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neighborhood
association

WESTOVER HILLS RAG

These events show why many call our neighborhood "Bestover Hills"

FOURTH OF JULY CHILDREN'S PARADE

JULY 4, 10:00AM

Where: Start at New Kent/Prince Arthur roundabout; End at Riverside Drive/Prince Arthur intersection.

Kids, get the streamers out!

Everyone's favorite summer celebration will return to the neighborhood this July 4. This parade is one of the most anticipated events in every neighborhood child's summer. Kids are invited to decorate their bikes, scooters, wagons, strollers and anything with wheels in their finest July Fourth-inspired style and parade them down Prince Arthur from the New Kent roundabout to the T-stop on Riverside Drive.

At the end of the parade, kids and their grown-ups can enjoy a popsicle, or bag of popcorn, and have fun celebrating the holiday with their neighborhood buddies. Volunteers, please email Carrie Rogers at shawbelt@gmail.com. We will also need our loudest neighbors to cheer these kids on!

FOURTH OF JULY FIREWORKS

JULY 4

Important Safety Note: due to Independence Day fireworks at the Carillon, and the closure of the Nickel Bridge, there will be lots of additional traffic in our neighborhood. Please be careful if you go to Riverside Drive to watch fireworks as there will be heavier than usual vehicular traffic. As of press time, it is unclear if the road will be closed or not.

WHNA HOME TOUR

Many thanks to the organizers, Jennie Barrett Shaw and Katherine Whitehead, for leading the committee that organized this year's WHNA Home Tour. Many thanks to Lauren Thorup, Bruce Gould, the homeowners and all of the volunteers who made this fun event happen! It's always a special treat to take a peek at some of the stunning homes in our neighborhood. A portion of the proceeds went to support programs at Westover Hills Elementary and the rest will be used to support activities of the WHNA, like the neighborhood picnic and Fourth of July Children's parade!

WHNA PICNIC

What a wonderful day for neighbors to come out to hear great music and enjoy each other's company! Although the picnic was postponed a day due to bad weather, everyone was happy to be able to gather together and celebrate what makes Westover Hills so wonderful. Many thanks to Brianne Zambriczki and her team of volunteers for making this fun event happen for the last 8 years! ■



CALENDAR

July 11
WHNA Meeting
7:00pm,
Westover Hills
United Methodist
Church

August
No WHNA
meeting

Sept. 12
WHNA Meeting
7:00pm
Westover Hills
United Methodist
Church

Oct. 10
WHNA Meeting
7:00pm
Westover Hills
United Methodist
Church

July 9
Music in the Park
6:00-8:00pm
Vagabond Dandies
(Rock)

August 13
Music in the Park
6:00-8:00pm
Afro Zen Allstars
(African Groove)

Median Sales Price

\$570,000

Median Days on Market

6

Median Price per Square Foot

\$277

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

**Sales Recorded in CVRMLS January 1-May 24, 2023*



Jennie Barrett Shaw

Associate Broker

804.399.9190

jennie.shaw@sothebysrealty.com



WHNA Yard Sale a Great Success

June 3 was sunny, breezy and a perfect day for a yard sale! It was a great way to find treasures, and with 40+ participating households, there were a LOT of treasures! Photos by Dick Bragg. ■



WHNA May 13, 2023 Beautification Project

By Robert Kelly

On Saturday, May 13th, 25 volunteers from our neighborhood divided into hard-working groups to do everything from replacing bushes and planting vinca to spreading city-donated mulch. The weather was absolutely perfect and everyone really enjoyed meeting and working with their neighbors. In addition to sprucing up the markers, much effort was expended in cleaning up the Merchant's area on Forest Hill. A special thanks goes out to the Dodson Companies and Forest Hill Neighborhood Association for donating 50 bags of hardwood mulch for the crepe myrtle tree wells in the Merchant's area on Forest Hill Avenue. Please thank the folks listed under each pic for their exemplary work if you see them in the neighborhood.

