



f PRESERVATION focus

Teaching Community through *The Little House*

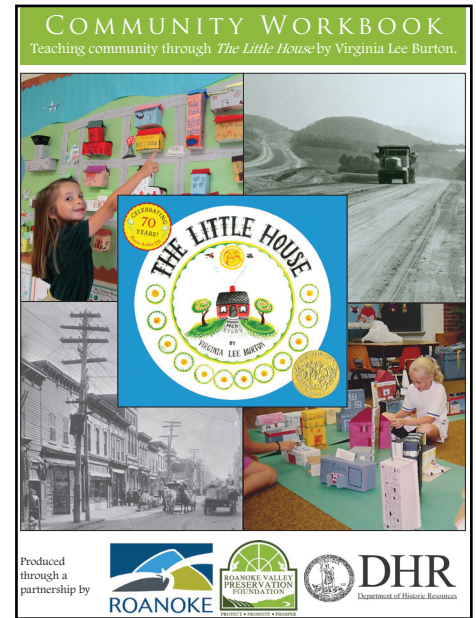
Two recent studies, the University of Michigan's Monitoring the Future project and the Higher Education Research Institute's American Freshman project, found that contrary to popular belief today's youth are less environmentally conscious and civic minded than their elders. Many young people have grown up indoors and are often disconnected from their surrounding environment, both built and natural. It is critical to the health of our communities that the rising generation understands and embraces its role as future stewards of the place they call home.

To address this need, the Roanoke Valley Preservation Foundation and the City of Roanoke Planning Building and Development Department have partnered to create a workbook of easily implemented lesson plans related to the teachings of *The Little House*, written and

illustrated by Virginia Lee Burton, for the second grade classroom. This 1943 Caldecott Award winner tells the story of a home's changing environment as development from a distant city extends to the country over a number of years. It brings the concept of how and why communities change over time to a child's level through a compelling story and vivid illustrations.

Funded in part by a grant from the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, a copy of *The Little House* and associated workbook were donated to each second grade classroom within the City of Roanoke for the 2014/2015 academic year. The workbook was reviewed by the City of Roanoke Public Schools Administration before being distributed. Dr. Rita

See Community, Page 3



The Community Workbook is available for 2nd grade teachers.

History Ride & Marker Unveiling

In celebration of National Preservation Month the RVPF led a guided bike ride this past May telling the story of historic sites along the way. This free event launched the Roanoke Valley Greenways Historic Trail Marker Program and included a dedication ceremony for our first three markers - American Viscose Corporation, Norwich neighborhood and Elmwood Park.

We were honored to have representatives from our partners in attendance - Dr. Rupert Cutler with the Roanoke Arts Commission, Jim Lee with the Roanoke Valley Greenways Commission, and Steve Buschor with the City's Parks & Recreation Department. Our interpretive marker program will extend throughout the Greenway system, making the Roanoke Valley's vibrant history more accessible to the public.



Board member, Ruth Doan, shares the story of American Viscose Corporation

2014 Endangered Sites

Each year, the RVPF calls attention to historic and natural sites in our area that are threatened by demolition, neglect, or incompatible development. This past spring one of our endangered sites, Nestle Brooke, was demolished highlighting the very real danger these properties face. In announcing these sites, our goal is never to shame or embarrass the current owner but to facilitate connections and communication that will ultimately lead to their preservation.

- **Barker House** in Buchanan constructed in the 1890s as the parsonage for Buchanan Baptist Church is slated for demolition to make way for a surface parking lot.
- **Prospect Road** up Mill Mountain, which boasts the only “loop-the-loop” bridge in the world made entirely of concrete, is in need of immediate repairs due to root intrusion along with the freeze/thaw cycle. It was also listed on Preservation Virginia’s Most Endangered List this year.
- **9th Street Bridge** constructed in 1943 as part of the American Viscose Plant complex, will soon lose its green Pratt pony truss and undergo major alterations to allow the City to lift load restrictions.
- **Krispy Kreme** on Melrose Ave. was one of the country’s first, opening its doors in 1959 as part of the company’s initial expansion out of Winston-Salem. The red, white, and green heritage road sign is already gone and the building continues to

deteriorate after a relatively small electrical fire prompted the company to shut down this location.

- **Norwich School** on Roanoke Avenue opened in 1892 as part of the Roanoke County school system. It closed in 1979 and was sold to a private owner who boarded up the building and has allowed it to deteriorate ever since.
- **Fishburn Park Stone Restrooms**, which appear to date to the late 1930s and may have been a product of the Works Progress Administration, may be replaced with modern facilities as part of planned improvements to the park.
- **Day Hofawger House** in Explorer Park, which was part of an old homestead relocated to the property in 1988, is filled with black mold due to its proximity to a wetland.

For more information on each of these awards, visit us on the web at www.roanokepreservation.org.



