home of Polly & Fred Helm
- 5. 5109 Riverside Drive**
The home of Anne-Paige & Mark Motley

- 6. 5508 Riverside Drive**
The home of Kate McCauley & Ted Fishback
- 7. 1900 Westover Hills Blvd**
The home of Liz & Jon Carrier

Many thanks to Bruce Gould for leading the call for event sponsors, Lauren Thorup for writing descriptions for the booklet, Katrina Brooks for photography and all of the volunteers who will be working the day of the tour! We couldn't do it without you! ■



Buy your tickets now at
www.eventbrite.com/e/532070425967
Or scan this QR code



Tickets may also be purchased on the day of the tour at 5311 New Kent Road

Members: \$15.00
Non-Members: \$20.00



Happy Spring

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FOREST HILL PARK HAPPENINGS

FOREST HILL SPRING CLASSIC CHILDREN'S BIKE RACE IS RETURNING TO THE PARK!

Sun., April 23, 1:00-4:00pm

This bike race aims to improve children's cycling skills and provide a safe and fun competitive event.

Categories for children up to 12 years old are available.

Read more and register:

www.friendsofforesthillpark.org/spring-classic.html

Sponsored by Friends of Forest Hill Park and Virginia Outside

PLANT NATIVE PLANTS FOR A HEALTHIER ECOSYSTEM

As the spring planting season goes into full swing, it's time to carefully choose the plants we want to add to our yards.

Native plants are a better choice because they require less pampering and are interconnected with the rest of the ecosystem. For example, birds rearing their young need to find a lot of insect larvae (caterpillars) for food and these larvae prefer native plants. Native plants provide nectar for pollinators including hummingbirds, native bees, butterflies, moths, and bats. Bees collect pollen to help rear their young.

Invasive plants are a problem because they displace native plants, thereby decreasing biodiversity and they provide fewer resources for the birds and animals who live here. If you remove "problem plants" this spring (ex.: English ivy, wintercreeper euonymus, burning bush, Oriental bittersweet, multiflora rose, callery pear, Asian wisterias, privet, thorny elaeagnus, Japanese honeysuckle, Asian wisterias, leatherleaf mahonia, Italian arum,

tree-of-heaven), replace them with native plants. Together we can offset biodiversity losses and create a healthier ecosystem!

Some garden centers have special sections devoted to native plants, but most big box hardware stores do not, and they sell many of the invasive and non-native plants that should not be added to your yard. Buyer beware!

Find more info at these links:

- www.plantvirginianatives.org/plant-rva-natives
- homegrownnationalpark.org/find-your-resources
- www.audubon.org/PLANTSFORBIRDS
- bugwoodcloud.org/imageSites/pdf/midatlantic-web.pdf ■



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Redevelopment Projects On Forest Hill Ave.

By Bruce Gould

On March 21, WHNA representatives (Frances Eckenrode, Tom Tichenor, and Bruce Gould) met with the developers of the Bank of America (BOA) site at 4701 Forest Hill Ave. The purpose of this meeting was for us to introduce ourselves to the developers and open communication lines between the WHNA and the developers – Evolve Development (Daniil Kleyman) and Dodson Development Group (Duke Dodson and Adam Tiller).

FORMER BANK OF AMERICA PROPERTY



Evolve and DDG are joint venturing on this development. In January of this year, BizSense published an article saying that Kleyman and Dodson had purchased the BOA site and were planning on developing the site with commercial on the first floor and apartments on the second and third floors. The site is currently zoned for this type of development. Therefore no approval is needed from City Council.

The developers have submitted their Plan of Development (POD) to Richmond City Planning staff for review. This review is to ensure the plan is compliant with zoning requirements. Typically this process entails some back and forth between the developer and City staff.

Once the POD is approved, the developers may begin demolition and construction. (If you know anyone who needs a bank vault – they should contact the developers.) Demolition and

construction will probably not begin until this fall at the earliest and possibly not until early 2024.

The plan for this site shows first floor commercial space with six “bays”. It is anticipated the commercial space will attract small local businesses. In addition there will be space for one restaurant on the east side of the building. Outdoor seating will be incorporated into the design.