The great turnout of Westover Hills volunteers should provide all of us a great feeling of positive vibes that folks really care about the neighborhood. The dedication and commitment of the workers should inspire all of us to be proud of where we live. ■



The crew (from left to right): Mary Lewis, Mark Bouziane, Greg Somerfield (Forest Hill NA), Bryan Carlson, Debra McClane, Bill Cullen, Rob Young, Posy Green, Pat Liles, Fran Eckenrode, Peter Theobald, Cooper McCormack, Robert Kelly, Dennis Donahue, Jenny Ballard, Bill Vytacil, John Coski, Sherry Kelly, Mike Schwartz, Greg Kemp, Adam Teller (Dodson Companies), Haden Ponish, Jeff Allen, Katelyn McKenna, Diane Holdford, Anne Shelton (86-year resident) and not pictured Andy Lacatell.



From left to right: Bryan Carlson, Debra McClane (sitting on the left) Peter Theobald, Fran Eckenrode, Bill Vytacil, Pat Liles, Posy Green and Mark Bouziane (sitting on right).



From left to right: Haden Ponish, Katelyn McKenna, Diane Holdford, Anne Shelton, and Sherry Kelly.



Greg Kemp (left) and Jeff Allen (right).



From left to right: John Coski, Dennis Donahue, Mike Schwartz, Fran Eckenrode, Rob Young, and Bill Cullen.

Happy Summer

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FOREST HILL PARK HAPPENINGS

2023 FOREST HILL CLASSIC

Mother nature brought forth a perfect spring day on Sunday, April 23 for the 3rd Forest Hill Spring Classic bike race for kids, organized by Friends of Forest Hill Park and Virginia Outside. After a 3-year hiatus, this year's event had almost 80 participants from ages 2 to 12. They competed before a lively

crowd of family and friends. FFHP takes pride in offering this exclusive event for kids of various skill levels, from foot-powered balance bikes to standard pedal bikes and more technical mountain bikes.

Other fun activities complemented the event: face painting and balloon making by Belton Entertainment, as well as tree climbing demos from Riverside Outfitters. On-site food and ice cream were provided by Kitchenette and Gelati Celeste.

rvaMORE and council person Kristen Nye not only attended the event, but also provided financial support. We are grateful to them and to all the other financial sponsors of

the event. Thanks also to our awesome race coordinator, Virginia Outside, and to all the race participants and their families.

DAVID RIDDERHOF DAY OF SERVICE

Volunteers are needed for the Friends of Forest Hill Park annual memorial service day in memory of David Ridderhof, who was passionate about our environment. His wife, Carol, is a member of the FFHP Board. Please join FFHP members, his family, and other volunteers for this event on Saturday, Sept. 30, 10:00-noon. We will be planting trees and conquering some invasive plants. Meet at the "Forest Hill Historic District" sign in the park along Forest Hill Ave. (east of Roanoke St.). Bring hand tools and/or gloves. Parking on Brookside Rd. ■



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Bank of America Site Redevelopment

By Bruce Gould

On May 23, WHNA President, Fran Eckenrode, and Merchants Committee Leader, Bruce Gould, met with the developers of the planned development of the former Bank of America property. As a result of that meeting it was agreed that the developers will make a presentation at the June 13 WHNA meeting.

This is a “By Right” development and provided that the project meets the requirements of zoning, they can move

forward with their plans, which have been reviewed by the City’s Planning staff and have met zoning and building requirements. The developers will be applying to the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) for permission to increase the height of the building by 4 feet as allowed by zoning. (Per the City’s BZA WEB page: “The Board of Zoning Appeals provides a means through which a property owner may seek relief from provisions of the zoning ordinance. The BZA hears and makes decisions regarding requests for variances and special exceptions, such

as waivers involving setbacks, height, parking, etc.”)

The developers stated to us that the four additional feet are needed in order to make the ceilings a height that higher-end tenants want. The BZA has the authority to approve or deny this request. If they approve the request, I believe the developers will need to amend the plans that have been submitted to Planning. If they deny the request, the developers may still (and probably will) proceed with this project. ■



YARDS of THE MONTH

Spring has once again brought beauty to our neighborhood! Take a minute to enjoy the carefully groomed plantings and colorful flowers that this time of year graces us with!



Kenny and Gail Vest
4717 King William



Michael and Pamela Zell
4915 Evelyn Byrd



Afroditi Filippas and Georgios Karles
5118 King William



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MESSAGE FROM KRISTEN NYE

Fourth District City Council Member

DEAR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS OF WESTOVER HILLS

As we enter into the summer season, I'm sending all my best wishes and thoughts to all our Westover Hills neighbors and families. Summer is such a momentous time of year and I hope it brings you some time to connect and rejuvenate with your loved ones.

