

NOVEMBER 2020

CHARLESTON

Home & Living



WEEKEND TRAVELER
SEE PAGES 20-21

LOOKING BACK
AT THE EAST END HISTORIC DISTRICT
SEE PAGE 10

REAL ESTATE
Resource Centre

Presented by Mara Ellis
SEE PAGE 11



Picnic display and charcuterie board provided by:

KSBOARDS



KS EVENT DESIGN

Cover photo by Michael Bell

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*Looking Back:
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Historic District
P10*

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*Weekend Traveler
Lexington, KY
PP20-21*

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ON THE COVER

Cover photo courtesy Michael Bell Photography
Picnic provided by KSB Event Design



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BACK COVER

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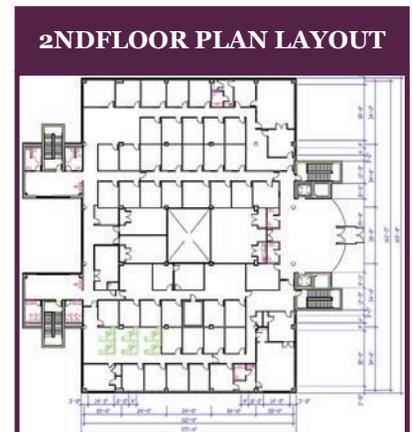
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Former CNX Gas Executive Office Building

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TYPE OF SPACE	Call Center, Office, Data Center, Medical
SALE PRICE	\$4,500,000
SQFT +/- & ACRES	45,505 with 75.42 Acres
YEAR BUILT	11/2002
SPRINKLER TYPE	Wet system except Data Center and six offices which have FM-200 dry chemical fire suppression system
HVAC SYSTEM	Seven Carrier heat pump roof-top units
# PARKING SPACES	180 paved (expandable)
SECURITY SYSTEM INSTALLED	YES
# ELEVATORS	Two passenger
ADA COMPLIANT	YES
FIBER CONNECTED BUILDING	YES



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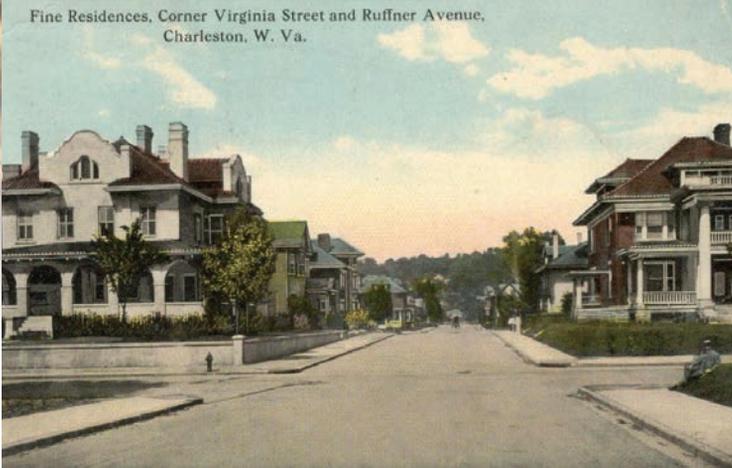
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Looking Back

By: M. Lynne Squires

...AT THE EAST END HISTORIC DISTRICT

Fine Residences, Corner Virginia Street and Ruffner Avenue,
Charleston, W. Va.



Bordered by lush mountains with a beautiful river vista, Charleston's East End Historic District is comprised of residential homes built between the 1830s through the 1940s. Most buildings are single-family, one and two-story homes interspersed with the occasional apartment complex of three to six stories. The area contains various architectural styles such as Queen Anne, Italianate, Eastlake, Romanesque, Georgian, Neo-Classical, Jacobean, Prairie, and Bungalow.

When initially recognized by the National Register of Historic Places in 1978, the East End Historic District encompassed land from Greenbrier Street to Bradford Street, and from Kanawha Boulevard to Lee Street. In July of 2014, an addition was added, including the area between Washington Street, Dixie Street, Shelton Avenue, and Greenbrier Street.

