

Learning in a Pandemic
Parents and teachers share concerns
about the school year ahead

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Art for Good
A new mural project
fosters racial empathy

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Private Schools Guide
Back-to-the-classroom
plans, campus changes,
school listings and more

Richmond

magazine

the **BEST** in the **WORST** of times

**200 Local
Businesses and
Restaurants
You Love**

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MORE THAN A HOME, IT'S THE
CORNERSTONE
OF HEALTHIER, HAPPIER LIVING.



— CORNERSTONE HOMES —

chickahominy falls

RICHMOND'S ONLY **55+** AGRI-COMMUNITY

At Cornerstone Homes, we've perfected the art and soul of 55+ living. And you can feel it every day here in the spirit of Chickahominy Falls. It's much, much more than what you need or even what you want. Rather, it draws you into its unspeakable pull of what you really love. By entirely focusing on active adult living, the opportunities to create, to explore and to experience come to you in abundance from Cornerstone Homes.

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HOMES



BEST NEIGHBORHOOD RECREATION ASSOCIATION

LEWIS GINTER RECREATION ASSOCIATION

3421 Hawthorne Ave.,
804-321-1659

"The appeal is community," says Courtney Gibson, facilities director. "We [members] are all neighbors, our kids go to the same schools, it feels like we're an extended family. And it's a fun and relaxed atmosphere." The community building was originally donated to the residents of the North Side neighborhood by philanthropist Grace Arents in the early 1900s.

2. Kanawha Recreation Association

BEST NEW NEIGHBORHOOD FOR 50 AND OVER/RETIRED CHICKAHOMINY FALLS

10455 Cedar Lane,
804-256-8360

"[Chickahominy Falls] is Richmond's first and only agri-community," says Kirsten Nease, marketing manager. Centered around a working farm and nestled on the banks of the Chickahominy River, the 180-acre development includes eight distinct neighborhoods, a wooded preserve, walking trails, a social hub and a soon-to-be a completed clubhouse, designed to help seniors live healthier, more active lifestyles.



MULTICATEGORY WINNER

Magnolia Green

magnoliagreen.com

"Magnolia Green has something for everyone," says Michelle Atkins, marketing manager of the master-planned community where she also lives. "Magnolia Green offers a variety of home styles for all stages of life: single-family, townhomes, custom and low-maintenance homes, and most recently, apartments." Amenities include an 18-hole golf course and full-service restaurant, blue-ribbon schools, a weekly farmers market, and year-round social events.

BEST NEW NEIGHBORHOOD FOR FAMILIES

1. Magnolia Green
2. Hallsley

BEST NEW NEIGHBORHOOD IN CHESTERFIELD

1. Magnolia Green
2. Hallsley

BEST NEIGHBORHOOD IN THE CITY OF RICHMOND

THE FAN

fandistrict.org

"The Fan was named because of the fan shape of the array streets that extend westward from Belvidere Street, on the eastern edge of Monroe Park, to Arthur Ashe Boulevard," says Martha Warthen, president of The Fan District Association. "Our charming neighborhood is distinguished by its architecture, and eclectic mix of residential rowhouses, shops, restaurants and local businesses."

2. Museum District
3. Church Hill

BEST CONTINUING CARE COMMUNITY

WESTMINSTER CANTERBURY

1600 Westbrook Ave.,
804-264-6000

"I think basically, it's just an excellent place to live a vibrant life throughout your elderhood, and it's also a wonderful place to work in a variety of professions," says Gayle Haglund, vice president of resource development. Westminster Canterbury provides independent living, assisted living, three levels of memory support care and skilled nursing care.

1. Chesterfield
2. Westwood



BEST CO-WORKING SPACE

GATHER

workatgather.com

Gather offers much more than physical office space and amenities, says James Crenshaw, managing partner and CMO. "It's a space to work, make connections and build relationships with other like-minded professionals," he says. Members enjoy flexible rate packages and perks including 24/7 access to all Gather locations, use of the conference rooms and a variety of special events.



the **BEST** in the **WORST** of times

When we launched our 33rd annual Best & Worst survey, the country had just come to a screeching halt. We knew this year would be different – some would say the “worst!” – but we could not predict just how much things were about to change. Though life may look a lot different these days, what hasn’t wavered is our readers’ love for Richmond’s small businesses and unique character. At times like these, the region needs our love more than ever.

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*The editorial staff compiled and vetted the results before they were shared with the advertising staff.



← **WORST ASPECT OF SOCIAL DISTANCING**

MISSING FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Outdoor meetups while 6 feet apart, social media and Zoom videoconferences helped us navigate the social-distancing era, but as Marvin Gaye and Tammi Terrell sang, ain't nothing like the real thing, and as the pandemic continues, many are missing in-person contact with the people they love – including hugs.

2. Not being able to visit restaurants and breweries
3. No hugs

BEST ASPECT OF SOCIAL DISTANCING
MORE TIME FOR READING, HOME PROJECTS, ETC.

Local bookshops such as Fountain Bookstore and Book People have offered curbside pickup – and delivery, in the case of Chop Suey Books – to keep us reading. Meanwhile stores like Pleasants Hardware remained open as essential businesses, supporting the completion of long-delayed home repairs and improvements.

2. More time with family
3. Staying safe and healthy