

INTRODUCED: April 13, 2026

AN ORDINANCE No. 2026-087

To designate the 2300 block of Rosewood Avenue in honor of James “Jimmy Lee” Bracey.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patrons – Ms. Lynch and Ms. Robertson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Approved as to form and legality  
by the City Attorney  
\_\_\_\_\_

PUBLIC HEARING: JUN 8 2026 AT 6 P.M.

THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEREBY ORDAINS:

§ 1. **Designation of Street Block for Honorary Name.** The 2300 block of Rosewood Avenue shall be designated in honor of James “Jimmy Lee” Bracey, pursuant to this ordinance.

§ 2. **Effect of Designation.** The designation of the street block made pursuant to this ordinance shall be honorary only, shall not replace the existing name of the street, and shall have no effect on the address of any property with an address on the designated street block. The sole effect of designation pursuant to this ordinance shall be to authorize the placement of commemorative signs in accordance with this ordinance memorializing the designation in honor of the named person.

AYES: \_\_\_\_\_ NOES: \_\_\_\_\_ ABSTAIN: \_\_\_\_\_

ADOPTED: \_\_\_\_\_ REJECTED: \_\_\_\_\_ STRICKEN: \_\_\_\_\_

§ 3. **Administration of Ordinance.** The Department of Public Works shall implement this ordinance by installing, as soon as practicable after the adoption of this ordinance, and maintaining commemorative signs in accordance with this section. The commemorative signs shall be clearly distinct from the street signs used to identify the street block in question such that a reasonable person could not conclude that the commemorative signs reflect the actual name of the street. The commemorative signs (i) shall be affixed to a sign pole installed at each end of the block designated in section 1 of this ordinance for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements of this section or to any existing sign identifying the road designated in section 1 of this ordinance located at each end of the block designated in section 1 of this ordinance and (ii) shall bear the name of the person set forth in section 1 of this ordinance.

§ 4. **Effective Date.** This ordinance shall be in force and effect upon adoption.

**DATE:** March 19, 2026  
**TO:** The Honorable Members of City Council  
**THROUGH:** The Honorable Stephanie Lynch, 5th District Councilmember  
**THROUGH:** RJ Warren, Chief of Staff  
**THROUGH:** Will Perkins, Senior Legislative Services Manager  
**FROM:** Whitney Brown, Policy Analyst  
**RE:** To designate the 2300 Block of Rosewood Avenue in honor of James “Jimmy Lee” Bracey.

**CNL-2025-0019**

**PURPOSE:** To designate the 2300 Block of Rosewood Avenue in honor of Mr. Jimmy Lee Bracey.

**BACKGROUND:** Mr. Bracey devoted more than 50 years to mentoring Richmond’s youth as a coach, father figure, and beloved grandfather figure, and was affectionately known as “Big Poppa.” Born and raised in Richmond’s West End, Mr. Bracey attended Richmond Public Schools and proudly graduated from Maggie L. Walker High School. Following high school, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force, where he competed on the Air Force Track Team and earned numerous awards for his athletic achievements. After completing his military service, he built a distinguished professional career with the Federal Reserve Bank, Richmond Public Schools, Henrico Public Schools, and Richmond Recreation and Parks.

Mr. Bracey recognized that many children in the West End, particularly those not selected for school sports teams, still needed structured, positive athletic opportunities. Drawing on his track and field experience from the Air Force, he began coaching a small group of boys in his neighborhood. What started as a handful of participants grew steadily, and in 1967 he founded West End Striders, Inc., a nonprofit organization dedicated to enriching the lives of Richmond’s youth through athletics, academic support, and sportsmanship.

Committed to helping young athletes discover their strengths, Mr. Bracey removed barriers to participation whenever possible. If track and field was a child’s passion, he made sure there were no excuses for missing practice, by providing transportation, running shoes, and other necessary resources. Under his leadership, the West End Striders produced athletes who won high school

district, regional, and state championships, earned collegiate athletic scholarships, and even qualified for Olympic trials. Central to his mission was the holistic development of student-athletes and their success both on and off the field.

For more than five decades, Mr. Bracey trained track and field athletes ages five to sixteen throughout Richmond's Near West End and on the grounds of his alma mater, Maggie L. Walker High School. Over the course of his service to the City of Richmond, he received numerous honors recognizing his profound community impact, including the 1992 "Big Shoulders" Award sponsored by Sheila Belle and Ma and Pop Pop Productions, Inc. Mr. Bracey's legacy endures through the countless lives he touched, and he remains a true Richmond icon.