Ruffner Memorial Park was the only greenspace that was planned for the area. The esplanade along the Kanawha Boulevard provides additional space for enjoying the local scenery. At present, other greenspace areas have manifested, not as a result of planning, but rather lots vacant where houses used to stand. Sidewalks throughout the district provide ample pedestrian space.

Should you consider a driving or walking tour of the homes in the district, the following dwellings are noteworthy:

The Smith-Giltinan House at 1223 Virginia Street – An Eclecticism design with touches of Queen Anne and Richardsonian styles, the asymmetrical buff brick home dominates the corner lot. Designed with the front door facing the corner, the high-pitched hip roof, Gables, arched windows, and rounded veranda are a few of the distinctive features. The home was built in 1890 for Harrison B. Smith, the Kanawha Banking and Trust Company president.

The Myers-Haley House at 1502 Virginia Street – Completed in 1907 for Solomon E. Myers, owner of Myers Brothers of Charleston plumbing company, this house boasts perhaps the most massive Ionic columns of any house in the district. The home is on the right in the accompanying photos. Although not yet planted in the postcard photo,



the tree in the present-day photo nearly obscures the columns from the street view.

The Henry C. Dickenson House at 1579 Virginia Street – Built in 1903, keeping true to its origins, the home remains grey painted brick. The front portico details include Ionic columns and a balustrade with turned balusters. The home's symmetry reflects the trend of the homes built in the East End during the period.

The Woman's Club of Charleston building at 1600 Virginia Street – Designed by Walter Marten and built in the late 1920s, the building is a fine example of Chateausque architecture. Features of interest are the three arched entrance doors, decorative wrought ironwork, and the use of plaster swags and lattice designs.

The Herold E. Shadel House at 1511 Quarrier Street – Built for the lumber baron in 1910, it was designed by the Davidson Brothers of Charleston. The Davidson Brothers were the architects of many East End homes during the early 20th century. The home boasts Art Nouveau styling and is an excellent example of the symmetrical style favored during that period.

Kanawha Boulevard lots are larger than those on streets to the north. Houses are set back from the road farther with more room between homes as well. Some of the leaders of the Charleston community were the first to build along the boulevard. Among them are civic leaders, an iron foundry owner, an oil company CEO, a pastor, an obstetrician, and a liquor wholesaler. While the balance of the boulevard homes are now businesses rather than family dwellings, the owners have, in large part, maintained the esthetic of the East End Historic District. The East End Historic District is bookended by the State Capitol to the east and the Downtown Charleston Historic District to the west, providing blocks and blocks of history in architecture.

Next month, Looking Back examines several downtown Charleston apartment buildings from the early 20th century.

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

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NEW LISTING

CHARLTON HEIGHTS.

This 3 bdrm well-maintained tastefully decorated home is neat, clean and move-in ready. It must be seen to appreciate its charm.
\$79,900



SMITHERS.
4 BR, 4 BA brick home w/a 45' x 28' family/media room. Has det gar + carport & original HW under carpet. Also on the property is a home that can be purchased separately. 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



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



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



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**



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



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

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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



Beautifully maintained classic brick home offering 4 bedrooms, 2 full bathrooms, and 2 half baths. 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 throughout the house, including a spacious family room and laundry/storage room in the lower level and floored attic storage.



Don't miss this one! Completely renovated home in South Charleston offers GW school district. House offers 5 bns, including 2 on the main floor. Refinished hardwood floors and freshly painted throughout. Entire upper level updated & insulated w/ full bath. Lower level also features full bath & rec along w/ bedroom . Updates include but not limited to electric, new roof and siding. HVAC/furnace, central duct work replaced & new windows throughout. Also, recently built private covered back deck.



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.



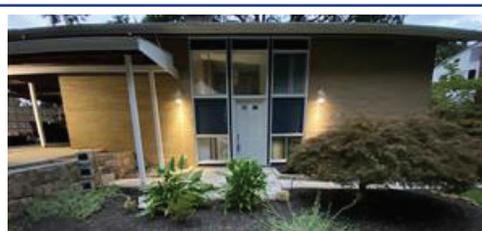
Spacious 1 story in Kanawha City. Well-kept home in immaculate condition, this house features an impressive floor plan with 3 bedrooms and 3 full baths on main floor, open living and dining room. Large updated kitchen with newer appliances. Family room off of kitchen with wet bar and built-ins. Rec room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



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.



