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By ELIZABETH COGAR,  
JULINDA D. LEWIS, SUSAN W.  
MORGAN, HOLLY RODRIGUEZ,  
JOAN TUPPONCE

Illustrations by ABBY GIUSEPPE





# 2022 READERS' FAVORITES

From landscaping to  
wallpaper hanging, our  
readers share their  
favorite home service  
providers and stores in  
our annual survey



Readers' Favorites 2022

# HOME DECOR



Interior Designer or Decorator

## KATHY CORBET INTERIORS

5206 Markel Road, 804-310-2597,  
kathycorbetinteriors.com

For Kathy Corbet, originality in design means tuning in to each client's lifestyle, as well as the architecture. "We listen to you and your needs to come up with something that's uniquely you," inspired by your travels, hobbies and "how you use your home," she says. In the coming year, Corbet is renewing her commitment to using local resources, artists and craftsmen. "That's what gives a personal touch to our designs."

2. Melissa Mathe Interior Design 3. Gates Interiors

## Tinker & Co.

2409 Westwood Ave., 804-359-3301, tinkerandcompany.com

Tinker & Co. is known for unusual home accessories and gifts, its over-the-top Christmas selection, and a Christmas open house, says Sue Saunders, home accessories manager. "We try to [carry] what other people don't have in their stores, so that when people come in here, they're surprised," she says. Tinker's furniture repair shop is staffed with longtime employees, some of whom have been there more than 20 years. "They are craftsmen, so anything anybody ever gets back is more beautiful than ever," Saunders says.

### Furniture Repair and/or Refinishing

2. Tie: Gates Antiques; Renew Home Furnishings

### Home Accessories

2. U-fab Interiors  
3. Tie: Bridget Bearl Home Store; Tweed



Embroidery Shop

## RICH'S STITCHES

4013 MacArthur Ave., 804-262-3477,  
richsstitches.com

Twin sisters Cecilia and Chris Rich opened their custom embroidery shop in Bellevue 34 years ago to produce logo apparel for clients. "Anything you can put a name on, we have access to," Cecilia says of promotional items. "We're really excited about brands like North Face, Carhartt and Nike opening up to the corporate world." Now a business can have their logo stitched on big-brand clothing.

2. Atlantic Embroidery Works  
3. Hometown Embroidery

Plants

## STRANGE'S FLORIST & GARDEN CENTER

3313 Mechanicsville Tpke., 804-321-2200; 12111 W. Broad St.,  
804-360-2800, stranges.com

The big draw for gardeners seeking a variety of options is Strange's vast selection — thousands of plants of all descriptions, from favorite annuals such as marigolds and petunias for porch pots to trees and shrubs for landscaping. Shade or sun, groundcovers or vines, seeds or established plants, baskets or pots, houseplants or arrangements for special occasions — it's all there and has been since Strange's founding in the 1930s.

2. The Great Big Greenhouse 3. Cross Creek Nursery & Landscaping





#### Lighting Fixtures

##### SHADES OF LIGHT

4924 W. Broad St., 804-288-6515, [shadesoflight.com](http://shadesoflight.com)

Need a fabulous chandelier for your front hall or a sweet lamp for a child's bedside table? How about sconces for walls, patio illumination or pendant lights that beam down on your workspace? Customers love Shades of Light's endless choices in lighting and all categories of home furnishings, including rugs, furniture, mirrors, fans and wall decor. Plus, there's a Shades of Light Decorating Outlet packed full of discounted merchandise for the deal seeker.

2. Ferguson Bath Kitchen & Lighting Gallery



#### Art Gallery

##### CROSSROADS ART CENTER

2016 Staples Mill Road,  
804-278-8950, [crossroadsartcenter.com](http://crossroadsartcenter.com)

Crossroads features 225 artists in residence, with 25-50 more showing art in specific exhibits for the 25,000-square-foot space. The ownership is local and female. Featured art ranges from paintings and sculptures to mosaics and pottery, with the goal of creating a gallery with a wide appeal. This year, the focus is juried exhibitions that focus on minority artists who may otherwise be overlooked.

2. Chasen Galleries  
3. 1708 Gallery

#### Frame Shop

##### FRAME OF MIND

4818 Grove Ave., 804-359-0060, [frameofmindrichmond.com](http://frameofmindrichmond.com)

Inge Labuschagne's parents were art collectors. When she decided to leave teaching to do something more creative, framing became a hobby, then a business. She says she works with customers regardless of their budget. "Custom framing is expensive, and we offer fair prices — not cheap, but fair. Consistency is key when dealing with her customers, and the reward is customer referrals through word-of-mouth."