Please find the attached nomination application, documentation and petition.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:** Constituents, including the Randolph Neighborhood Association and numerous community members, shared letters, testimonials, and public comments reflecting broad neighborhood support and deep appreciation for Mr. Jimmy Lee Bracey's lifelong impact on Richmond's youth, which helped inform and strengthen the request to designate the 2300 block of Rosewood Avenue in his honor

**STRATEGIC INITIATIVES AND OTHER GOVERNMENTAL:**

- Mayoral Action Plan: City That Tells its Stories

**FISCAL IMPACT:** DPW estimates that each honorary street sign costs approximately \$800 for manufacturing, installation, and some contingency although actual costs may vary. Funds are sufficient in the agency's FY26 operating budget to cover adoption of this ordinance.

**DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE:** Upon adoption.

**REQUESTED INTRODUCTION DATE:** April 13, 2026

**CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING DATE:** April 27, 2026

**REQUESTED AGENDA:** Consent

**RECOMMENDED COUNCIL COMMITTEE:** Land Use, Housing & Transportation

**AFFECTED AGENCIES:** City Council, Department of Public Works

**RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING ORD. OR RES.:** None

**ATTACHMENTS:** Nomination Form JLB

**STAFF:** Whitney Brown, Policy Analyst, (804-646-3765)

# Nomination Form

## Nomination Overview

Richmond City Council may designate city streets with honorary street signs to celebrate and memorialize individuals that were a resident of the City of Richmond, Virginia for a significant period of their life.

Nominees are considered based on their historical or cultural significance, including any significant contributions to the Richmond community.

Establishing and dedicating a Richmond City Council Honorary Street Name in a person's name is a rare, limited, and extremely high honor that may be considered and bestowed on Richmond residents. Keeping the official city street name, an Honorary Street Name includes producing, preparing, and installing a specially created sign with an honoree's name on it and installing it at the location designated for commemoration.

## Nomination Process

Richmond residents, community organizations, and others interested in nominating a person to be a recipient of a Richmond City Council Honorary Street Name are welcomed to submit them for Richmond City Council consideration.

The nomination process includes completing the Richmond City Council Honorary Street Name Nomination Form and sending it to a Councilmember. It is recommended that a completed nomination, including all associated documents, **be sent directly to the Councilmember representing the Richmond Voter District containing the proposed location.**

The Councilmember may further research, consider, and vet a nomination in determining a proposal of legislation or formal Richmond City Council deliberation or action.

## Guiding Legislation

Richmond City Council legislation guiding the Richmond City Council Honorary Street Name process was established by Richmond City Council Resolution # 2025-R016 and includes some of the following:

- Nominations must be for individuals, who may be alive or dead, but must have been a resident of the City of Richmond for a significant period of their life.
- Nominations are to include written documentation of the nominated individual's connection to the City of Richmond, Virginia, a description of their qualifications for receiving such an honor, and a letter from a local civic association, if applicable.
- Nominees are considered based on their historical or cultural significance, including any significant contributions to the Richmond community.
- Please see the Council resolution for more information regarding policies, etc.

## Nomination Form

Please use the following Richmond City Council Honorary Street Name Nomination Form to proceed with a nomination.

## A. Person Requesting Nomination (Nominator)

1. Nominator Name (Individual or Organization)  
Khari Branch-Nkabinde
2. Nominator Contact Person (if organization)  
Friends of James "Jimmy Lee" Bracey
3. Nominator/Organization Address
4. Nominator Phone Number
5. Nominator Email
6. Nominator Relationship to Nominee (if any)  
Mentor

## B. Person Being Nominated for a Street Name (Nominee)

Full Name of Person Being Nominated (Please reconfirm correct name and spelling.) James Bracey

## C. Nominee: Individual Connection to City of Richmond, Virginia

The person being nominated, who may be alive or dead, must have been a resident of the City of Richmond, Virginia for a significant period of their life. Please provide the following information:

1. Was Nominee born/raised in Richmond? If so, please provide detailed date/information.  
Born in Richmond VA May 25, 1935,
2. Please provide dates and locations of Nominee's time living in Richmond. Include details regarding birth, education (high school/university), and passing (if applicable).  
James Bracey live in the westend of Richmond in the 1800 blk Grayland and at "2305 Rosewood Ave." he attened Richmond Public Schools graduating from Maggie L. Walker. In 1967 he founded the Westend Striders of Richmond. James passed in August 2018

## D. Requested Location of Honorary Street

1. Please provide the existing official street name and block number being requested.  
James "Jimmy Lee" Bracey Ave. ; 2300 Block of Rosewood Ave. We request that "Jimmy Lee" be inc
2. Please provide the Richmond Neighborhood name where street would be located.  
Westend
3. Please provide the Richmond Voter District where street would be located.  
5th District
4. Please provide reasoning for naming this particular street location.  
James "Jimmie Lee" Bracey dedicated over 50 years to mentoring Richmond' s youth as a coach. father fioure. and beloved grandfather fioure. affectionately known as "Big Poppa

## E. Written Description of Nominee's Qualifications

Please describe in comprehensive detail (in space below and attach additional pages, as needed), including dates, names, etc., the Nominee's qualifications for receiving such an honor. Please include historical or cultural significance, including significant contributions to the City of Richmond, Virginia community.

