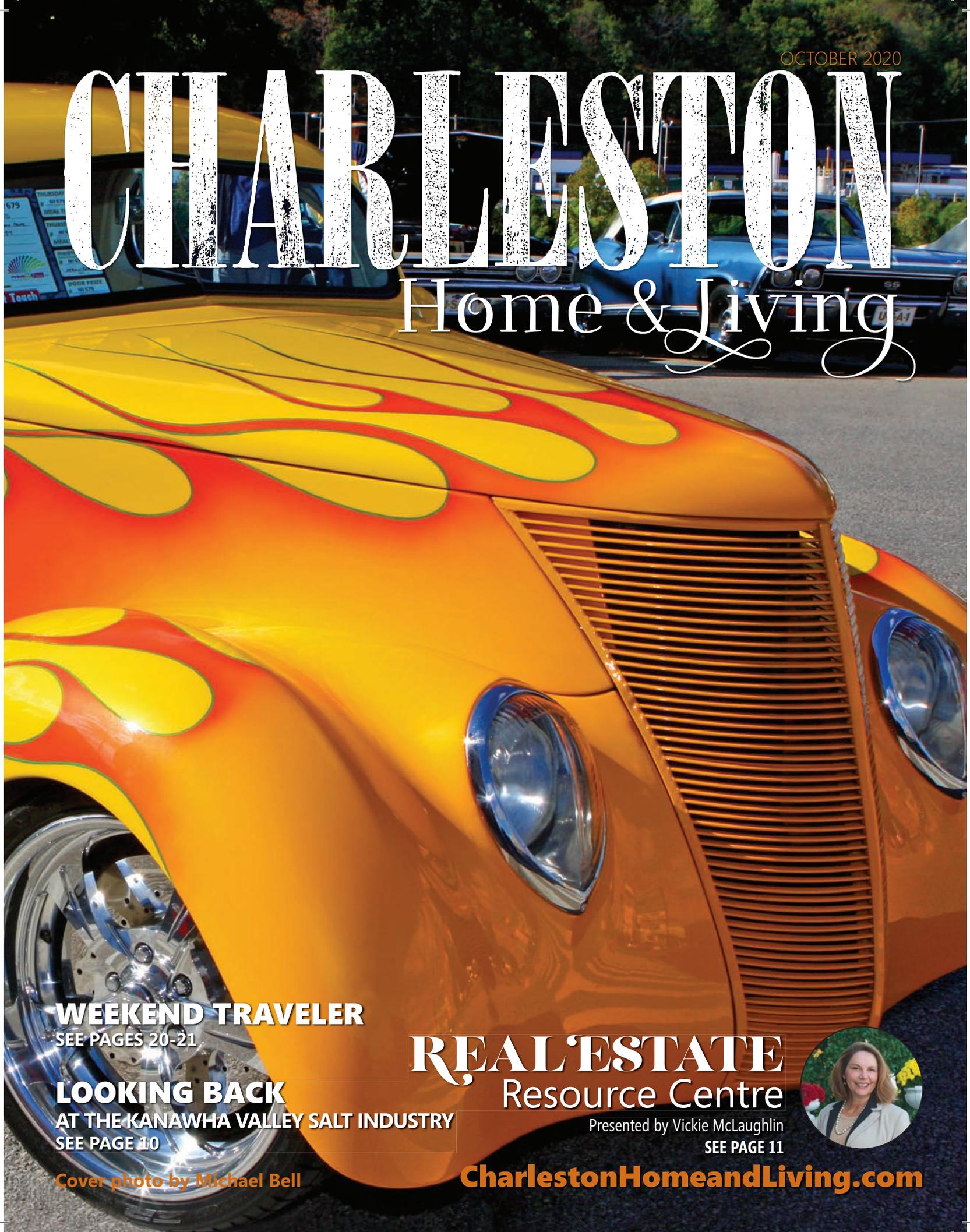


OCTOBER 2020

CHARLESTON

Home & Living



WEEKEND TRAVELER

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LOOKING BACK

AT THE KANAWHA VALLEY SALT INDUSTRY
SEE PAGE 10

Cover photo by Michael Bell

REAL ESTATE
Resource Centre

Presented by Vickie McLaughlin
SEE PAGE 11



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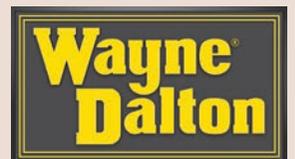