Most of the parking will be behind the building adjacent to the alley. There will also be a row of parking in the front of the building. The plans call for about 60 parking spaces total in the front and rear of the site. The plan also calls for about 40 apartments, consisting of one and two bedroom units including two apartments on the ground floor towards the back of the east side of the building.

The developers are happy to answer questions and hear your feedback. Please keep in mind that this site is zoned for business and apartments and no approval is needed by City Council. Questions or comments can be sent to Bruce Gould who will get a response for you (bgould53@gmail.com) or you may contact Kleyman directly at dvk5f@yahoo.com

5035 – 5057 FOREST HILL AVENUE



Dodson Development recently purchased this property that includes the Riverside Tavern, the brick “Westover” building and the Locker Room/Kapeller Violins building. These three properties have been under one ownership for many years. Dodson intends for all the current tenants to remain.

There are plans to improve curb appeal, repave the parking lot, remove the exterior graffiti, clean up the building facade and add new landscaping.

The current plan is to renovate half of the first floor, as the current tenant is expanding. Ten apartments will be added to the current brick Westover building as well: One on the ground level and nine on the top floor. As this property was recently purchased, the time frame to start is not known at this time. Like the BOA property, this property is zoned for business and apartments and no approval is needed by City Council.

WESTOVER PLACE



Continuing west is Westover Place at 5059 – 5075 Forest Hill Ave. Development of this project has been delayed. However the developers (Dumbarton Properties and Blackwood Development) have formed a partnership known as 5069 Forest Hill LLC. They have assured us they are going forward with the mixed use project (Commercial on the first floor and apartments on the second and third floors) as previously announced.

The developers are working with the City to determine if they are allowed to tear the current building down and not immediately begin construction of a new building. The developers are exploring the idea of food trucks occasionally using the space if they are allowed to tear the building down. ■



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MESSAGE FROM KRISTEN NYE

Fourth District City Council Member

DEAR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS OF WESTOVER HILLS

Happy Spring! While “Spring Forward” may have snuck up on many of us, I am excited for brighter evenings and warmer temperatures that will make being out in our 4th District even more enjoyable!

As always, there is much going on throughout the City and District, so please see the following updates/reminders.

PROPERTY TAX REBATE

I wanted to share more information about the property tax rebate checks. The City was expected to finish issuing those in mid-March with the final checks hitting mailboxes by the end of March. Many neighbors have already received their checks, but if you have not received yours by the time you are reading this update, please contact my office so we can coordinate with the Finance Department to ensure it gets to you.

CITY BUDGET

The City is deep into budget season. I like to refer to budget season as the “Super Bowl of local government,” so I hope many of you will take the time to engage with this budget process. We have numerous public budget work sessions as well as at least two public hearings dedicated specifically to the budget. The most updated meeting schedule is always on the City Council website, but please feel free to contact my office as well for the latest updates.

PROPOSED BIKE LANES

In early March, I hosted a virtual meeting with City traffic engineers about the proposed bike lanes on Westover Hills Boulevard. The meeting was incredibly productive and I was

grateful to our colleagues in DPW for taking the time to engage with our residents on this exciting development. You can find the current proposed plans at www.rva.gov/public-works/pedestrian-bicycling-and-trails.

DPU BILLING ISSUES

I’m sure many of you have seen the recent reports about issues with billing in the Department of Public Utilities. The City Auditor conducted an audit into DPU’s billing practices and offered a number of recommendations for improvement, all of which were accepted by DPU and City administration. As a member of the Audit Committee, I will have a firsthand look at the progress DPU makes toward the improvements recommended by the audit and will provide the necessary oversight to ensure they are completed efficiently and satisfactorily. In the meantime, if you or any of your district neighbors are dealing with incorrect utility bills, please contact my office as we are

able to expedite any reviews and corrections with our DPU colleagues.

On a personal note, I want to thank Fran Eckenrode, Tom Tichenor, and the entire WHNA board for stepping up into these critical leadership roles; I really look forward to working with each of them to best represent your neighborhood and our district. I hope to engage with each of you soon – perhaps at the WHNA Home Tour. I am so excited it is returning!