James "Jimmie Lee" Bracey dedicated over 50 years to mentoring Richmond's youth as a coach, father figure, and beloved grandfather figure, affectionately known as "Big Poppa." Born and raised in the West End of Richmond, Bracey attended Richmond Public Schools and proudly graduated from Maggie L. Walker High School. After high school, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force, where he joined the Air Force Track Team and earned numerous awards for his athletic achievements.

After completing his military service, Bracey built a professional career that included positions at the Federal Reserve Bank, Richmond Public Schools, Henrico Public Schools, and Richmond Recreation and Parks. He recognized that many children in his West End neighborhood, who weren't often chosen for school sports teams, still needed organized, constructive athletic engagement. Drawing on his track and field knowledge from his Air Force days, Bracey began coaching a few boys in his neighborhood. What started with a handful of kids grew into a larger group, and in 1967, he founded the West End Striders, Inc., a non-profit organization focused on enriching the lives of Richmond's youth through athletics, academic support, and sportsmanship.

Bracey was committed to guiding young athletes to find their strengths in various sports. If track and field was their passion, he ensured there were no excuses for missing practice. He provided transportation, running shoes, and any necessary resources to help each child succeed. For Bracey, obstacles were never a barrier to a child's participation in the Striders. Under his guidance, the West End Striders produced athletes who achieved championships at high school district, regional, and state levels, earned athletic scholarships for college, and qualified for the Olympic trials. His unwavering dedication to the holistic development of student-athletes and his commitment to their success on and off the field were central to his mission. For over 50 years, he trained track and field athletes aged five to sixteen in Richmond's near West End and on the grounds of his alma mater, Maggie L. Walker High School.

Throughout his career and years of service to the City of Richmond, Bracey received numerous awards recognizing his community contributions. Notably, in 1992, he was honored with the "Big Shoulders" Award, sponsored by Sheila Belle and Ma and Pop Pop Productions, Inc. Bracey's legacy lives on in the hearts of those he impacted; he is truly a Richmond icon.

## ***Continued Written Description of Nominee's Qualifications***

### **F. Letter/s from Local Civic Association/s**

Please attach letter/s of support from local civic association, if applicable.

### **G. Additional Supporting Documents**

Please attach additional documents in support of this nominee, if applicable. Such items may include, but are not limited to:

1. News articles
2. Testimony from residents
3. Testimony from family
4. Other supporting documents

### **H. Submitting Nomination Form**

Please send completed form to a Richmond Councilmember and copy their individual Liaison. It is recommended that a completed nomination, including all associated documents, be sent directly to the Councilmember representing the Richmond Voter District containing the proposed location.

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# RANDOLPH RVA



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December 4, 2025

Dear Kari-

The Randolph Neighborhood Association fully supports your efforts to name the 2300 Block of Rosewood Avenue in honor of James Bracey.

The years of dedication Mr. Bracey spent enriching the lives of the youth through track and field, mentorship, and leadership is amendable. The West End Richmond Striders impacted hundreds of children through the years in a positive, constructive, and valuable way. This program is as important for the youth today, as it was when Mr. Bracey started the program.

The Randolph community is proud to have had Mr. Bracey be a part of the history of the neighborhood and we fully support acknowledging his contributions and encourage the City of Richmond to do so by memorializing the 2300 Block of Rosewood Avenue as James "Jimmy Lee" Bracey Jr. Way.

Sincerely,

*LaTasha Wyche*

LaTasha D. Wyche, President

Randolph Neighborhood Association

<  **The Westend**



**G Nkabinde BKhari**

Top contributor Nov 29, 2025 · [privacy icon]

We The Friends of James Bracey Street Honoring Committe... See more



👍 100    💬 34    ➦



**G Nkabinde BKhari**

Top contributor Dec 5, 2025 · [privacy icon]

Greetings. The Friends of James Bracey Street Honoring Committee will hold a meeting on December 15th @ 6 pm at Mt Vernon Baptist Church, 1902 Rosewood Avenue. We have invited 5th District C... See more

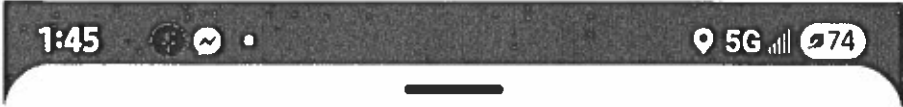
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**Carleise Douglas-Bouldin**

Nov 27, 2025 · [privacy icon]

Hello just wanted to let y'all know...