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.



Great South Hills location, close to Downtown and Kanawha City, Recreation and shopping. 3 levels of open living space, Newly updated kitchen LG appliances. Large Master with deck overlooking Downtown Charleston and State Capitol. 3 Bedroom 2 Full and 2 half baths. Fully finished basement setup for entertaining with plenty of space for pool table. Media room with access to deck. Updated electrical and security system.



2 Story Brick and Stone Home with Full Finished Lower Level situated on large lot in South Hills. Conveniently located close to downtown, schools and shops. This home features 3 Bedrooms 1.5 Baths. Refinished Hardwood flooring and trim throughout. Updates in kitchen and baths.



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. & BAs. 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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1328 Tudor Rd

Private and luxurious home on 1.56 acres, nestled right in South Hills! \$650,000.



13 Chatwood Rd

7 BR, 4.5 BA. Magnificent Foxchase Estate offering 10+ acres of gorgeous views and privacy! \$990,000



113 17th St

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



REDUCED

108 Fieldcrest Rd

Stunning colonial style home in one of Charleston's most desirable locations. \$639,000



209 Ashby Ave

5BR. 3BA. Elegant 2-story brick home with STUNNING views, located in the South Hills area of Charleston. \$375,000



1805 Roxalana Rd

Charming 1-1/2 story home in the convenient city of Dunbar! \$55,000



324 Sixth Ave

Classic early 20th century toresqaure style home featuring original trim-work and hardwoods made right here in beautiful WV! \$154,999



REDUCED

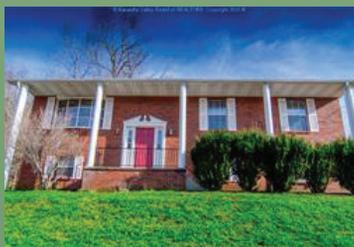
4602 Noyes Ave

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!! \$185,000



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



INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY

1876 Sugar Creek Dr

Perfect investment opportunity in Sissonville! DON'T MISS OUT! \$89,000



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

Live elegantly in this 2016 craftsman one owner custom home in Cobblestone's gated neighborhood! \$785,000



INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY

1 Briar Hills Rd

6 Townhouses/Condos for one price and is the perfect investment opportunity! \$700,000



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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\$299,900

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!



\$699,000

NESTLED IN SOUTH HILLS. Close to shops & downtown Charleston, the 1896 Whitney Farm House & Carriage House w/ an add'l 780 sq ft, enjoys convenience while secluded in a private, natural setting. This classic gem w/ heart-pine flrs, 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



\$185,000

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!



\$75,000

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!



\$429,000

STUNNING VIEW OF THE CITY. Gorgeous, front of the hill location with views of the city and river! Located in award-winning school district and convenient to downtown and area hospitals! This lovely home was built in 1876 and is full of historic charm. Features include open concept kitchen and living area, as well as a private backyard that gives the feeling of being in the country. This home is a must see! Dual HVAC-1 unit less than a year old.



\$350,000

STUNNING, ALL-BRICK HOME SITUATED ALONG PRIVATE, DEAD-END STREET IN HEART OF SISONVILLE. Kitchen fit for a chef w/ custom cabinetry, Viking range, & Oceana custom sink. Expansive master suite with 10'X11' WIC. Finished lower level 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!



\$39,950

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



\$35,000

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

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!



\$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!



\$249,900

HAVE YOU ALWAYS WANTED YOUR OWN PRIVATE PARADISE? If your answer is yes, then look no further than this peaceful tract of land totaling almost 156 acres! Located off the beaten path along the Putnam & Mason county line, this land has never been timbered and would be perfect for a hunting getaway! Some utilities available, such as electric and water.