As always, please reach out to my office any time we can be helpful. You can call us at 804-646-5646 or reach us via email – kristen.nye@rva.gov and/or timmy.siverd@rva.gov (Liaison Timmy Siverd). To keep up to date, email timmy.siverd@rva.gov to receive our email newsletter.

All my best,
Kristen Nye
Richmond City Councilmember,
4th Voter District

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

by Frances Enckenrode

HEY NEIGHBORS!

There is a lot happening in the Westover Hills neighborhood this spring! Please note the dates and come out to enjoy these activities with your neighbors and friends.

- WHNA Home Tour – May 7
- WHNA Picnic – May 13 (rain date May 14)
- Yard Sale – June 3
- 4th of July Children's Parade – July 4

Planning for other activities is also getting underway, including Yards of the Month awards and Beautification projects. Keep an eye on emails and facebook for calls to volunteer and help make things happen.

WHNA monthly meetings are resuming on the second Tuesday of the month at 7pm. The first meeting will be at O'Toole's meeting room on April 11. All WHNA members are encouraged to attend the monthly meetings. Our community liaisons will provide updates:

- Kristen Nye, 4th District City Council member and VP of City Council
- Jonathan Young, Richmond School Board member, 4th District
- Lieutenant Warren Andorfer, Richmond Police Department, 3rd Precinct

Meetings will also feature updates on other happenings around the neighborhood when these can be arranged. Bruce Gould is staying current on the development of the former Bank of America property and Tom Flynn is knowledgeable of the City Traffic Calming Project on Jahnke Rd in front of WH Elementary School. Thanks to Bruce and Tom for their willingness to follow these projects and bring information to the Association meetings. Later in the spring we plan to hear

from Jon Lugbill on the River City Half Marathon in 2024.

A special "THANKS" goes out to the merchants who support this newsletter with their ads!

Frances Eckenrode
WHNA President

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* Available on Friday, June 16th only!



WESTOVER HILLS LIBRARY EVENTS

See all of the great events coming up at www.rvalibrary.org/about/locations/westover-hills

YOUNG CHILDREN

Book Babies:

Tuesdays at 10:30am

Ages 6 months - 2 years

Preschool Storytime:

Thursdays at 10:30am

Ages 2 – 6 years

GRADES K-5

Westover Hills Crafts

Bring out your inner artist at Westover Hill's crafting program. Supplies are provided, just bring your creativity!

- June 14, 4:00pm – Animal Masks
- July 12, 4:00pm – DIY Musical Instruments
- August 9, 4:00pm– Paper Jellyfish

Chris Campbell Live!

July 19, 4:00pm

Chris Campbell is a popular ventriloquist, singer, and songwriter

for children. Come participate in a live, interactive concert, complete with upbeat songs from Mr. Chris' collections along with his lively characters!

GRADES 6-12 TAKE HOME KITS

Kits will be available starting the first of the month while supplies last.

- June 1 – Yarn Painting
- July 1– Cupcake Liner Fireworks
- August 1 – Pipecleaner Dreamcatchers

Cake Pop Sensations!

August 2, 4pm

Beat the heat while having some cake pop fun! Join Victoria's Kitchen Kids Cooking School as they show you how to make some fun summer ice cream cake pops! Registration required.

FAMILY

AWARE Animal Rescue

June 12, 2:00pm

Come see many Virginian wildlife that have been rescued and rehabilitated. Hear their amazing stories and you even get to pet some of them. Ducks, opossums, small critters, and even a huge snake! ■

WESTOVER HILLS LIBRARY

1408 Westover Hills Boulevard
Richmond, Virginia 23225
Phone: 804-646-8833

Events Calendar:

<https://rvalibrary.libcal.com/calendar/westover>



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Interested in being more involved in the safety of our neighborhood? Consider taking part in the Citizens Police Academy

This Citizens Police Academy is designed to introduce citizens to the RPD, improve relationships with RPD, help participants gain knowledge of police operations, develop stronger advocates and promote safety in the community through crime prevention training.