As a reminder, my office is always available to assist with any needs you have related to city services, but I wanted to highlight some of the topics my office is seeing most frequently:

JAHNKE RD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AND 161 BIKE LANES:

Thank you to everybody who attended the community meeting I hosted with DPW regarding these projects on May 25th. I hope those who attended found the information beneficial and those who weren't have been able to get updates from neighbors. If you have any questions about these projects, please don't hesitate to reach out to my office.

PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX BILLS

I'm aware of the significant issues surrounding the Finance Department's timing and process related to personal property tax bills. Please know I share your frustrations and have been providing consistent feedback to City administration; further, the City Auditor, who reports to Council, is currently conducting an audit on this process and I anticipate that report providing several recommendations for improvement to the Finance Department later this year (and with plenty of time to be implemented before next year's collection process). As you may know, there were numerous factors that led personal property tax bills to increase across the board – if you would like to learn more about those factors and/or request our assistance connecting you with the Finance Department to discuss your individual bill, please contact my office.

DPU BILLING

We continue to receive requests for assistance with utility bills. As I've mentioned in previous newsletters, our office has a well-established process to escalate inquiries about these bills to the DPU billing team, so please contact my office if you need assistance. It is always helpful if you can provide as much information as possible (i.e. approximate month you noticed issues, amount of perceived overcharges, etc.), but please reach out even if you don't have this information available.

311 ISSUES

As a reminder, it is imperative to submit all requests for City services through the 311 system. While I know the 311 Call Center often has frustrating wait times, tickets can be submitted in as little as 1-2 minutes through the website www.rva311.com or 311 app. If you are experiencing issues getting a 311 ticket resolved, please let us know so we can assist.

I also want to take a moment to acknowledge the heartbreaking tragedy at Huguenot High School's graduation earlier this month. I am devastated that what should have been a joyous occasion for our HHS graduates and families quickly turned so tragic. With the printing schedule, I'm writing this update in the early hours of the investigation and I anticipate there being a lot more information available by the time this arrives in your mailboxes; I will keep the

community fully updated and informed as the situation unfolds. Please know that I am committed to working with my council colleagues and other city leaders to ensure we are providing the immediate safety and mental health resources our students and residents need as well as the long-term solutions to put an end to this senseless violence in our city.

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).

All my best,
Kristen Nye
Richmond City Councilmember,



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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

by Fran Enckenrode

MAY WAS A VERY BUSY MONTH IN WESTOVER HILLS!

After a break since 2019, the Homes Tour happened on May 7 and was a huge success! A great big THANK YOU goes out to co-chairs Jennie Barrett Shaw and Katherine Whitehead. Participants enjoyed the opportunity to view seven amazing homes. Some of the Homes Tour profits funded an attendance project at WH Elementary School. Additional opportunities to donate to the community will be considered this summer.

The Annual Beautification project organized by Robert Kelly took place on May 13. THANK YOU, Robert! This year WHNA volunteers were joined by volunteers from the Forest Hill Neighborhood Association and Dodson Development Group. The weather cooperated and the Boulevard markers were weeded, planted and mulched. In addition, plantings along Forest Hill Avenue were weeded and mulched. Richmond City provided plenty of mulch and also collected refuse. Consider joining the effort next year. It's a fun way to enhance our neighborhood and spend time with neighbors.

ANNUAL PICNIC

Rain forced a single day delay, but the annual picnic happened on Mother's Day. Many friends and neighbors met up and enjoyed food and drink supplied by O'Toole's Restaurant. Younger neighbors also enjoyed the bounce house and were treated to temporary tattoos, face painting and balloon art. It was great to picnic again after hurricane weather cancelled last year's event. Thanks to Brianne Zambriczki and

her team of volunteers for once again organizing this great event that we all look forward to!

Westover Hills has a rich history, which we have read about recently in newsletter articles by John Coski and Jeff Schapiro. We are enjoying the present as reflected in our many spring events, and we are looking ahead as our neighborhood evolves. Two projects that the WHNA Board is following are the changes in the Merchant Area on Forest Hill Ave and the DPW road projects including the Jahnke Road Improvement Project at WH Elementary School and the bike lane additions on WH Boulevard. The board is engaging with the city and developers to facilitate communication on these important projects so that WHNA residents are informed. WHNA supported a May 25th, 4th District Community Meeting concerning the Jahnke Road Improvement Project and 161

Bike Lanes. We are also inviting developers to our monthly meetings to provide updates on changes planned for the Forest Hill Ave Merchant Areas.