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P10*

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ON THE COVER

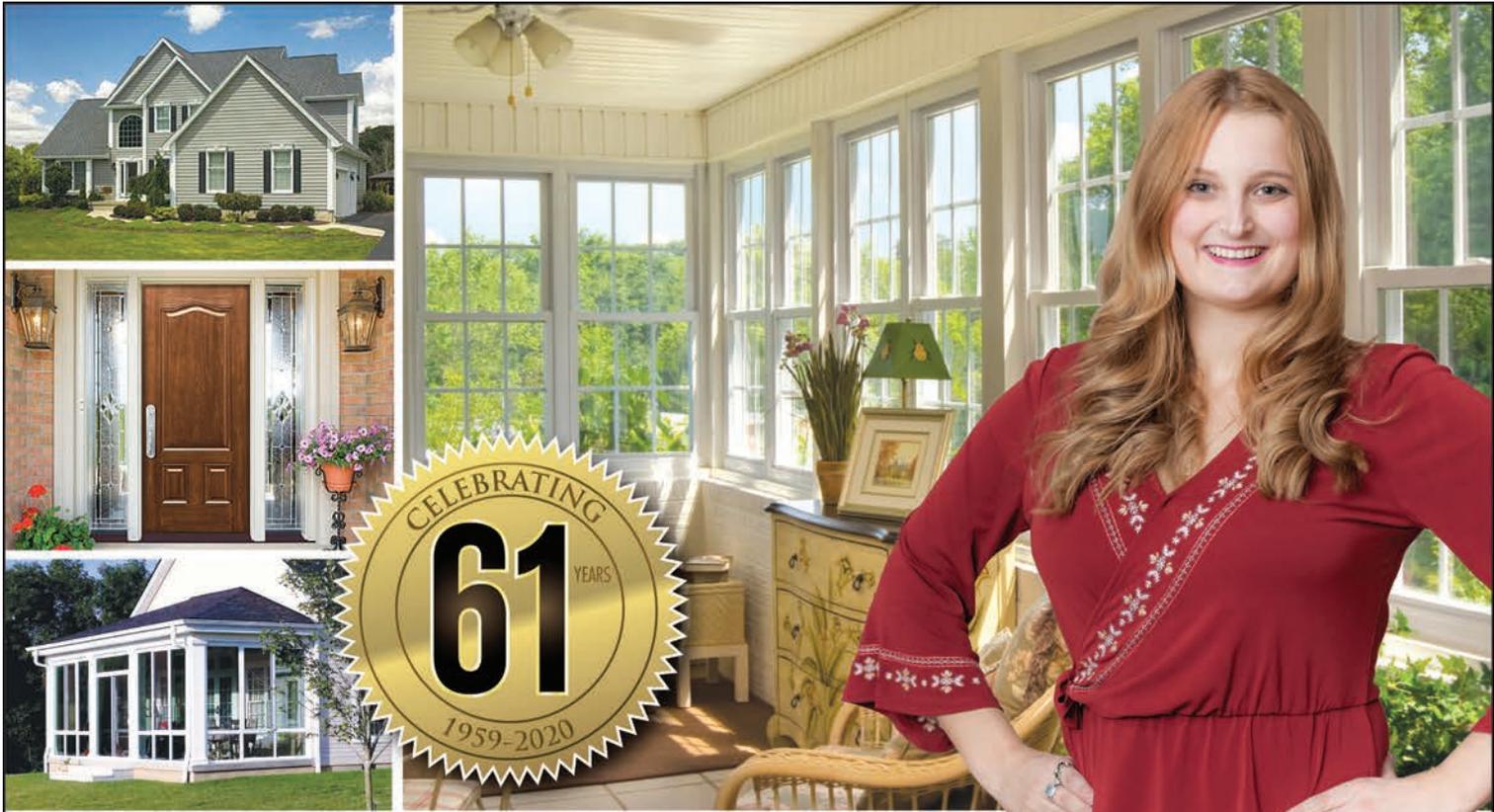
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Looking Back

By: M. Lynne Squires

...AT THE KANAWHA VALLEY SALT INDUSTRY



Long before coal trains carried the Kanawha Valley's black gold out of her hills, and long before the term 'chemical valley' was coined, another industry thrived. Starting in the late 1700s, in what was still Western Virginia, salt was king, and the tiny town of Malden, just east of Charleston, became the largest salt producer in the United States.