The Academy is perfect for persons interested in a career in law enforcement or who want to learn how to create safer communities.

Graduates of the Citizens Police Academy officially become Volunteers in Police Services (VIPS). Members of VIPS are notified of volunteer opportunities, events, special programs and services with RPD. Graduates

may be also called to participate on special boards and planning committees.

Interested? Email RPDCares@richmondgov.com for an application! Or contact our new Crime Watch volunteer Dave Morgerson at dave@morgerson.com for more information! ■

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O Pioneers! The First Settlers of Westover Hills Continued

By John M. Coski

Who were those “pioneers” of Westover Hills – the first residents of our neighborhood listed in the last issue?

Inventor and businessman Frederick Shelor, his wife Weeta, and their two children were the first family to move into Westover Hills, occupying their home at 5002 Belleau Road (later Riverside Drive) about the time the Boulevard Bridge opened on January 1, 1925. Another 23 families moved in by the end of 1925. Most (at least 14 of the 24 families) had moved from houses in the Fan. Four had come from Manchester or Woodland Heights, two from Ginter Park, and one from 4th Avenue. Most had been born in Virginia, but the first settlers of Westover Hills also included natives of England, Canada, Iowa, Ohio, Alabama, Kentucky, North Carolina, and Pennsylvania.

Consistent with its promoters’ vision of Westover Hills as an “exclusive” neighborhood, its first settlers were white families headed by businessmen and professionals. One of the pioneers (Erlon Parker) worked for the Laburnum Realty Corporation (primary agents for selling lots).

A HISTORICAL VIEW

This is the third installment in a serialized history commemorating the centennial of Westover Hills. The generally chronological articles will cover such topics as first residents, racial segregation, annexation, and the Boulevard Bridge. These articles are not meant to be the final word, but only a stage in compiling a fuller neighborhood history. If you have corrections, additional information, or photographs about these topics, please contact the author at (804) 233-0705 or jmcoski1@gmail.com.

Jacob K. Bowman, J. Leonard Clarke, F. Briggs Richardson, and Ross H. Walker were executives with financial firms (Walker was also vice president of the Westover Hills Corporation). John T. Wycoff was an assistant comptroller with the power company. Waller Baughan was with IBM and the International Reading Machine Company (he also speculated in real estate and bought several Westover Hills lots and houses in the early years). William Trigg was a claim agent with the Southern Railway System and Robert M. Berkeley was a railroad “car tracer.”

The only lawyers among the pioneers were Murray M. McGuire, a named partner of his firm, and Paul Hinsley, a claims examiner with the U.S. Veterans Bureau. W. Franklin Jones was a pharmacist at Stuart Circle Pharmacy and Elmer E. Crawford was a prominent optometrist. James E. Quarles and his father owned a Broad Street bicycle shop; Clarence Paul owned three South Richmond ice works companies. Herbert Ryland Barr was shop foreman with a motor company and later owned a Manchester furniture store. Milton Eike was a salesman, as was the English-born Joshua James, whose Sylvan Road home was filled with souvenirs of his earlier life travels to Tibet and other exotic lands. Rev. James C. Faw on King William was the founding pastor of the Forest Hill Presbyterian Church, and Dr. John J. Wicker was an outspoken Baptist minister and evangelist whose “Wicker Tours” company led Christian-themed pilgrimages to the Holy Land (and who later became president of Fork Union Military Academy).

Those men were not the only employed persons living in Westover Hills. The purchasers of the house at 5101 Caledonia were the “Misses Berkeley.” Archer (“Archie”) Berkeley was a teacher who became head of the household upon her father’s death in December 1927, and her sisters, Mary and Sarah, were secretaries. Susie Alexander, head of the household at 5111 Evelyn Byrd, was secretary to the director of the Department of Public Utilities. Eudora Ramsey Richardson was a published writer (see article on page 16).

The 1930 census showed 27 African-American domestic servants, cooks, nurses, butlers, and chauffeurs residing in the neighborhood, several of whom might have been living with or working for the pioneer families in 1925 – though the 1926 City Directory shows them residing elsewhere with their own families. (More details about them will appear in future articles.)