MONTHLY WHNA MEETINGS

Please note: Westover Hills United Methodist Church has kindly agreed to be the venue for WHNA meetings for the remainder of 2023. Look for monthly meeting announcements. Our meetings are typically the second Tuesday of the month at 7pm.

REMINDER TO JOIN WHNA

Many residents took the opportunity to pay their 2023 Association dues at the picnic. If you weren't able to attend the picnic and have not joined the WHNA for 2023, you can join on our website at <https://westover-hills.org/membership> or you can use the application in this newsletter. ■

Get neighborhood news through email!

Sign up for occasional emails from the Westover Hills Neighborhood Association. We'll never share your address, and we promise not to spam your inbox!
<http://eepurl.com/hAnSk9>





WESTOVER HILLS LIBRARY EVENTS

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

- June 14, 4:00pm – Animal Masks
- July 12, 4:00pm – DIY Musical Instruments
- August 9, 4:00pm – Paper Jellyfish
- September 13, 4:00pm – Fall Trees

GRADES 6-12 TAKE HOME KITS

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

- July 1 – Cupcake Liner Fireworks
- August 1 – Pipecleaner Dreamcatchers
- September 1 – Mystery Kit



ADULTS

Screen Printing with Studio Two Three
July 1, 11:00am-12:00pm

Join Studio Two Three and their mobile print truck for live screenprinting! Learn the basics of printmaking and print a Richmond-themed poster. All materials provided!

WESTOVER HILLS LIBRARY

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

Events Calendar:

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



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

By Dave Morgerson

I have just completed the Richmond Citizen Police Academy. If you can devote two hours a week for seven weeks, I highly recommend it. The next class is tentatively scheduled for September. It really contributes to the Richmond Police Department's and citizen team's efforts, and, provides an even greater appreciation for the work they do.

We learned about the website www.communitycrimemap.com, which is a great way to track crime throughout the city. Generally, there is not a lot of crime in Westover Hills, but the site can give you an

idea of risk areas outside of our neighborhoods or trends that might affect our neighborhood. This site highlighted how criminals in other states have figured out that people in low crime areas may be less vigilant regarding security, such as leaving cars and homes unlocked, and they are taking advantage of it. Do not leave items in plain sight, and ensure your properties are secured.

Also, "If you see something or hear something, say something." If it's an emergency, call 911; if not, call 804-646-5100. RPD stated emphatically that they want to know if there is something suspicious. It's part of the

RPD-Citizen team, which helps the police allocate resources to ensure a safe environment.

Lt. Andorfer (RPD 312) reported that there has been an increase in fraud in our area, such as calls about missed jury duty or other types of court process, in which they demand payment, or threaten arrest. Law enforcement never demands money through Zelle, Venmo or CashApp. If contacted, ask for the agency and unit to which the person is assigned. You can research the phone number on your own if you so desire, but you can contact Lt. Andorfer if you believe there is suspicious activity. ■

RICHMOND CHOSE MEG TRAYNHAM AND HER TEAM. HERE'S WHY YOU SHOULD TOO!



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Richmond magazine asked more than 5,000 agents to share three Realtors they would recommend to a friend or family member. Meg Traynham, Lollie Shankle, and Sarah Kate Shepherd were selected among Richmond's Most Referred Realtors based on their outstanding reputations and expertise in the areas of

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Lollie Shankle 804.855.4222
Sarah Kate Shepherd 804.921.8889



MEG TRAYNHAM
HOMES TEAM



Community Life in Westover Hills, 1920s-1940s

by John M. Coski

“Americans of all ages, all conditions, and all dispositions constantly form associations,” Alexis de Tocqueville famously observed in “Democracy in America.” Westover Hills was established during a golden age of voluntary associations. They were at the heart of the neighborhood’s social, cultural, and intellectual life.

Thanks to the Richmond Times-Dispatch’s society pages, we know a lot about Westover Hills’ early community life. The paper even gave extensive coverage to young children’s birthday parties, replete with descriptions of cakes, decorations, games, and lists of guests – often including future Richmond mayor and U.S. congressman Thomas Bliley of New Kent Road.