Norwich School on Roanoke Avenue in Southwest Roanoke City.

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Plaque Program

Bronze plaques are beginning to appear on historic buildings in downtown Roanoke. The following plaques have been installed or will be soon! If you have a historic building listed or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and would like a plaque, please contact plaques@roanokepreservation.org.

Colonial American National Bank
Enfield Buick/Blue Ridge Motors
Fire Department No. 3
Fire Station No. 1
Giles Bros. Furniture Store
The Horton Building
N&W General Office Building – North
N&W General Office Building – South
N.W. Pugh & Co.
Norfolk & Western Freight Station
Rankin Jewelers
Roanoke Times
Strand Theatre/Ebony Club
Oakeys

Boones Mill Depot Update

The depot has been moved, placed, stabilized, and electrified in its new location by a team of dedicated volunteers! It has been a long journey to this point and will continue with renovations to restore the depot as a cultural center to help rejuvenate Boones Mill’s economy and provide an important reminder of the town’s heritage for future generations.

Boones Mill Depot restoration efforts have received a great deal of public and private support. It is slated to receive \$242,219 from the Virginia Department of Transportation from a Transportation

Alternatives Grant, but more financial and volunteer support is needed. The town is collecting tax-deductible donations through two avenues:

- Send donations to the Roanoke Valley Preservation Foundation:
Attn. Boones Mill Depot Fund
P.O. Box 1366, Roanoke, VA 24007
- Download an official donation form on the town’s website and mail it in www.townofboonesmill.org

And be sure to stay up to date on the latest developments through the Depot’s

Facebook page, ‘Restoring the Boones Mill N&W Railroad Station’.



Firemen raise power lines to give clearance as the station is moved to its new location.

Taking it to the Streets...on Bikes with RIDE Solutions

The RVPF is partnering with RIDE Solutions to encourage people to experience history by bike. Bikes provide unprecedented access to historic sites, allowing riders to efficiently connect dispersed but related sites not easily viewed by car. The RVPF's collaboration with RIDE Solutions will develop themed bike tours of historic sites throughout the City of Roanoke. Routes, histories, and historic photographs will be available through a mobile application as well as a condensed hard copy brochure.

Tours will explore the development of Roanoke's many distinct residential neighborhoods beginning with the antebellum properties from which they formed; the evolution of Roanoke's industry; and Mill Mountain's long history of providing residents respite from the bustling City below. Well preserved, endangered, and long lost sites will all be included with the hope of creating greater awareness and appreciation of these properties. Once available, the tour will be published on the RIDE Solutions website as well as www.roanokepreservation.org.

Community, from page 1

Bishop expressed appreciation to the RVPF for its contribution and interest in Roanoke City students.

We hope this project fulfills a number of educational goals for our area's students, including improved literacy, attachment to community, and a life-long interest in the preservation of our historic and natural resources. A limited number of hard copies are available to teachers within the RVPF service area of Roanoke City, Roanoke County, Vinton, Salem, Botetourt, and Franklin. A PDF of the workbook may also be downloaded from the RVPF website at www.roanokepreservation.org. For more information or to acquire a copy of the workbook, please contact Maribeth Mills at coordinator@roanokepreservation.org.

Fueling Progress Dinner Lecture

Guests enjoyed an awesome virtual road trip exploring the history of America's roadside architecture with Savannah College of Art and Design professor, Robin Williams. Who knew Atlantic City's Lucy the Elephant was based on Napoleon's Elephant of the Bastille! A huge thank you to Berglund Automotive for the impeccable and very appropriate venue of Carlin's Amoco Station as well as Petroleum Specialties and Hill Studio for making this evening possible!



Carlin's Amoco Station.



Atlantic City's Lucy the Elephant.



RVPF President, Alison Blanton introducing our speaker.



Speaker Robin Williams with Kim Morrill and Odette Williams



Jeanne Bollendorf and George Kegley.



Carter Moore, Daniel Dart, Katie Dart, Price Gutshall, Katie Coffield, and Jillian Moore.

Downton Abbey Premiere Party Cancelled

Due to circumstances beyond our control, the RVPF will not be hosting the Downton Abbey Premiere Party in 2015. This was our main fundraiser and we are busy planning events to take its place. Please stay tuned and be ready to mark your calendar!

Find us on the web at www.roanokepreservation.org
Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/roanokepreservation
Follow us on Twitter at [@PreserveRoanoke](https://twitter.com/PreserveRoanoke)

You're invited to the Roanoke Valley Preservation Foundation's

Annual Meeting & Awards Ceremony

Join us for an exclusive screening of Preservation
Virginia's documentary featuring Roanoke!

June M. McBroom Theatre/Community High School
(302 Campbell Ave. SE, Roanoke, Virginia)
Wednesday, November 19, 2014
5:30 p.m. Reception - 6:00 p.m. Program

Free event. No RSVP required.



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