Proximity to downtown Richmond was a primary selling point for Westover Hills, and the neighborhood’s creators enhanced this benefit by establishing a dedicated bus line on September 1, 1925. At 20-minute intervals during rush hours, the bus ran from Belleau Road along South Boulevard to Forest Hill Avenue and connected to the streetcar line at Forest Hill Park. Trumpeting “its convenience in getting workers, shoppers, school children and servants to and from the car line,” realtors claimed that “virtually every family in the subdivision is using the line.”

Residents who didn’t have automobiles needed public transportation to get not only to work, but to stores. There was no commercial district to speak of for several years. The first business in the immediate area was the Westover Hills Service and Filling Station at 4901 Forest Hill (where the CVS is today), which opened in 1926. An auto repair shop at 4808 Forest Hill came along in 1928. Not until 1931 were there any restaurants or

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grocery stores in the neighborhood. Residents traveled across the river or to Manchester to shop.

Westover Hills was something of a "frontier" community in the late 1920s, but "civilization" was not far away. The neighborhood bordered the Richmond city corporation line and benefited from access to city utilities, services, and schools.

The neighborhood's sparse population did not preclude the slow and steady growth of an organized social life. Eudora Ramsey Richardson planted the first seeds when she hosted a meeting of the Student Writers Club at her home on New Kent Road in September 1925. Another early neighborhood dynamo, Geline MacDonald (Mrs. Jacob K.) Bowman, hosted a meeting of the Executive Board of the Business and Professional Women's Club at her home on the Boulevard in early 1928. Later that year, the neighborhood garnered a vital keystone in the social life of mid-20th-century American communities – its first Garden Club chapter.

By the April 1930 U.S. census, 134 families in 124 households with 491 people had settled in Westover Hills (and another eight households and 46 people in River Hill, the related subdivision lying just within the city line that bordered Westover Hills on the northeast – which later became part of Westover Hills). Among them were a few families with names (notably Toler, Daffron, and Bryce) familiar to later generations of residents. Several of the original pioneers – including Frederick Shelor, who moved to Sandston after his business went bankrupt early in 1929, had left Westover Hills. As its visionaries had hoped, the neighborhood attracted out-of-state engineers and other professionals hired to work at the new Rayon Mill (Dupont).

Most residents belonged to archetypical nuclear families, but many lived in houses with multiple generations and in-laws. At least ten families shared houses with other families, often those of employees or colleagues – a phenomenon that persisted during the housing shortage of the World War II years.

The 1940 census found that, despite the challenges of the Depression decade, many of the early lot purchasers had built their homes, and Westover Hills boasted a population of more than 1,300 people in 372 households. The solidly suburban neighborhood with a growing commercial district and thriving organizational life was on the eve of annexation to the city. These are all subjects of forthcoming articles.

Note: Although Waller Baughan of 5305 New Kent is listed in the 1926 City Directory, a July 25, 1926 newspaper article indicates that his house was still under construction. Because I listed him in Part I of "Pioneers," I include him here as an honorary pioneer. ■

Eudora Ramsay Richardson

By Jeff Schapiro

One of Westover Hills' first residents was a writer, historian, educator, lecturer, and women's rights activist. Eudora Ramsay Richardson moved comfortably among Richmond's Brahmins but rattled them with left-of-center views.

In the late 1930s, for instance, she advocated that household servants in Richmond, many of whom were Black, should organize a labor union to press for better wages and working conditions. In an editorial in the Richmond News-Leader, her friend and occasional collaborator, Douglas Southall Freeman, didn't so much thunder against Richardson's notion as swat it down as a nuisance – an idea whose time would never come.

But Richardson was often ahead of the times.