2. Rick's Custom Frame and Gallery  
3. Fan Frame & Fine Art

#### Antique Shops & Collectives

##### GATES ANTIQUES LTD.

12700 Old Buckingham Road,  
Midlothian, 804-794-8472,  
[gatesantiques.com](http://gatesantiques.com)

Few people can identify a "glass half full" aspect of the coronavirus pandemic, but Jay Gates can. "My customer base has broadened," he says. "I'm getting a lot more young people coming into the shop than I used to, and I have more new customers than I've had in the last five years." His 21,000-square-foot store includes British and American pieces that date from the 1620s to the 1920s.

2. West End Antique Mall  
3. Class & Trash

#### Estate Specialists/ Auction House

##### GATES ESTATES

804-347-0453, [gatesestatesilc.com](http://gatesestatesilc.com)

When customers call Tim Gates for estate-sale services, he encourages them to call two or three of his competitors to make sure they find the right fit. "And I suggest they ask if the company is licensed and insured," he says, even though it is not required for Virginia. Only 10% of the company's business is estate sales; the rest is helping customers downsize.

2. Beck Estates



#### Lamp/Fixture Repair

##### LAMP EMPORIUM

3432 Pump Road, 804-360-1619, [find on Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/lampemporium)

David Henshaw is a proud second-generation owner of Lamp Emporium. "My parents started this business in 1983," he says. "We are a specialty mom-and-pop shop." Lamp Emporium does everything in-house: fabricating custom lamps from personal objects, making lamp shades and working on repairs. The company recently moved into a new space in the same shopping center and is excited to focus on developing new clientele.

2. Shades of Light 3. McHugh's Restorations



Readers' Favorites 2022

# HOME DECOR

CONT'D



## Custom Furniture Maker

### IRON OAK

501 S. 14th St., 804-405-7145,  
ironoakrva.com

Iron Oak's furniture and custom fabrication team is passionate about all of the fine details that make each design a one-of-a-kind piece. The team carefully considers every element, collaborating with customers and designers to take the project from a simple idea to a cherished heirloom piece of furniture. Each design highlights the beauty of the wood while creating support with hand-welded and -finished metals.

2. Branch Furniture + Design
3. Daniel Rickey Furniture

## Modern Furniture

### LADIFF

125 S. 14th St., as of April 2022;  
1011 Commerce Road,  
804-648-6210, ladiff.com

"Buying new furniture can be very stressful," says LaDIFF President and co-owner Sarah Paxton. "We try to make it relaxing, have fun and really get to know our customers." LaDIFF staff members make a point of being good neighbors. Going into its 42nd year, the company is moving into a smaller location where they can better showcase their "beautiful, sophisticated designs."

2. U-fab Interiors
3. Metro Modern

## Classic Furniture

### VIRGINIA WAYSIDE FURNITURE

10500 Patterson Ave., 804-740-3124, vawayside.net

With almost 100% of its merchandise made in America, Virginia Wayside offers a large selection of furniture and accessories from manufacturers such as C.R. Laine, Stickley and Henkel Harris. Design services are free to customers, and designers can assist with everything from furniture selection to placement. The company has been family-owned and -operated since it opened in 1965.

2. Ethan Allen
3. U-fab Interiors

## Consignment Furniture

### REVIVAL CONSIGNMENT

9750 Gayton Road, 804-750-2200, revivalconsignment.com

Plenty of consignment shops stock tables and chairs, but as owner Whitney O'Connor explains, "What sets us apart is the rapid speed that our inventory turns. This is 100% due to a staff that hustles to get the store reset and immaculately staged every day all day. It's an entirely new store each week, and that's exciting!" New in '22 will be an enhanced online experience via their web sales.

2. Impulse Consignment

## Midcentury Furniture

### EPOCH FURNISHINGS

6290 Old Warwick Road, 804-677-4026, epochfurnishings.com

Epoch Furnishings has spent 10 years building a highly customizable collection that fills the company's 3,500-square-foot showroom. But many of the pieces do not come ready to sell, requiring restoration and refinishing or reupholstering. During the pandemic, the company created an e-commerce site, and pieces can be purchased online and picked up from the showroom within a week. Customers can also sign up for alerts matching items of interest.