\$135,000

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



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COMPLETE RENOVATION 2020 fabulous kitchen with granite counter-tops and all-new appliances - gas 5-burner cook-top. New siding, new windows, new hardwood flooring. Lower level family room, bedrooms & bath. **\$259,900** MLS 243463



STUNNING CONDO IN PARKSIDE - views of river & capital. Portions of condo have been redesigned - Darin Fisher kitchen w/quartz counters, custom cabinetry, cork flrs. New paint & light fixtures. New windows & custom blinds. See the list for all improvements. **\$374,999** MLS 236832



BEAUTIFUL LAND - very private - room for tennis court or to build another dwelling! Pool, 3-4 car garage - room for live-in help or home office. Price below insurance appraisal. **\$699,900** MLS 237367



LUXURY CONDOS IN THE HEART OF CHARLESTON WITH FABULOUS VIEWS OF THE STATE CAPITOL AND THE KANAWHA RIVER.

Units ranging from **\$89,900** to **\$189,900**. 1 and 2-bedroom units available. 2 units on 16th floor could be combined to create a fabulous 3-BD 3 full BA condo.



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\$147,725

CHARM ABOUNDS in this adorable brick home featuring a large living room with fireplace that flows beautifully into the formal dining room. A white kitchen with eat-in peninsula that's perfect for sipping morning coffee or casual dining. Master bedroom features a fireplace and 2 closets. Huge rec room in the basement, one car garage, usable yard space, ample storage, and convenient location make this home a must see! MLS 244152



\$269,900

NEW NEUTRAL FLOORING THROUGHOUT MAIN and 2nd floor coming soon. Formal living and dining rooms. Open concept family room with fireplace flows beautifully to the kitchen with large island corian counters and sunroom. 4 spacious bedrooms, 2 full-baths, 2-1/2 baths, one with shower and laundry on main floor. Lower level provides a rec-room with fireplace, home office. Storage space and closets galore! Situated in Rolling Hills Subdivision. MLS 244065



\$224,500

MAIN LEVEL LIVING, brick one story & move-in-ready! This home has so much to offer. Gorgeous open concept living and dining areas, beautifully updated kitchen with stainless appliances, walk-in bathtub, large 2 car carport, main level laundry, corner lot with beautiful landscaping. Conveniently located close to hospital, grocery store, and other amenities. MLS 243960



ALL-BRICK 2 STORY HOME on Kanawha Avenue overlooking the river. Corner lot with river access featuring stunning views of the State Capitol building! This home is in beautiful condition and is ready for its new owner! Features include spacious master bedroom with huge ensuite bath, open concept kitchen/dining/living, plenty of storage, 3rd level bonus room, formal dining room, and a river lot ready for a boat dock or deck! Call today to schedule your private showing. MLS 240338



\$409,500



\$230,000

STUNNING HOME w/countless updates! Open concept kitchen/LR/DR perfect for entertaining. Kitchen features SS appliances, granite counters, soft close drawers, walk-in pantry. Gas log FP in LR, screened back porch, fenced yard, det 2 car garage with large walk-up storage area that could be finished into a rec space. HUGE master suite with large walk-in closet and private bathroom. MLS 243878

It's Time For Our Annual REC Kickin' Cancer Fundraiser!

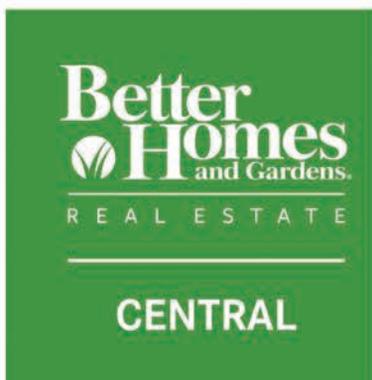


The silent auction you know and love is moving to a virtual fundraiser this year. Make sure you go check out our REC Kickin' Cancer page during October to see how we are doing things virtually. Please visit online at :

www.facebook.com/reckickincancer/

We're so excited to present this year's catalogue of fabulous auction items, donated by generous agents, businesses, and community members. Due to social distancing guidelines, we'll be holding our auction online this year to keep everyone safe. All bids will be placed and tracked on individual photos we are posting. As always, please reach out to us via Messenger if you have any questions regarding the auction, or call Tyler at 304.988.5220. Be sure to check back on the catalogue throughout the month, as exciting new items will be added as they are received!