Some of the associations that met in Westover Hills in the 1920s-1940s were purely local social, self-improvement, and service clubs: the Happy-Go-Lucky Club, the Chatterbox Club, the Dorcas Literary Club, and the Friday Study Club. Many were chapters of familiar regional and national organizations, such as the Daughters of the American Revolution, the United Daughters of the Confederacy, and the Women’s Christian Temperance Union.

A HISTORICAL VIEW

This is the fourth 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.

Through the auspices of John-Geline MacDonald (Mrs. Jacob K.) Bowman, Westover Hills enjoyed a close connection with the National Federation of Business and Professional Women’s Clubs. A life-long advocate of women’s educational and professional opportunities in Richmond and Virginia, Bowman was elected president of the National Federation in 1931. In that role she traveled widely through the U.S. and abroad. In 1935, she addressed a women’s club meeting at a Riverside Drive home on “The Economic Interdependence of the Nations of the World.” Her daughter, Geline Bowman Williams, who grew up in the family’s Westover Hills Boulevard home, served as mayor of Richmond from 1988 to 1990. (A fuller biography of Geline Bowman coauthored by Westover Hills resident John Kneebone is available online via EncyclopediaVirginia.org.)

Along with Geline Bowman, Eudora Ramsay Richardson (profiled in the last issue of The RAG) championed educational opportunities for women. She organized the Student Writer’s Club at her New Kent Road home in 1925 (the first recorded club meeting in Westover Hills) and a year later held a “benefit card party” for the College Club. Richardson and Bowman were active also in the Garden Club and the Woman’s Club which, along with the Westover Hills Auxiliary of the Southside Day Nursery, were the most vigorous and consequential women’s organizations in Westover Hills.

For the first decade of their neighborhood’s existence, Westover Hills club women belonged to and hosted meetings of the Forest Hill Woman’s Club (founded in 1885). By 1937, the neighborhood was populous enough to support two clubs, Westover and Riverside, which merged in January 1939 into The Woman’s Club of Westover Hills. The club soon boasted committees dedicated to education, fine arts, legislation, international relations, public welfare, and “the American home,” sponsored lectures about events in Europe and Asia, and cosponsored a symposium on “The Role of Women in National Defense” (featuring Geline Bowman). An affiliated literary study club – antecedent of today’s neighborhood book groups – met at members’ homes to discuss such books as John Steinbeck’s new work, “The Grapes of Wrath.”

A momentous event in Westover Hills’ social history occurred on April 17, 1928 when residents gathered at the New Kent Road home of Bertha Chaffin to organize the Westover Hills section of the Chesterfield County Garden Club – which became a separate club in June. Temple Eike of New Kent Road was the first of a rotating cast of prominent women to serve as president (the ubiquitous Eudora Ramsay Richardson was secretary). Known today primarily as sponsors of Historic Garden Week, garden clubs in the first half of the 20th century were among the most prestigious and active of all women’s organizations.

To commemorate its tenth anniversary in 1938, the Westover Hills Garden Club made its most enduring contribution to the neighborhood: Wayside Springs. One of a dwindling number of publicly-accessible freshwater springs, Wayside Springs at the intersection of New Kent Road and Prince George Street long predated the creation of Westover Hills. Getting down the steep ravine to the spring was hazardous. “Tin cans, broken glass jars, old stoves and water tanks had been thrown into

the ravine and weeds had grown over them,” according to a Times-Dispatch story.

Assisted by funds from the Works Progress Administration, the Garden Club not only beautified the site, but replaced an old post-and-cable fence with a stone wall and erected the granite steps, and footbridge that provide access today (a spring house no longer stands). The Westover Hills Corporation had deeded the land to the Garden Club, but WPA funding required that the county (subsequently the city) own the land, with the club as trustees.

In addition to the many and varied women’s clubs, the neighborhood’s women and men chartered the Westover Hills Civic Association in 1932. It formed primarily to lobby for annexation to the city, then executed an about-face to lobby fervently against annexation. The next installment will relate that story.

“WESTOVER HILLS TRIUMPHS”

It was not only the women of Westover Hills who formed clubs. In the 1930s and 1940s the boys of Westover Hills organized football and baseball clubs and took on teams from other neighborhoods.