2. LaDIFF
3. Metro Modern

## Outdoor Furniture

### BON AIR HEARTH, PORCH AND PATIO

8801 Forest Hill Ave., 804-320-3600,  
bonairhearthporchandpatio.com

Bon Air Hearth, Porch and Patio's Forest Hill Avenue showroom features an extensive collection of outdoor furniture and accessories by makers such as BeachCraft and Telescope Casual, to name but a few. "We offer a wide variety of quality products that improve your life at home," operations manager Sam Ferguson says. They focus on options for fireplaces, outdoor kitchens, grills, and outdoor heating and furniture.

2. Summer Classics Home
3. JoPa



## U-fab Interiors

7921 W. Broad St., 804-888-8322, [u-fab.com](http://u-fab.com)

At U-fab Interiors' West End showroom, customers enjoy the convenience of choosing from 1,500 fabrics and their on-site fabrication of upholstery and window treatments, all in one visit. "Customers give us their vision, and we can guide them in terms of design, style and color," says owner Travis Hamilton. Hamilton says U-fab's furniture selection will grow in 2022, and customers will find bolder patterns and color. Trends point to "warmer, more homey ... everything's about texture."

### Upholstery Services

2. Tie: Lakeside Upholstery; Tinker & Co.  
3. Renew Home Furnishings

### Window Treatment Fabricator

2. Tie: Mann Kidwell; LHS Designs

### Fabric

2. Artée Fabrics & Home

### Carpet & Rug Cleaning

#### HADEED-MERCER RUG CLEANING INC.

804-358-3811, [mercerrugcleaning.com](http://mercerrugcleaning.com)

Old school is how Hadeed Mercer prefers to do business, cleaning rugs and carpets for customers the way it has been done for centuries — by hand. And if Fido or Fluffy makes a mess, the company has a soak, neutralize and antibacterial flush process that will remove the stain. Manager Bob Perotti says the company does not deviate from these methods, in order to preserve the life and integrity of carpets and rugs.

2. Chem-Dry

### Bed Linens

#### FRAICHE ON THE AVENUES

5805 Grove Ave., 804-282-4282, [fraichehome.com](http://fraichehome.com)

Fraiche prides itself on offering products from exclusive vendors that are not found at other Richmond retailers. Though they are the winners for bed linens, they also offer a wide selection of home decor, bridal gifts, furniture and baby items. In addition to helping couples find items needed for their home, Fraiche offers a bridal registry that is now integrated with the store's website.

2. Lakeside Bedding  
3. Yves Delorme

### Carpets & Rugs

#### CAPEL RUGS

3995 Deep Rock Road, 804-290-8800, [capelrugs.com](http://capelrugs.com)

A regular Readers' Favorite, Capel Rugs is a 105-year-old family business that takes great pride in customer service. "We not only educate our clients when they come in, we also give them a trained eye for what looks good," says manager McKenzie Shill of Capel's sales team, all of whom have design degrees. In 2022, they're focused on maintaining a full selection in the store, including popular Kazak and Peshawar rugs.

2. Costen Floors 3. Amir Rug Exchange



Readers' Favorites 2022

# MOVING, CLEANING & ORGANIZING

Closet Designer/  
Installer

**CLOSET FACTORY**

10520 Lakeridge Pkwy.,  
Ashland, 804-559-0001,  
closetfactory.com

The Closet Factory can create storage space for any room of the home, from mudrooms to offices. Cabinets are manufactured locally, and all are custom-made to meet client needs. All designers undergo extensive training. This year, the company is expanding the team to keep up with customer demand and updating its showroom to display changing materials, colors and product lines.

2. Closets of Virginia  
3. Inspired Closets



Mover

**TWO MEN AND A TRUCK**

804-723-1355, twomenandatruck.com/movers/va/richmond

Two Men and a Truck has been helping customers move for more than 35 years. It offers comprehensive home and business relocation and packing services in addition to offering storage. The company can handle any type of move, whether you're moving somewhere close by or out of state or simply need to move a heavy appliance from one room to the next.

2. Moxie  
3. Hildrup

Housecleaning Service

**THE MAIDS**

804-323-9006, themajds.com/743

The Maids has been in business since 1979, and over time, they've determined that four-person teams are the most efficient way to get a house cleaned quickly, says Lynn Ronan, owner of The Maids Richmond. "We use environmentally friendly products that will not damage your home, that are safe for your family members, your pets and our employees," she says. "You can feel the difference in a home after we've cleaned."