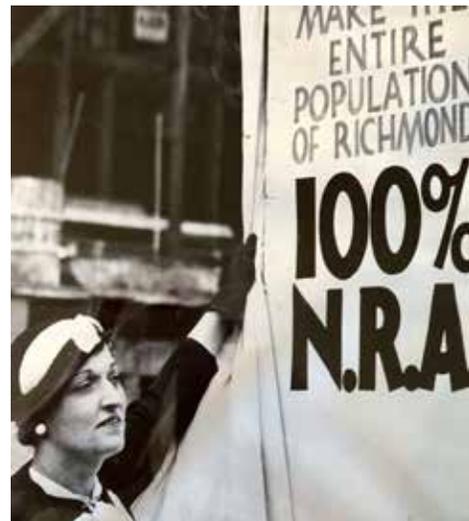
The daughter of a Baptist minister and college president, she was born Eudora Woolfolk Ramsay on August 13, 1891, in Versailles, Ky., and moved as a child to Richmond because her father had been called to a church here. Richardson, who would become a Unitarian, was

educated at then-Hollins College, the University of Richmond, and Columbia University.

Starting in 1912, Richardson taught for several years at a women's college in South Carolina that became part of Furman University. She left academe for politics, becoming a field director for the National American Woman Suffrage Association.

While campaigning in Virginia, she met her husband, Fitzhugh Briggs Richardson, a lawyer and banker who heard her speak at a rally and was, according to press accounts some years later, simultaneously charmed and intimidated by her. They wed on December 13, 1917, and were a couple until his death in 1964.

The Richardsons lived on New Kent Road for two decades, a period during



Campaigning, circa 1933, for the National Recovery Act, one of the Roosevelt Administration's earliest programs to rescue the nation from the Great Depression. At the time, Richardson was living in the house she and husband, Briggs, built in Westover Hills in 1924.

which she wrote and edited several books. Among them was one that would elevate her profile beyond Virginia, focusing on her signature interest: women's rights.

In 1936, Richardson published *The Influence of Men – Incurable*. It was a rebuttal to a university professor and



Welcome to our new neighbors who have chosen Westover Hills (aka "Bestover Hills") as their new home! We look forward to meeting and getting to know each and every one of you. If you haven't already, we hope that you'll have the opportunity to meet some of your great neighbors next door, on your street, and throughout the neighborhood this Spring!

A Note from Lucy Kost:

Hi Neighbors! I wanted to share a short note to introduce myself. My name is Lucy Kost and I'm thrilled to be heading up the WHNA Welcome Committee. My husband Gus and I, along with our cute pups Rosie & Taco, moved to Westover Hills in June 2022. We love the neighborhood already! If you're interested in lending a hand with the welcoming committee, please feel free to shoot me an email: lucyjackson.coleman@gmail.com. See you around soon!

New neighbors (since 12/1/2022):

**Jonathan Russell
& Lindsey Macfee**
4710 Riverside Drive

**Nicole Fanning
& Lindsey Pflugner**
5331 Sylvan Road

**Bryan Moorefiled
& Kimberly Lewis**
5104 Evelyn Byrd Road

**Courtney Mailey
& Joseph William**
5116 Caledonia Road

Colin Healy & Caroline Mauck
5009 Caledonia Road

Paul Goggins & Colin Jacovetti
4609 King William Road

Julia Carroll & Nicholas Maciag
5109 Devonshire Road

Kelly Sims
5107 Forest Hill Avenue ■

classicist, John Erksine, who argued in his book, *The Influence of Women and Its Cure*, that feminism threatened civilization. She countered that many men were egoists who took themselves too seriously.

Richardson led the Virginia arm of the Federal Writers' Project, one of the New Deal's full-employment programs. As director, she supervised the publication in 1940 of *Virginia: A Guide to the Old Dominion*, the introduction of which was written by Freeman, her acquaintance cum adversary.

In 1941, in a related project, Richardson led, in an apparent first, an all-Black staff in publishing *The Negro in Virginia*. It is a sweeping view of the Black experience here, examining slavery through first-hand accounts, the separate education and economic systems demanded by segregation as well as the leadership of Black Virginia.

The book and Richardson have come under criticism in recent years, with scholars suggesting that she – mindful of the largely conservative White audience in Virginia and across the Jim Crow South – sanitized the harsh reminiscences of formerly enslaved people.