“Westover Hills Triumphs” screamed a November 5, 1933 headline in the RTD sports section. “Westover Hills defeated the Highland Park eleven yesterday on the Hotchkiss Field gridiron 19-6...in a nicely played ball game.” Two weeks later Westover Hills handed Lakeside its first defeat of the season, 13-7. A decade later, the Westover Hills Boys’ Club was not as fortunate when it resurrected a neighborhood football team, losing 48-0 to the Ashland Hi-Y and 13-0 to Westhampton. The two teams were scheduled to play again, hosted by Westover Hills, “provided they can find a field to play on,” noted a sportswriter. “They have none on their side of the river.” They evidently found a suitable field, but it brought no home field advantage: Westhampton won again, 6-0. A November 17, 1943 newspaper notice, “Team Wants Games,”



YOUNGSTERS ATTEND BIRTHDAY PARTY—Mrs. Arthur G. Toler of Caledonia Road entertained last Thursday with a party in honor of the fourth birthday of her son, A. Gregory Toler Jr. Left to right, front row: Anthony Toler, Joan Lee Smart. Back row, Anne Lenzi, Jean Smart, Jimmy Paul Jr., standing; Andrew Daffron, Skippy Holt, Gregory Toler, standing; Emil Lenzi, back; Phyllis Berger, Mary Berger, Jacky Parker, Wilson Kemp, Dorothy Anne Lloyd and Betty Anne Carter. Patsy Byrne and Billy Hundley are not in the picture.—Staff Photo.



A TOAST TO THE CLUB—A group of officials at the dedication last week of the Wayside Park and Spring Project of the Westover Hills Garden Club drink from the spring that will now be opened to the public. Left to right: Mrs. J. Calvitt Clarke, the Rev. Herbert N. Laws, Mrs. William Carpenter Jones, Gaius W. Diggs and Mrs. A. H. Curtis.



GUESTS ADMIRE NEW PROJECT—A group of members and guests who attended the dedication exercises of the Wayside Park and Spring Project of the Westover Hills Garden Club last week, walk through the shaded paths of the ravine at the intersection of New Kent Avenue and Prince George Road. The dedication was in commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the founding of the club.—Staff Photos.

Reprints courtesy of the Richmond Times-Dispatch

suggests that the club’s season ended prematurely. The last iteration of a Westover Hills football team scored an upset victory over Bainbridge Junior High School in November 1945.

Westover Hills also fielded a baseball team in the Southside Park League for the 1948 and 1949 seasons, hosting (and losing to) Fonticello, and losing to Summer Hill at Fonticello (now Carter Jones) Park.

Where did the Westover Hills sports teams play? The city acquired what we know today as the Westover Hills School property from the Cox family in 1946 and created the Jahnke Road Playground a year later. Oral history

suggests that the football team may have played on the vacant property at Westover Hills Boulevard and King William Road that later (in 1948) became home to the Westover Hills United Methodist Church. (If anyone knows more about the sports teams or their playing field, please contact me at (804) 233-0705 or jmcoski1@gmail.com.)

THE COMMUNITY HOUSE

Most of the voluntary association meetings held in the first decades of Westover Hills occurred in private homes. Then, as now, association meetings occasionally required larger spaces. Before the opening of

the centrally-located Westover Hills United Methodist Church (and decades before the availability of O'Toole's back rooms), larger meetings tended to be held outside the neighborhood – at the Stone House in Forest Hill Park or in the parish house of Good Shepherd Episcopal Church.

Older residents today recall attending meetings of the Westover Hills Cotillion Club and the Girl Scouts at the "Community House" – a small frame house (technically outside the neighborhood boundaries) located on the southwestern edge of the Jahnke Road playground property where the school was later built. As early as October 1939, the Westover Hills Women's Club held a party "for the benefit of its community house and playground fund." Beginning in 1944, scores of club meetings occurred in the Community House – even as the civic association lobbied the city to create a community house.

The old Community House was razed when the Westover Hills School was built in 1955. Even today, there is a "community center" for Westover Hills – a designated room within the school building.

If anyone has photographs of the old Community House, please contact me at (804) 233-0705 or jmcoski1@gmail.com. ■



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.

SABOT STONY POINT

A progressive school for children age 2 to 8th grade.



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 Summer!