2. Maid Brigade



Real Estate Agent

**CABELL CHILDRESS GROUP**

804-340-7000, cabellchildress.com

Cabell Childress and his team go above and beyond to make good on the company mantra, "Personal Attention. Proven Results." "We spend hundreds of hours training agents and have invested significantly in the latest technology to make sure we deliver the best experience," Childress says. The business is finalizing the opening of its new office location at 4904 W. Clay St.

2. Alexis Thompson, River Fox Realty  
3. Tie: Kevin Currie Group; Dianne Long, Napier Realtors; Victoria Quilter Tyler, Virginia Capital Realty



Home Organizer

**IN GOOD ORDER**

804-513-2095,  
ingoodorderllc.com

During the pandemic, people have been home more, resulting in a steady increase in business for In Good Order. "Being at home has made people better appreciate an environment that is calming and relaxing," says owner Mary Davis. As a reformed "messy person," she says she has grown through the struggle to become clutter-free herself, so she understands where her clients are coming from. "There's no judgment here," she says.

2. Minima  
3. Cut the Clutter





# CURB APPEAL



**Gutter Cleaning**  
**WRIGHT'S GUTTERS**  
 804-405-6481,  
[wrightsgutters.com](http://wrightsgutters.com)

Wright's Gutters has installed, cleaned and repaired Richmond's gutters for more than 20 years. The family-owned and -operated firm's experienced crews fabricate seamless gutters from powder-coated aluminum on-site to ensure there are no leaks. Their Xtreme Gutter Guards feature a micro mesh made of surgical-grade stainless steel that keeps out debris, leaves and animal nests. Wright's offers veterans and first responders a 15% discount. (Be sure to mention it when calling.)

2. Perfect Reflection
3. Mind in the Gutter

**Welder/Ironwork**  
**WEST END MACHINE & WELDING INC.**  
 6804 School Ave.,  
 804-266-9631, [westendmachine.com](http://westendmachine.com)

For more than 50 years, West End Machine & Welding has provided metal fabrication and repair services to the Richmond community. With decades of experience, the company's team of licensed experts offers welding, metal fabrication and repair services — from fabricating stairs, platforms and railings to repairing statues, lawn furniture, metal and vinyl fencing, and more.

2. Cartwright Landscaping
3. Phoenix Metal Co.

**Window Washer**  
**SPOTLESS WINDOW CLEANING**  
 804-231-0749, [spotlesswindowcleaning.com](http://spotlesswindowcleaning.com)

An emphasis on residential work in addition to commercial clients, additional capability in pressure and SoftWashing services, and expansion into the Northern Neck and Middle Peninsula are on the Spotless growth curve this year. Co-owners Reilly Monroe and Beau Pratt say quick response and consistent courtesy at every point of contact with customers are hallmarks of the business and keys to their customers' loyalty.

2. Perfect Reflection
3. Top Gun

**Driveway Repair**  
**PETE'S PAVING**  
 804-640-4860, find on Facebook

"I don't expect someone to pay for something I wouldn't pay for," owner Pete Wells says of his company's commitment to quality work. He ensures that driveways — or just about anything asphalt — gets done right by being on the job with his crew. Jobs range in size from a home's small driveway to a massive corporate parking lot. "Everything but the highway," Wells says.

2. Pro-Seal Services
3. Jet-Black

**Masonry**  
**CRADDOCK MASONRY INC.**  
 804-359-4101, [craddockmasonry.com](http://craddockmasonry.com)

Older homes, specifically blending new brick and stone work with existing structures, serve as the main niche for Craddock Masonry. "My dad started the company over 30 years ago," says co-owner Cayce Craddock Jr., adding that his father continues to work every day using his tools. The company focuses on taking time with their work, he adds, staying small in order to focus on quality, not quantity, of projects.

2. Outdoor Dreams

**Tree Care**  
**TRUETIMBER ARBORISTS**  
 804-218-8733,  
[truetimber.net](http://truetimber.net)

"I think we're set apart because we're actually a trade school, as well. ... So that means all of our employees have a certain love of and interest in the occupation that our clients pick up on," says Truetimber owner Scott Turner. "In all of our interactions, we're looking for sustainability — whether it's interactions with nature, clients or our employees — building, to use the arbor-cultural term, symbiotic, lasting relationships."

2. Arbogast Tree & Stump
3. Arborscapes





# CURB APPEAL

CONT'D

## Roofer

### HARDESTY ROOFING

804-378-9163, [hardestyroofing.com](http://hardestyroofing.com)

In 2021, after nearly 30 years in the business of roof work, Hardesty decided to branch out, offering customers siding and window installation as well. Known for their core work, which includes roof repair, shingle installation and cedar restoration/installation on residential and commercial structures, they also offer slate and metal installation repairs, as well as gutter and skylight services.