A few million years ago, the Iapetus Ocean covered the earth far below the present-day Appalachian Mountain range. When the ocean was no longer, thick salt deposits remained. Native Americans were the first to boil brine in kettles to extract salt. In 1797, Elisha Brooks built the first salt furnace at the mouth of Campbell's Creek. Producing up to 150 barrels a day, he sold salt to settlers to preserve meats and butter.

In 1808, the Ruffner brothers drilled a well nearly 60 feet deep to extract brine. In 1813, William Dickinson purchased 'salt properties' along the Kanawha River in Malden, and four years later was producing salt in quantity. By 1817, several other companies were also producing significant amounts of salt. To avoid competition, the largest producers signed a price and production agreement, forming the Kanawha Salt Company, thereby forming the United States' first trust monopoly.

In 1820, a boat was built to transport salt on the Kanawha River. Nearly unnavigable, the Kanawha River saw improvements driven by the salt trade, such as dredging and building locks and dams. By 1850, over 3 million barrels of salt were produced annually. Salt was produced through the use of evaporation kettles and by wood, or coal, fired furnaces. Seams located in the mountains within sight of the wells along the river provided coal to fuel the fires.

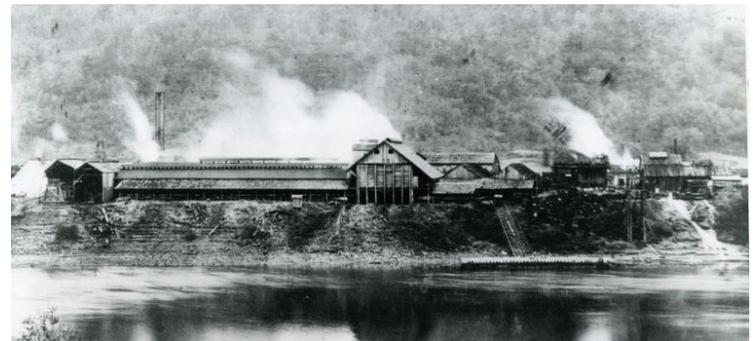
Thousands of men worked for salt companies at the height of

the salt production in the upper Kanawha Valley. A tremendous flood in 1861 and the destruction wrought by the Civil War led to drastically decreased production of salt. By the end of the 1800s, the Dickinson salt furnace was the only one left in the Kanawha Salt Trust.

Today, J.Q. Dickinson Salt Works operates on the same land along the Kanawha River, where William Dickinson originally produced salt. Named for William's first grandson, the J.Q. Dickinson Salt Works now makes hand-harvested, small-batch finishing salt. Two siblings, 7th generation descendants of William, have perfected environmentally sound processes to extract and dry brine. Several enormous sun-houses, looking to passersby like huge greenhouses, produce tiny square, all-natural salt crystals. Their numerous varieties of salt, infused with local flavors, are a perfect complement for farm to table dishes.

A visit to J.Q. Dickinson Salt Works includes a tour of the facility from the pumps, past the brine tanks, and through the sun-houses. Several of the original buildings are still standing, along with photos and antiques of the plant during its heyday. Worthy of a visit, this unassuming stretch of land in Malden holds some of the oldest, most fascinating history of the Kanawha Valley.

Next month, Looking Back visits some historic East End homes.



Email your responses about the Kanawha Valley Salt Industry, or requests for locations you'd like Looking Back to visit to thewriter@mlynne.com.

Squires' book *Looking Back at Charleston* is a compilation of 24 essays and color photos from her column and is available on Amazon. Visit www.mlynne.com.

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STUNNING AND IMMACULATE-KEPT, MONK-BUILT HOME IN SOUTH HILLS!

This four-bedroom home features hardwood floors throughout, an updated kitchen with stainless steel appliances, updated baths, and a spacious lower level! Other features include gorgeous crown molding, laundry on the upper level, plentiful storage, and a huge workshop on the lower level! Two amazing decks make entertaining a breeze! Just minutes away from South Hills pool!

\$310,000



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NEW PRICE

SMITHERS.

4 bedroom, 4 bath brick home with a 45' x 28' family/media room. Has detached garage plus carport and original hardwoods under carpet. Also situate on the property is a home that can be purchased separately and used by extended family or rental income. Brand new roofs installed in December. Must see.

\$120,000



MONTGOMERY.

Warm, inviting and move-in ready, this home would be perfect for a first time home-buyer or someone wanting to downsize. Has 2 bedrooms with the possibility of a third, off-street parking for 2 cars and a fenced yard.