Our desire is to do what we can to help make life better for the many families within our company that are battling cancer and we can't do it without your help. Please make a purchase today and help us help others. Thank you for supporting this worthy cause.





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PINCH - Home sits on 2 acres and was recently updated with almost new everything including, kitchen, baths, flooring, HVAC, hot water tank, plumbing, and gutters. 3 bed rooms, 2 full baths, partially finished basement which includes den, bonus room, utility room and full bath.

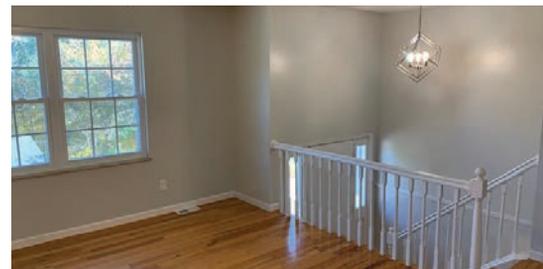


4069 Indian Creek Rd

\$199,900



SOUTH CHARLESTON - 3 bed room 2.5 baths with many beautiful updates including, all new kitchen, new baths, new windows, etc. Hardwood floors, ceramic tile and carpet. New private deck on rear. Roof less than 5 years old. Close to all amenities in around the Southridge area. This one won't last long.



145 Ruthlawn

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508 ½ 4TH ST MONTGOMERY, Spacious home on 2 lots! 3 BR 2 full BA 2 car garage Workshop, finished basement & much more. **\$115,000** Contact Scott Goff for more information Or showing 304-395-7867



RIVER LOT FOR SALE. 41 Dunbar Avenue located on banks of Kanawha river **\$25,000** Contact Scott Goff at 304-395-7867

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.



LEXINGTON, KY



Downtown Lexington Photo by Melody Pittman.

Driving a little under three hours west of Charleston takes you to Lexington, Kentucky, the horse capital of the world. While bourbon and horses play a big part in what makes this city so unique, there are plenty of other neat things to get into. Here is what I recommend for your Lexington, Kentucky road trip.

WHAT TO SEE & DO IN LEXINGTON



Photo by Melody Pittman.

Lexington's most visited attraction is the Kentucky Horse Park, an equine theme park with museums, stables, and educational offerings. See and hear stories about Triple Crown, Preakness Stakes, and Kentucky Derby winners. You can even pet the award-winning horses at the Horses of the World Barn and see them at Big Barn and Hall of Champions. There are horse-drawn trolley rides, too. You can learn more about horses at Lexington's American Saddlebred Museum or Thoroughbred Heritage Horse Farm Tours.



Photo by Melody Pittman.

Two historical attractions in Lexington with deep-Southern roots are the Mary Todd Lincoln House, the First Lady's original home, and Ashland, the plantation belonging to 19th-century Kentucky politician Henry Clay.

Bourbon tasting is popular in Lexington, and you can enjoy it at Town Branch Distillery or Woodford Reserve Distillery (30 minutes west of town), both on the notorious Kentucky Bourbon Trail. Prefer beer? Hit Country Boy, Pivot, Rock House, and Blue Stallion Brewing Company on Kentucky's Brewgrass Trail.

Lexington's newer attraction is the upscale Summit at Fritz Farm, a one-stop-shop for shopping, dining, and entertainment. Shop from Draper James, Lush, Vineyard Vines, or Pottery Barn, eat at stylish restaurants or see several Instagram-worthy murals. Fritz Farm is also a perfect place to walk around and enjoy the scenery or people-watch. Sit in Steel City Pops' courtyard and enjoy the delicious hand-crafted popsicles.



Photo by Melody Pittman.

Enjoy more shopping at Lexington Green, home to Joseph-Beth Booksellers, one of the best in the country, or the Fayetteville Mall, with anchor stores like Dick's, Macy's, and Dillards. The Square in downtown offers unique stores since the 1880s, including Urban Outfitters and Main Cross Gallery, with local artisans' original works.



Photo by Melody Pittman.