2. Master Pro 3. Jacob's Ladder

## Deck Builder

### OUTDOOR DREAMS

804-592-1305, [outdoordreamsva.com](http://outdoordreamsva.com)

Outdoor Dreams provides all-inclusive outdoor living solutions, "from soup to nuts," says co-owner Greg Koehler. "We have a dedicated process with multiple rounds of design stages." Each stage has a goal and offers multiple options. The company is looking forward to expanding their staff with quality people and growing responsibly. "Our agenda for 2022 is to maintain the status quo — we build great everything."

2. Cartwright Landscaping 3. HomeLink

## Fence Builder

### HURRICANE FENCE CO.

804-353-6030, [hurricanefenceinc.com](http://hurricanefenceinc.com)

Hurricane has specialized in fencing and perimeter security for commercial facilities, military bases and government agencies in the mid-Atlantic region for 28 years. In 2008, the company began offering residential customer fencing as well, and today, Hurricane has four locations in Virginia and North Carolina. They provide standard fencing installation and customized services. Hurricane has experienced steady growth since the business started, and it looks to continue growth through 2022.

2. Cartwright Landscaping 3. Minor's Fences Inc.

MULTI-CATEGORY WINNER

## Cartwright Landscaping

804-381-8204, [cartwrightlandscaping.com](http://cartwrightlandscaping.com)

Cartwright Landscaping puts itself in its clients' shoes and uses its expertise "to ensure clients are comfortable with all aspects of our planned and completed work," says owner Jeffrey Cartwright. The company offers a variety of services, ranging from patios and walkways to landscape lighting and pool installations, from custom carpentry work and custom welding to water features and tree removal. Cartwright is currently seeing an increased interest in patios, fire pits and pools as homeowners continue to extend their living space to the outdoors.

### Hardscape Designer and Installer

2. Outdoor Dreams  
3. HomeLink

### Landscape Designer

2. Cross Creek  
3. Outdoor Dreams

### Landscape or lawn maintenance service

2. Virginia Green  
3. Cross Creek



## Garden Tools & Supplies

### PLEASANTS HARDWARE

Multiple locations, [pleasantshardware.com](http://pleasantshardware.com)

For more than a century, Pleasants has built a reputation for convenient neighborhood stores and staff with deep product knowledge. Recently, gardening supplies have been extra popular thanks to the pandemic keeping people at home, according to general manager Darrell Campbell, who oversees all nine stores. One fast-growing area is goods related to marijuana. "With growing legalized, we're now stocking a large array of specialty soils and grow tents and lights to meet the demand," he says.

2. Strange's Florist & Garden Center  
3. Southern States

## Outdoor Lighting Designer/Installer

### INARAY DESIGN GROUP INC.

1731 Arlington Road, 804-368-3797, [inaray.com](http://inaray.com)

Inaray has been creating custom lighting for customers for 20 years, but these days, their work goes beyond that specialty. "We are doing more scene design than just lighting design, but we still want it to look natural," says owner and president Todd Peace. The company collaborates with crafters, metalworkers, woodworkers, landscapers and other professionals to bring together the entire look for their customers.

2. Livewire  
3. Outdoor Dreams





#### Spa/Hot Tub Retailer **LUXURY POOL AND SPA**

3426 Pump Road, 804-364-3577, [luxurypoolandspa.com](http://luxurypoolandspa.com)

Founded in 1988, Luxury Pool and Spa is a family-owned business that started out building custom fiberglass hot tubs. The company has since grown to five locations while expanding their products and services. A relaxing hot tub, jetted swimming pools with variable-speed current, swim systems with hydrotherapy, and a swim-in-place experience are all available at the company where the motto is, "Put some luxury in your backyard."

2. Tie: Clearwater Pools and Spas; JoPa  
3. Pla-Mor Pools

#### Power Washing **BLUE WATER**

804-382-9243, [bluewaterpowerwashing.com](http://bluewaterpowerwashing.com)

Over the years Blue Water has cleaned hundreds of houses and decks as well as concrete sidewalks and driveways throughout the Richmond area using a soft gentle wash and environmentally friendly cleaning solutions that do not harm plants, pets or people. The company also cleans decks, fences and roofs. Thanks to the varied weather in Richmond, a typical exterior should be cleaned every third year.