The Richardsons sold the house on New Kent Road in 1944, moving to a three-story cottage on the edge of a seven-acre pond near the University of Richmond. She continued her work from her West End address and, after that, an apartment on Monument Avenue. Richardson spent her final days at a senior residence in western Henrico County, where she died Oct. 6, 1973. She was buried at Hollywood Cemetery alongside her husband.

Her legacy also includes a biography of Alexander Stephens, the vice president of the Confederacy; a 14-volume history of the U.S. Quartermaster Corps, based at Fort Lee; and occasional contributions to science fiction and men's magazines.

Richardson was a founder and first president of the Christian Children's Fund (now rebranded the ChildFund). She was a member of the state welfare board and the Virginia chapter of the American Association of University Women.

And, of course, Richardson, her husband, and their daughter, Dolly, were FFWHs – the First Families of Westover Hills. ■

WHNA Supports Project at Westover Hills Elementary School

This spring WHNA continued its tradition of supporting Westover Hills Elementary School. WHNA's Community Involvement Committee has approved a request for \$700 to support a special school attendance project. The WHES attendance team is building relationships with parents and reaching out weekly to make sure that kids in jeopardy of being chronically absent are in school every day. This bequest is linked to proceeds from the upcoming WHNA Homes Tour.

Appreciation goes to Gill Luginbill, WHNA liaison; Lindsey Wilson, WHES Community Liaison; and Jennie Barrett Shaw and Katherine Whitehead, organizers of the WHNA Home Tours. ■



Registration is open for summer camp

A Sabot Summer is available to *Preschool and Rising Kindergartners (Sabot Explorers)* and *rising 1st-5th graders (Sabot Adventurers)*. Each week, campers will enjoy a different theme, with a combination of structured programs and free play and exploration.

Visit sabotatstonypoint.org/a-sabot-summer to browse the catalog and to register.

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Membership Form



WESTOVER
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association

Join or renew for 2023

(January 1 – December 31)

Membership is **STILL** just \$15 per household. Support the association's efforts to maintain and improve our wonderful neighborhood!

You can join or renew your WHNA membership online at www.westover-hills.org/membership, or complete and return this form with your \$15 dues payment: (checks made payable to WHNA)

WHNA
P.O. Box 13421
Richmond, VA 23225

New Member

Renewing Member

Name(s): _____

Name(s) of other adult(s) in household: _____

Street Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address(es)*: _____

I am interested in receiving email updates about happenings in the neighborhood.

I am interested in receiving notifications for lost pets ("Stray Watch")

* Email addresses will remain confidential and will be used for internal neighborhood communication only.



WESTOVER
HILLS
neighborhood
association

Invest in your neighborhood!

At just \$15 per household, membership in the Westover Hills Neighborhood Association (WHNA) is an easy way for you to support the neighborhood activities that you enjoy.

Memberships run through the calendar year.

Here are some of the activities your membership supports:

- Fourth of July Children's Parade and Riverside Drive Fireworks
- Neighborhood clean up efforts/alley clean up

- Neighborhood yard sale
- Lighting signs on Boulevard and WH West Entrance
- Home Tour
- Neighborhood picnic, which hosts over 350 families
- Westover Hills Elementary School Projects
- Music in the Park
- Westover Hills Rag Newsletter

Join now!

Sign up online
westover-hills.org/membership
or use the form above.



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Caitlin Woolwine, LVT candidate

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- High school preparatory, independent school
- Located in the Forest Hill Historic District
- Close proximity to James River and Forest Hill Park

The facts about GSES:

- Tuition for 2023-2024
Grades K-8: \$14,500, plus fees
Financial Aid available
The Nature Preschool: from \$2500 to \$5800, plus fees
- 100 students in K-8 and 42 students in preschool
- Accredited by Virginia Association of Independent Schools (VAIS)
- Member of Virginia Council of Private Education (VCPE)

 www.facebook.com/GoodShepEpisSchool

 www.instagram.com/goodsheperdepiscopalschool/

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Scott Toler, president, graduated from Benedictine High School, in Richmond, and Virginia Military Institute, in Lexington, and was a Westover Hills resident for over 30 years.

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