\$44,900



NEW PRICE

MONTGOMERY.

This stately home has beautiful woodwork, a parlor with stained glass entrance, marble fireplaces, large rooms, high ceilings and a 20 x 24 detached garage.

\$94,500



SMITHERS.

Lovely 3 BD brick rancher with full bsmt. Updated kitchen. Nice pool for entertaining. Property has large garage apartment with tons of storage, parking for your car and potential rental income to help make the mortgage payments.

\$135,000



PENDING

PEYTONA.

Quiet, private country setting . 2 to 3 bdrm rancher sitting on 3 acres. Large front porch and huge back deck to watch the wildlife. Includes workshop/storage shed, dog kennel, newer roof and newer siding. Great hunting and nearby ATV trails.

\$59,900



PENDING

MOUNT CARBON.

Gorgeous one story brick rancher on a large flat lot. A beautiful 20' x 20' family room is one of the many amenities this home offers. Neat, clean and move-in ready!

\$129,900



PENDING

RED HOUSE.

Charming 3 bdrm, 2 bath home in private, country setting. Newly updated with fresh paint and carpet. Amish-built building for storage or workshop.

\$69,900



PENDING

CHARLTON HEIGHTS.

Brick rancher on almost an acre of flat property along the Kanawha River. Beautiful lot in a private setting. Full unfinished basement plus 2 car garage.

\$135,300



SOLD

CHESAPEAKE.

Immaculate 3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath rancher w/ 2 car garage. Beautifully updated w/ stainless appliances, vaulted ceilings, freshly painted, new carpet, loft w/ skylights and abundance of storage.

\$176,500

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Beautiful 1 owner home in the heart of So Hills. Open floor plan w/first floor master suite. Kitchen updated in 2015 w/granite counters, 2 sinks, warming drawer, & bar seating. Lower level includes full bar w/fridge, ice maker, & dishwasher! Covered back porch w/built in gas grill looking toward a waterfall w/a fire feature on both sides. Heated driveway to an oversized two car garage finished w/epoxy flooring & cabinets for storage. Don't miss this house & all it offers!



Stunning, One Owner Family Home, privately situated in Exclusive Foxchase. This Exquisite Home offers 5 BR 5.5 BA, Formal LR w/Built Ins & Gas FP. Formal Separate DR leads to Kitchen Equipped with Double Ovens, 6 burner Viking Gas Range, Bosch DW and Refrigerator, Gorgeous cabinetry and counter tops incl a center island and breakfast nook for dine-in option. Family Room w/Gas FP and Relaxing Sun-Room w/access to professionally landscaped lot and 2 covered porch areas.



One of Charleston's most beautiful and prestigious homes. Everything in perfection in this custom built classic over looking the capital dome. Private swimming pool with his and hers locker rooms, bonus kitchen in the basement with the family room, multiple garages all setting on over 3 acres and too many amenities to list



Spacious 1 story in Kanawha City. Well-kept home in immaculate condition, this house features an impressive floor plan with 3 bedrooms and 3 full baths on main floor, open living and dining room. Large updated kitchen with newer appliances. Family room just off the kitchen with wet bar and built-ins. Rec room and office in lower level. Also includes oversized attached 2 car garage and whole house generator.



Nestled in front of the hill- quiet, private yard. Screened porch/patio, cherry hardwood floors-large rooms-Jake Dudley built- large storage areas-workshop area-large entry foyer opens to large windows in living area-mature professional landscaping-front porch-multiple closet areas-quality built.



This beautiful home is located at Little Creek Country Club and sits across from the 6th Tee at the Little Creek Golf Course. Amenities abound here! For those who like outdoor recreation, this is a must see. The Club House has a beautiful restaurant & swimming pool. This 4 Bedroom, 3.5 bath home has over 4000 sq ft which includes a huge finished walkout basement. Off the main level is a huge screened in deck which overlooks the lush wooded lot in the rear. Country Club life at its finest.



Ladies & gentleman, the perfect match of land & home has come together to create an amazing space that affords beauty & privacy that is much desired in today's fast paced world. This custom-built home has over 3300 sf of quality finishes throughout w/ample BRs & baths for even the largest family. Wrapped in brick & stone, this home is designed for tough weather & has a full house Generac Generator. Custom landscaping & rear patio lends itself to peaceful cohabitation w/all nature has to offer.