2. Richmond Power Wash  
3. Top Gun

## Readers' Favorites 2022

# BUILDING & HOME IMPROVEMENT



#### Architect

##### **SWA**

1553 E. Main St., 804-782-9444

Changing the skyline in Scott's Addition has been a recent focus of SWA's multifamily-project architects and developers. Says lead architect Beau Woodrum of their signature style, "We figure out how to save money in places that allow us to spend it on wonderful amenities." In 2022, they'll complete the Icon apartment buildings on Broad Street and "turn our attention to a great project at the old Weiman's Bakery in the Bottom," Woodrum says, which will be developed into a residential tower.

2. Commonwealth Architects  
3. Tie: Johannes Design Group; Mark Spangler Architecture

#### Home Builder

##### **JAMES RIVER CONSTRUCTION**

804-419-4557, [jamesriverconstruction.com](http://jamesriverconstruction.com)

Listening, work-life balance and a positive work culture at James River Construction feed the success of the business, says owner Ken Felts. "Our culture is built on being kind," he says. "We come from a place of 'yes' to meet our customers' needs." Since the pandemic, meeting those needs has included giving more attention to building up outdoor living spaces, Felts says.

#### General Contractor

##### **HOMELINK**

804-378-3580, [homelinkamerica.com](http://homelinkamerica.com)

Taking on as many projects as possible is not part of the business model at Homelink, says spokesperson Kelly Naughton. A self-described boutique remodeling company, they work to give every project the attention it needs. Though their clients may be high-end, Naughton says, "We're a bit more down-to-earth than the Champagne and caviar type of outfit," but she adds that they can deliver style and materials to meet a range of customer needs.

2. Fabling Built  
3. Tie: Chopper Dawson Inc. Renovators; Mark Franko Custom Building

#### Carpenter or Handyman

##### **N. CHASEN AND SON**

804-353-4563, [nchasen.com](http://nchasen.com)

N. Chasen and Son offers general interior and exterior carpentry repairs to homes throughout the Richmond area, as well as painting and wall covering installation. The company performs all of its work with its own employees and does not subcontract work out to other vendors. In 2022, the company hopes to expand its services within its carpentry division.

2. Jacob's Ladder  
3. Fabling Built



# BUILDING & HOME IMPROVEMENT

CONT'D

## Electrician

### DAVIS & GREEN SERVICES

804-312-5422, [dgelectrical.com](mailto:dgelectrical.com)

Davis & Green started out as an electrical company over 38 years ago, but today, it offers heating, cooling and plumbing services as well. To cultivate expertise in their employees, the company has an apprenticeship program, with the idea that investing in their workers is essential. This year, in addition to their electrical services, they are scaling up their heating, cooling and plumbing service departments to accommodate customer demand.

2. SmartWire 360
3. S.J. Ryan Electric Inc.

## Pest Control Service

### ORKIN

804-665-0847 (*residential and commercial*), [orkin.com](http://orkin.com)

With more than 120 years in the pest control business, Orkin offers both treatment for existing pest problems and prevention services. The company is considered an industry leader in all areas of pest control, including insects, termites, rodents and more. They also offer 24-hour customer service availability and a 30-day money back guarantee.

2. Pestmaster Services
3. Tie: Dodson Pest Control; Loyal Termite & Pest Control

## Air Conditioning & Heating Contractor

### JAMES RIVER AIR CONDITIONING CO.

804-358-9333, [jamesriverair.com](http://jamesriverair.com)

Owner Hugh Joyce appreciates that his company is known for heating and cooling, but he says the company does more than that. "We offer a free second opinion, as well as plumbing, electrical and servicing appliances," he says. Because of supply-chain shortages, he recommends homeowners be proactive about checking their heating and cooling systems for any needed repairs, addressing any issues sooner rather than later. Procrastination can result in having to wait on repairs.

2. Woodfin
3. Kelleher HVAC

## Plumbing

### CARROLL PLUMBING & HEATING INC.

804-358-6322, [carrollplumbingva.com](http://carrollplumbingva.com)

A female-owned business as of 2019, Carroll Plumbing and Heating added indoor air quality (IAQ) to the services it offers last year. In response to customer interest, IAQ services offered include mold testing and encapsulation, duct and dryer vent cleaning, insulating and humidification services. This year, they will focus on expanding their service beyond the greater Richmond area to include the Northern Neck.