Kid offerings around Lexington include Explorium of Lexington, with science exhibits and interactive art displays, and Kids Place Adventure Playground, with climbing structures and a massive ball pit.

Outdoor offerings include a picnic or renting a paddleboat at Jacobson park Reservoir (where you can also fish), or hiking one of the many trails at Raven Run Nature Sanctuary.



Photo by Melody Pittman.

If you visit Lexington in April or October, you can attend Keeneland's horse races, a National Historic Landmark, where the Breeders' Cup takes place each fall.

Be sure to check out the 30+ murals around Lexington, including Lincoln, Louis Armstrong, and Man o'War, to name a few.

WHERE TO EAT AND DRINK

For breakfast, Wild Eggs has exceptionally good eats like Strawberry Tallcakes, Mr. Potato Head Casserole, and Mexico City Chilaquiles. Old School Coffee is superb if you feel like a good coffee and pastry or slice of quiche.

Honeywood is my favorite Lexington restaurant for Southern cuisine and creative hand-crafted cocktails. James Beard nominee Chef Ouita Michel does a fantastic job dishing up delectable foods, such as the veggie plate, with a traditional hoecake. Save room for the life-changing banana pudding. Bourbon on Rye serves "pub-grub classics" like Clams Casino, Peri-Peri Wings, and Grilled Gouda Chicken Sliders, and has a full bar menu.



Photo by Melody Pittman.

You can't visit Kentucky and not have BBQ, so Red State BBQ is my pick for pulled pork, all the tasty side dishes, and 10/10 perfect iced tea.



Photo by Melody Pittman.

For those wanting a quick meal, Skyline Chili serves up their 3, 4, or 5-way spaghetti, or Cincinnati-style cheese coney, or Raising Canes (a big draw in college towns) has fresh, never frozen great chicken strips and fries. Pies & Pints (a chain found on Charleston's Capitol St.) has a Lexington location for gourmet pizza, pork nachos, and great beers on tap.

Satisfy your sweet tooth with handmade chocolates from a beloved favorite, Old Kentucky Chocolates, Caramanda's luscious cupcakes, or warm and sinfully delicious *Insomnia Cookies*.

WHERE TO STAY IN LEXINGTON



Photo by Melody Pittman.

Lexington's premier hotel is the 21C Museum Hotel Lexington, conveniently located to many of the best downtown restaurants, boutiques, and Rupp Arena. You'll enjoy luxury accommodations and a contemporary art museum at the same time. 21C boutique pet-friendly hotels offer free Wifi, a 24-hour fitness facility, an onsite restaurant, artful decor, and modern furnishings.

Another hotel to consider is the Griffin Gate Marriott, an older property with timeless elegance, pool, and golf course, a short detour from the interstate. Those seeking a trendy hotel chain might want to look at the new rustic-chic Origin Hotel at Fritz Farm.

There are also chain hotels at every exit in Lexington and run the gamut from 2 to 4 stars.

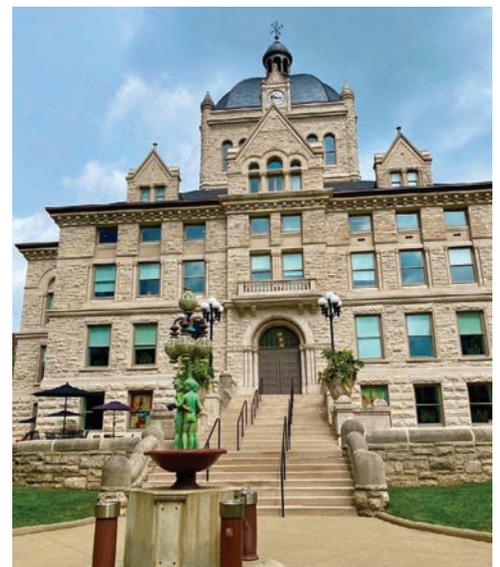


Photo by Melody Pittman.



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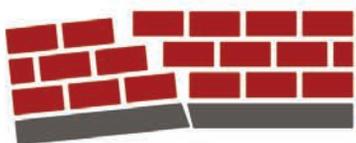


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