This 6000+ Sq ft Buckingham Tudor Brick Colonial is located in Georgetown, in the heart of South Hills, close to outstanding schools, downtown Charleston & rec facilities. This home was built w/both entertaining & family comfort in mind. This 3-level custom built home includes 9 ft ceilings on all 3 floors, 2 wood-burning fireplaces & 3 separate heating and cooling systems, each w/electronic air cleaners. There are so many more custom features available! This home is truly a must see!



One floor living. Updated throughout! Refinished hardwood floors. Remodeled baths. Master Suite on main. Fireplace in Living Room. Access to deck from Formal Separate Dining Room. Finished lower level with Rec Room and 3rd bedroom. Oversized 2 car garage.



Beautifully maintained classic brick home offering 4 BR, 2 full BA, & 2 half BA. Darin Fisher kitchen with subzero fridge, double ovens, 5 burner gas stove, and granite/marble counters. Custom-built bookshelves and bar with ice maker, and built-in wine fridge. Updated hardwood floors, baths, windows, and roof. Ample storage, including a spacious FR and laundry/storage room in the lower level and floored attic storage.



Fabulous First Floor Unit. Light, airy with high ceilings and bamboo flooring throughout. 2 bedrooms with 2 full baths. Updated kitchen with new appliances. Large patio area for relaxing and entertaining, open to the beautiful park. Convenient to town, hospitals and interstate.



Nestled amidst lush foliage & landscaping is this lovely 2 story 3 BR, 2 BA home. Built in 1919, this home exudes character in every room & boasts many updates including Kit. & BA's. Partial bsmt is beautifully finished w/FP, shelves for your favorite books, closets for storage & laundry. Beautiful deck, split rail fencing, w/an extra parking space on the main road. All this surrounded by mature trees & shrubs. A must see!

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\$699,000



Nestled in South Hills close to shops & downtown Charleston, the 1896 Whitney Farm House & Carriage House, w/ an additional 780 sq ft, enjoys convenience while secluded in a private, natural setting. This classic gem offers heart-pine floors, glass cabinetry from original windows, gorgeous stonework, gardens, expansive yard, & wrap-around porches. The interior offers recently renovated kitchen, bath, & laundry rooms feat Winchester English & French Tile, high-end appliances, & marble countertops.

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 Vickie King McLaughlin, Salesperson



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\$310,000



MOTIVATED SELLERS

IMMACULATE-KEPT, MONK-BUILT HOME IN SOUTH HILLS! This four-bedroom home features hardwood floors throughout, an updated kitchen with stainless steel appliances, updated baths, and a spacious lower level! Other features include gorgeous crown molding, laundry on the upper level, plentiful storage, and a huge workshop on the lower level! Two amazing decks make entertaining a breeze! Just minutes away from South Hills pool!



\$135,000



PRECIOUS COTTAGE ON A COBBLESTONE STREET! Situated on a double lot in Edgewood, this all-brick home features beautiful landscaping, large two car garage perfect for a workshop, and fresh paint on the interior and exterior. Other updates include windows, newly remodeled family, and newer roof! Five minutes to all amenities! All the charm and priced to sell!

\$560,000



IMMACULATE-KEPT HOME ON SOUGHT-AFTER STREET IN SOUTH HILLS! This beautiful home features an updated, spacious kitchen w/ Thermador range & granite counters, 2-story FR with large windows, stone FP, & wet bar. First floor owner's suite w/screened in porch! Upper level features loft that overlooks FR & is perfect for artist studio or office! Updates & upgrades include newer roof, appliances, & freshly tiled owner's bath! Mins to downtown, Southridge, or Berry Hills!

\$789,000



LUXURIOUS, MULTI-LEVEL HOME SITUATED ON OVER 4 ACRES IN WHISPERING WOODS! Features of this private & stunning home include marble & HW flrs, large kitchen with granite counters & SS appliances, & spacious patio with wooded views. The first floor owner's suite does not disappoint & includes fireplace, soaker tub, & walk-in tile shower! Other features of this marvelous home include gathering rooms on all floors, three car garage, & plentiful storage throughout!

\$699,000



NESTLED IN SOUTH HILLS. Close to shops & downtown Charleston, the 1896 Whitney Farm House & Carriage House, w/an additional 780 sf, convenient yet secluded private, natural setting. This classic gem offers heart-pine floors, glass cabinetry from original windows, stonework, gardens, expansive yard, & wrap-around porches. The interior offers recently renovated kitchen, bath, & laundry rooms feat Winchester English & French Tile, high-end appliances, & marble counters.