2. Harry's Plumbing
3. Tie: Bremac; Robinson's Plumbing Service

## Lumber & Millwork

### SIEWERS LUMBER AND MILLWORK

1901 Ellen Road, 804-358-2103, [siewers.com](http://siewers.com)

Run by fourth-generation family members, Siewers serves our old city in a way that big box lumber retailers can't. For restorers of old buildings, they have an extensive collection of molding profiles that date way back, and their craftsmen can replicate or repair any old moldings, flooring, columns, doors, siding, shutters and more. "We offer the best available millwork, the broadest selection of lumber, and superior product knowledge," says President Richie Siewers.

2. R.C. Goodwyn & Sons Lumber
3. Massey Builders' Supply





MULTI-CATEGORY WINNER

## H.J. Holtz & Son

804-358-4109, [hjholtzandson.com](http://hjholtzandson.com)

After building up a reputation as a painting contractor for three generations, owner Rick Holtz says the company is focusing on other services in the coming year. "Our carpentry, cabinet painting and wallpaper businesses are growing," he says, "and we are hoping that continues." Like any other contractor, however, he says the challenges of rising costs of materials and trying to find labor are issues he has been contending with. "We have a reputation we work to uphold every day, and that's our place in the market," he says.

### Decorative Painter

2. Art to Di For
3. Jacob's Ladder

### Painter

2. N. Chasen & Son
3. Jacob's Ladder

### Wallpaper Hanger

2. Tie: Barden's Decorating Inc.; N. Chasen & Son

### Paint Store

#### SPECTRUM

Multiple locations, [spectrumpaint.com](http://spectrumpaint.com)

As the largest independent paint dealer in the nation, Spectrum offers top brands like Benjamin Moore, a favorite paint of many who value quality surface coatings for interior and exterior use. They also carry PPG Pittsburgh Paints, as well as lacquers, stains and specialty coatings from other manufacturers. And, of course, they've got brushes, tape, drop cloths, caulk and everything else you need in order to paint most anything in your home.

2. Sherwin-Williams

### Swimming Pool Installer

#### JOPA CO.

8711 W Broad St., 804-747-9700, [jopapools.com](http://jopapools.com)

Farrar Pace Jr. proudly describes JoPa as "a high-end, turnkey, Class A general contractor." In layman's terms, JoPa, the swimming pool and outdoor furniture company that was founded in 1959 by Joseph Farrar Pace Sr. — hence the name JoPa — is "a one-stop shop" for custom pool installations, from architect's designs to pool housing and fencing. "Going into our 65th year," Pace says, "we're sticking with what's been tried and tested."

2. Outdoor Dreams
3. Tie: Clearwater Pool & Spa Inc.; Play-Mor Pools

### Home Media Sales & Installation

#### LIVEWIRE

804-937-9001, [getlivewire.com](http://getlivewire.com)

January marked 20 years of Livewire's home media services. Company COO Stacy Hicks catalogues Livewire's offerings as a wide range of products and services in audiovisual, including indoor and outdoor lighting for security and aesthetics. Henry Clifford, CEO and founder, says Livewire is the only technology company in Richmond offering 24/7/365 remote customer support so your custom home theaters, networking and distributed A/V will work together seamlessly.

2. Inaray Design Group
3. Avico

### Chimney Sweep/Repair

#### ROOFTOP CHIMNEY SWEEPS

804-442-7546, [rooftopchimneysweeps.com](http://rooftopchimneysweeps.com)

Rooftop focuses on safety when checking on your chimney for faults like cracks and a buildup of creosote. Customers appreciate the company's thorough inspections, knowledge of maintenance and repair options, and respectful and professional treatment of their homes. And Rooftop offers a money-back guarantee if you're unhappy with their service.

2. Cougot's Chimney Service
3. Castle Chimney Sweeps

### Architectural Salvage

#### CARAVATI'S INC.

201 England St., Ashland, 804-232-4175, [caravatis.com](http://caravatis.com)

Caravati's provides salvaged materials and fixtures from historic buildings, locally crafted gifts, home decor and repurposed items. Their specialty is finding products for old house restoration, remodeling and repair, while providing context on how the salvaged materials were used in various historical building applications. This year, the company is looking to display unique items in a revolving showroom at their new location in Ashland.

2. Class and Trash
3. Governor's Architectural Antiques



## Readers' Favorites 2022

# BUILDING & HOME IMPROVEMENT

CONT'D

### Cabinetry

#### CHESAPEAKE BAY CABINET CO.

5612 Biggs Road, 804-233-9984, cbcabco.com

Chesapeake Bay Cabinet Co. was named for founder Mark Harding's love of the bay. The Northern Neck native started the company more than 30 years ago while working as a contractor. Today, the company's 30 employees include a crew of in-house installers, and all designers are former kitchen installers. Harding's sons, Collin and Travis, are focused on installation and design, respectively.