Calling volunteers! If you're interested in lending a hand with the welcoming committee and meeting your new neighbors, please reach out to Lucy Kost: lucyjackson.coleman@gmail.com

NEW NEIGHBORS (SINCE 3/15/2023):

Jeremiah & Grace Dunn
4902 Evelyn Byrd Road

Joseph Testani
5500 New Kent Road

Corinne Packard & Charles Beasley
5409 Dorchester Road

Mondino Family
5113 New Kent Road

Katherine Hammock & Forrest Knight
4711 King William Road

Mary & Steven Wise
5026 King William Road



WHUMC is thrilled to announce a new arts program for our neighborhood coming this Fall!

In partnership with Arts to All, led by Brendan Kennedy, a super fun team of teachers and artists will offer a rehearsal and performance class culminating in the show, *Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer, Jr.* on December 16th, 2023.

Come join the cast in singing, simple choreography, line memorization, theatrical games and warm ups, costumes and more!

Classes will be on Tuesdays from 4:00-5:30pm at Westover Hills United Methodist Church.

Classes/rehearsals will meet Sept. 19 – Dec. 12, Thurs. Dec. 14, Friday Dec. 15, show on Dec. 16.

In addition to the class, WHUMC is excited to offer a Pancake Lunch/ Dinner with Santa on Saturday Dec. 16th prior to the performance. Families will have the opportunity to sign up for a seating and use their own cameras to take a picture with Santa! Proceeds from this event will support Scout Troop #425.

We will also be seeking high school age counselors to support both the classes and the weekend of the show. This is an excellent opportunity to earn community service hours for educational requirement and resumes.

Space will be limited. For registration information please visit www.westoverhillsumc.org. ■

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- 🌐 Commonwealthtreecare.com

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Membership Form



WESTOVER
HILLS
neighborhood
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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Dodson Development Group was a proud participant in this community beautification event in partnership with the Forest Hill and Westover Hills Neighborhood Associations and Richmond Community Tool Bank.



Where inspiration meets community in the heart of Forest Hill

Nestled at the corner of the James River and Forest Hill Park, GSES encourages intellectual curiosity; embraces diversity; cultivates character; fosters respect; and implements place-based, outdoor education, while integrating community service with school life.

By visiting, you'll see that our small classes allow for big experiences. Join us for a personal tour to experience what our community can offer your family.

LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE
for 2023-24



What GSES is:

- Grades PK-8, co-educational
- 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/
-  www.instagram.com/the_nature_preschool/



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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.

Scott worked with the city and surrounding county inspectors to bring this pipe-bursting technology to the Richmond Area over 20 years ago. He will be on the job to ensure the project is performed to the high standards he implemented from day one.

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- Musical and Poetry Performances

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804.232.6464 | artspaceorg@gmail.com | artspacegallery.org
Hours: Noon to 4pm, Tuesday-Sunday and by appointment



Board of Directors & Contacts

Officers *Terms of office begin December 2023 and run through the end of 2023*

	Name	Email
President	Fran Eckenrode	feckenr@gmail.com
Vice President	Tom Tichenor	tomtichenor3@gmail.com
Secretary	Vacant	
Treasurer	Melissa Butler	missyb114@aol.com

Other Board Members

Past President	Miles Keller	mileskeller1@gmail.com
Membership	Rich Meagher	rjmarr@gmail.com
Special Events	Carrie Rogers (4th of July Parade)	shawbelt@gmail.com
	Will Chapman (Fireworks)	willbchap@gmail.com
	Brianne Zambriczki (Picnic)	Briannezambriczki@gmail.com
WHES liaison	Gillian Lugbill	gillian.lugbill@gmail.com
Welcome	Lucy Kost	lucyjackson.coleman@gmail.com
Yards of the Month	Lauren Thorup	lauren@easton-interiors.com
Holiday Decor	Roger Wiley	roger@heftywiley.com
Communications	John Coski (Stray Watch)	jmcoski1@gmail.com
	Dick Bragg (Rag Delivery)	richardbragg@comcast.net
	Page Hayes (Rag Editor)	pagalina@yahoo.com
	Dave Morgerson (Crime Watch)	dave@morgerson.com
	Val Murphey (Rag Ads)	val.murphey@comcast.net
Merchants	Bruce Gould	bgould53@gmail.com
Beautification	Robert Kelly	robmkelly1@gmail
Community Involvement	Dick Bragg	richardbragg@comcast.net
Neighborhood Watch	Dave Morgerson	dave@morgerson.com



Note: Association boundaries include only the east side of North River side Drive, the north side of Woodburn Road and Forest Hill Avenue, and the west side of Cedar Lane and Southcliff