\$350,000



ALL-BRICK HOME ON ALONG PRIVATE, DEAD-END STREET IN HEART OF SISONVILLE. Prepare to be in awe when you step through the front door into custom tile entry. Kitchen fit for a chef w/custom cabinets, Viking range, & Oceana custom sink. Expansive master suite with 10'X11' WIC. Finished LL complete w/ large family room, wet bar, & workout/rec room. Dual HVAC w/ UV filtration system & two hot water tanks. Just minutes from local amenities, athletic complexes, & interstate!

\$299,000



BEAUTIFULLY UPDATED TOWNHOME IN SOUTHPOINTE VILLAGE IN SOUTH HILLS! This 3 bed, 3 bath townhome features a Darin Fisher kitchen w/ SS appliances, updated baths, & a lower level family room w/ fireplace & wet bar. Main floor features include hardwoods throughout, two-story living room with loft & bedroom with full bath! Enjoy the outdoors on your deck or patio with wooded views! Convenient to Corridor G, Southridge, & downtown Charleston!

\$199,000



FABULOUS HOME BUILT IN 1836 & JUST MINUTES FROM DOWNTOWN CHARLESTON! This home is full of original charm and is known as the Richard E. Putney house. Features include a large, level lot with storage building in the back. Many recent updates, including newer roof, gutters, downspouts, exterior paint, and more! First floor includes a bedroom, full bath, and laundry, which makes this home great for one-story living!

\$195,000



IF PRIVACY IS WHAT YOU DESIRE, THEN LOOK NO FURTHER! Located in premier South Hills, this 1+ acre lot checks all the boxes! The property has all utilities (with the exception of gas) and has been resurfaced to create a wonderful space to build the home of your dreams! Enjoy local wildlife, wooded views, and more while being minutes from town. This property is a MUST SEE!

\$39,950



BEAUTIFUL LEVEL LOT CONVENIENTLY LOCATED TO ALL AMENITIES! Just minutes from Southridge shopping center and Corridor G! Utility hook-ups available!

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PRICE REDUCED

LOOKING FOR ACREAGE JUST MINUTES FROM DOWNTOWN? This nearly 5 acre property is the one for you! Nestled on Chappell Road, this property is just minutes from area hospitals, the interstate, and downtown Charleston! Tie into city utilities!

\$25,000



PRICE REDUCED

OVER 1.5 ACRES OF LAND IN WONDERFUL KANAWHA CITY LOCATION! Just minutes to area hospitals, the interstate, and downtown Charleston! Easily tie into city utilities!

\$135,000



GORGEOUS 5.2 LOT, IN DESIRED SOUTH HILLS LOCATION. More details coming soon!!



SALESPERSON
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Charming 2-story home located in Dunbar \$118,000



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REDUCED

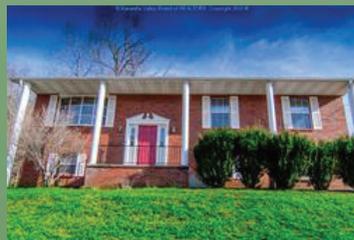
4602 Noyes Ave

4BR 1.5 BA. Kanawha City home on a spacious double lot. Updated kitchen and bath, ample parking, full basement with B-Dry system. An absolute MUST SEE!! \$190,000



12 Fox Chase Rd

Magnificent home in the prestigious neighborhood of Fox Chase. Featuring Smart Home Technology! \$1,350,000



312 Crestview Dr

3BR 2.5 BA. Beautiful mid-entry home just minutes from the Mink Shoals exit! \$175,000



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REDUCED

1589 Hampton Rd

5BR, 3BA, 2HBA. Stunning contemporary home in the desirable South Hills location. Spacious open floor plan with cathedral ceilings. \$335,000



LAND

53 Lively Rd

Gorgeous 3+ Acre lot in the desirable Chestnut Ridge Subdivision. Close to Southridge Shopping Centers and in the G.W. School District. \$59,000



166 Cobbleston Blvd

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INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY

1 Briar Hills

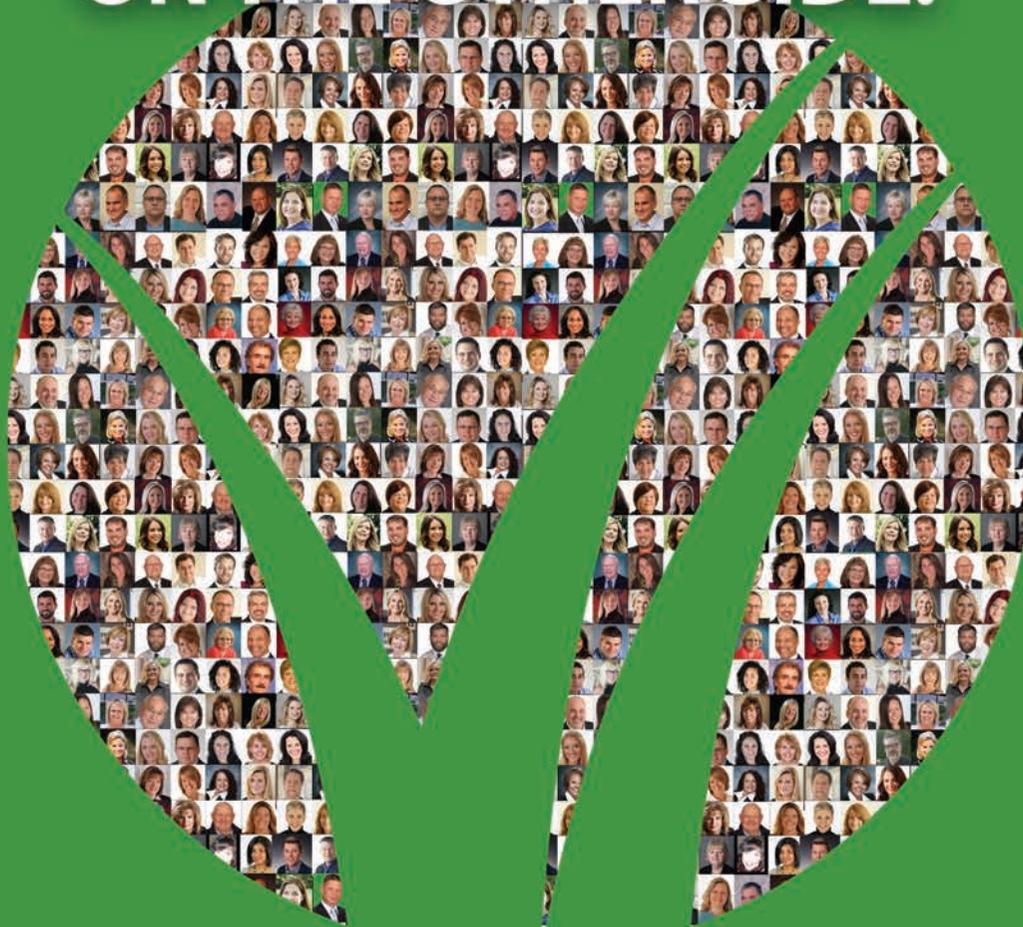
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0 Olympus Rd

Great location and a recently-cleared lot! Beautiful piece of buildable land, very central, ample opportunity abounds! \$19,900

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SOUTH HILLS - Spacious 5-bedroom

two story home in much desired South Hills neighborhood. Updated kitchen with granite counter tops, adjoining family room with fireplace. Hardwood floors throughout main and upper levels. Large lower level rec room with plenty of storage. Professionally landscaped in front yard with garden pond plus plenty of outdoor entertaining spaces. An award winning school district makes this one a must for any growing family.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Updated Kitchen
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We're continually on the hunt for experiences that add richness to our lives. In the spirit of the revival of road trips, we are proud to feature a monthly section featuring destinations within driving distance of Charleston. We feel that our smart and savvy readers will find these trips interesting and entertaining.

ANN ARBOR, MI



Notre Dame, South Bend, IN.

Driving a little less than six hours north of Charleston brings you to beautiful and sophisticated Ann Arbor, Michigan. This sassy little college town, known for the prestigious University of Michigan, grows by 50,000 when school is in session. Besides typical college town finds, you will have great outdoor venues, visually stunning gardens, world-class museums, and markets to explore as you learn more about this Midwest favorite.

WHAT TO SEE & DO IN ANN ARBOR

The University of Michigan's campus is a beautiful one, with buildings scattered throughout the walkable downtown. Listen to the University of Michigan's bell tower, a 53-bell carillon that chimes every quarter-hour and see "The Big House," Michigan's stadium that can hold nearly 110,000 guests. The museums on campus are free to visit, including the University of Michigan



Photo by Melody Pittman.



Photo by Melody Pittman.



Photo by Melody Pittman.