2. Prestige Custom Cabinetry
3. Custom Kitchens Inc.

### Windows & Glass

#### ACE GLASS INC.

11525 Midlothian Tpke., North Chesterfield, 804-379-3368, aceglassva.com

Ace Glass prides itself on being a one-stop glass shop that handles everything from simple designs to intricate and unique glass projects. "We have extremely skilled and knowledgeable technicians, allowing us to perform a wide variety of glass services that many other glass shops don't offer," says CEO Justin Reed. Residential glass services include everything from wall mirrors and glass shelves to shower doors and windows.

2. Richmond Glass
3. Budget Glass

### Kitchen & Bath Designers/Installers

#### CUSTOM KITCHENS INC.

6412 Horsepen Road, 804-288-7247, customkitchensinc.net

Custom Kitchens was started in 1957 by President Richard Hendrick's father. As kitchens have become bigger and more complicated, the company has grown, and it now includes his three sons, who are involved in sales, design and operations. He says the trend for kitchens right now is to go lighter. "We are seeing a lot of white kitchens, and some people are going toward lighter stains and wood such as quarter-sawn white oak."

2. HomeLink
3. Fabling Built

### Tile

#### MOSAIC HOME INTERIORS

10911 Trade Road, North Chesterfield, 804-794-2700, mosactileco.com

Mosaic offers a full-scale home interiors experience. There is no middleman, says Alison Geare, chief marketing officer, who adds, "As a bonus, you will always speak to a live person on the phone." The firm recently launched a line of durable luxury vinyl tiles that are super easy to install and promise to transform a space in just a few hours.

2. Morris Tile
3. Floor & Decor

## Costen Floors

9840 Mayland Drive, 804-527-2929, costenfloors.com

With seven decades in the flooring business under its belt, Costen Floors thoroughly knows the business, says company President Tripp Costen. "We only do floors," he says. "If you walk on it, we do it, and to the best of our ability." Motivated by the pandemic, Costen says the company, motivated by the pandemic, has created a mobile showroom. They bring samples to the client's home, and the client can order online rather than coming to their showroom.

### Flooring

2. ProSource of Richmond
3. Floor & Decor

### Flooring Installer

2. HomeLink
3. Floor & Decor

### Flooring Refinisher

2. HomeLink
3. Builder Decor

MULTI-CATEGORY WINNER



### Countertops

#### BRAZILIAN BEST GRANITE

6512 W. Broad St., 804-282-4707, bbggranite.com

Brazilian Best Granite works with premier wholesale stone suppliers and manufacturers to provide a large selection of quality products, from granite and marble to soapstone, engineered stone and more. BBG offers more than 300 colors of stone in stock and works with customers to stay within a budget while still getting the stone of their choice.

2. Capitol Granite
3. Artistic Stone



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## Readers' Favorites 2022 BUILDING & HOME IMPROVEMENT

CONT'D

### Appliances

#### APPLIANCES ON LAKESIDE

5418 Lakeside Ave, 804-266-7621,  
appliancesonlakeside.com

Appliances on Lakeside features a variety of appliances to get you through the day, as well as a selection of mattresses through Lakeside Bedding to help you get a good night's sleep. Brands of appliances range from GE, Miele and Samsung to Haier and Wolf. The company continues to expand on the outdoor experience with a selection of grills, pizza ovens, outdoor furniture and umbrellas.

2. Ferguson Bath, Kitchen and Lighting Gallery
3. Appliance Contract Sales



### Appliance Repair

#### APPLIANCES ON LAKESIDE (BROUGHTON APPLIANCE SERVICE)

804-409-2654, appliancesonlakeside.com

There are two things Tammy Kelley, owner of Appliances on Lakeside, wants people to know. First, she says, "We have very experienced technicians," who are focused on correctly diagnosing appliance ailments. Second, she adds, "We're not charging people for what they don't need." This attention to detail and commitment to integrity should prove beneficial as Lakeside's repair division, Broughton Appliance Service, seeks to grow its business in 2022.

2. Little Appliance
3. Mr. Appliance

### Basement Waterproofing

#### BDry

804-966-0033, bdry.com

BDry has been helping customers with their basement waterproofing, crawlspace encapsulation and foundation repair solutions since 1958. The company serves the central region of Virginia, including Richmond, Petersburg, Fredericksburg, Alexandria and Charlottesville.

2. Drying Co.
3. JES





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