Museum of Natural History, chock full of treasures, plus a planetarium and butterfly garden.

While downtown, stroll through Nichols Arcade, circa 1918, a covered shopping district with great photo-ops. It is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Two great outdoor attractions are the Matthaei Botanical Gardens (namely the peony garden) and Nichol's Arboretum, both perfect for a long walk, hike, birdwatching, or admiring the stunning flowers and trees. You'll have fantastic views from the conservatory, too. Ann Arbor is plentiful with high-end shops and a few bookstores should not be missed.



Photo by Melody Pittman.

The Ann Arbor Farmers Market, in Kerrytown, is a year-round attraction featuring locally made and sourced products, art, flowers, and pastries. Beside it sits the Kerrytown Market & Shops, a spectacular indoor venue to shop for groceries and upscale packaged goods and explore locally-owned businesses. You'll find spices, wine, yarn, oils & vinegar, and 16 Hands craft shop, and several others.



Photo by Melody Pittman.

Kids will love Mudpuddle Toys, a treasure trove for creative kid's toys. They will also appreciate the Ann Arbor Hand's On Museum (science, technology, art, math, and engineering, not just for kids) and The Petting Farms, with cows, ducks, goats, llamas, peacocks, and horses.

Ann Arbor pays tribute to former 38th US President Gerard R. Ford at his namesake Presidential Library, found on the north campus of the University of Michigan.

WHERE TO EAT AND DRINK



Photo by Melody Pittman.

Ann Arbor has a trendy food scene, and though you won't even make a dent in them with only a weekend visit. My recommendation is to go casual for pepperoni bites or \$7 burgers with \$3 fries (and cheese sauce) during happy hour at award-winning TopCat, featuring 100 beers on tap. Next door, Knight's Steakhouse is an Ann Arbor favorite, with highly recommended black Angus beef steaks, buttermilk fried chicken, and gourmet burgers. Don't miss the famous super-sized cocktails. Of course, the hotspot in town tends to be Mani Osteria and Bar, where wood-fired pizzas and upscale salads draw a considerable college and local scene daily and nightly.



Photo by Melody Pittman.

Finish off any meal with a tasty treat from Michigan Creamery, serving up Michigan made ice cream and frozen yogurt with flavors such as Wolverine Tracks, Coffee Mocha Chip, and Michigan Pot Hole.



Photo by Melody Pittman.

Still, Ann Arbor's most famous foodie address is Zingerman's Deli, named one of the top ten delicatessens in the country on countless lists. The packed-with-meat Reuben is the best you'll ever taste. The wait is long, but it is worth it.

Finally, you're in Michigan, which by today's standards translates to "excellent beer". You can do just that at Jolly Pumpkin Brewery. Try the Rojzilla, a sour ale, and pair your delicious brew with candied Brussels sprouts or red chicken nachos.

WHERE TO STAY IN ANN ARBOR

Graduate Ann Arbor is one of the city's most stylish and comfortable hotels for your visit. The lobby resembles a prestigious library, and rooms are the same, with dark walls, subtle plaid fabrics, a 24-hour fitness center, and TV stands that mimic a card catalog. Also in the lobby is a 40-foot communal table you will be itching to work from. The walls of The Graduate are lined with impressive commissioned murals and manifestos that are great for conversation. They also offer complimentary bike rentals and are pet-friendly.

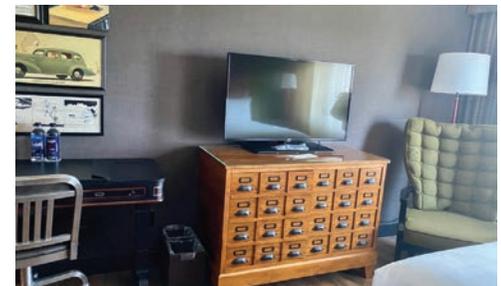


Photo by Melody Pittman.

Another great place to stay is the Bell Tower Hotel, a local name with a convenient location, free hot breakfast buffet, and WiFi. And always, both the Sonesta ES Suites and TownePlace Suites Ann Arbor are safe choices with comfortable and affordable rooms.

ANN ARBOR: MUCH MORE THAN A COLLEGE TOWN

Ann Arbor is a charming city with a lively spirit, impressive beer and food scene, free museums, abundant outdoor attractions, and top-notch sporting events. Have a great time. Go Blue!



Photo by Melody Pittman.

Article by Melody Pittman of www.wheneverimayroamblog.com

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