   **Michael Gray + 99**



**Winston Nay Nay Janequa**  
Westend legend and my coach for track and I was wondering what street will be named after him .... May he rest in peace he is truly miss....

6w Like Reply 1 



**Eddie Edwards**  
Great great man been knowing him for over 50 years taught me a lot of things about life battle with him many times at Randolph School he always had something slick to say to you from the one of the West end best

6w Like Reply



**Raymond Neblett**

Write a public comment...

1:45

5G 74

   **Michael Gray + 99**

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1 

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6w Like Reply



Raymond Neblett

Write a public comment...



Michael Gray + 99

Most relevant



**Kim Walker-Richardson**  
Coach Bracey was a great man! My sincere condolences to his family!!



6w Like Reply



**Geraldine Winston**  
Mr. Bracey was a great inspiring person to me, growing up in the West End. He also cared about people!

RIP



6w Like Reply



Melinda Washington

Write a public comment...



# *Federal Observer*

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF RICHMOND

March-April 1971



# Giving Boys Start Aim of Track Club

By Harold Pearson

Track has been an interesting subject for James Bracey for the last half-dozen years or so. You might say that the special interest intensified when he was embarrassed in the Penna-Relays.

"That was the biggest event I had ever competed

**James Bracey: Running Start For Kids**



in," he said, "and the worst I was ever beaten. There were so many people, and I had never been up against so much talent."

A couple years before the event, Bracey had never been up against any track talent. "I had never been interested in school," he admitted, "never participated until after I entered service."

"Then, one day they were having a meet at the base and I remarked to a buddy, 'Bet I could outrun all of 'em.'"

"As it turned out, he could. 'I won the quarter-mile and decided I was a quarter-miler.'"

Not much later, Bracey found that there was more to it than just running in the base meets. "They sent me from our base (Delaware) to St. Louis, where I really ran into competition and finished third."

That was one place too low for the air force championships, but he did make the All-AF mile relay team and went to the training at Red

don't just take their word they are in good shape."

That comes down to something Bracey has been working on for the past nine months and will become a reality April 4 on the track at Thomas Jefferson High School.

The event will be the first West End Striders and Merchants Invitational Track Meet in which all the city's junior highs will compete. It will be an all-day affair (10 a.m. start) and trophies will be awarded the first three finishers in each event in each division. Divisions will be seventh, eighth, ninth grades — "We want to keep the competition even."

The merchants have provided the awards — "They have been very nice and next year we may be able to expand."

"I hope this meet will convince people in other sections of the city to form such groups. We would like to see one in each — Southside, North, East End — so we could form a league for competitions. Then, maybe we could choose an all-star team and take the boys to outside meets."

It is going to be necessary, Bracey feels, if the program he started three years ago with four boys is going to continue. The second year he had 35. Now there are 50 Striders.

"We're afraid we'll get to the point of having to turn some of them away," said Bracey, who does all this in his spare time away from his job with the Federal Reserve Bank. "That wouldn't be too good. We would have to try to take the best and you can't really do that."

The April 4 meet is a start and Bracey knows the value of a start, even if it some-

# News

## 'Big Shoulders' awards to 7

By George Daniels

About 300 people spent Father's Day afternoon singing gospel music and celebrating the accomplishments of African-American men.

Backed by drums, tambourines and electric guitars, six area gospel choirs and soloists set the tone for the jubilant program at St. Paul's Baptist Church in Church Hill with such songs as "Speak to My Heart" and "Trouble Don't Last Always."

At the program, seven Richmond men received "Big Shoulders" awards in recognition of their "dedication, leadership and unselfish service to the Richmond community."

The honorees were:

Dr. Walton M. Belle, a local surgeon and member of the

Anniversary.

State Board of Medicine; Raymond H. Boone, editor/publisher of the Richmond Free Press;

James Bracey, a track coach at Virginia Union University and founder of the West End Striders Track Club;

Walter S. Burton, a legal assistant in the Virginia Attorney General's office.

Alex D. Erby, director of the J.L. Francis Community Center and 1992 City of Richmond "Employee of the Year;"

John R. "Jay" Williams, North Richmond YMCA youth programs director;

Detective C.T. Woody, a homicide investigator for the Richmond Police Department were honored.

"All seven of these men stand worthy of these awards," said NAACP Special Projects Director Jack W. Gravely, who presented the awards. "They're good men, they're religious men, they're honorable men, they're God's men and they're black men."

State Sen. Henry L. Marsh III, speaking during the affair, said, "All that we have done is because we stand on the shoul-



Clinton A. Strane for Richmond Free Press

**BIG SHOULDERS** — James Bracey, track coach at Virginia Union University, accepts award and a smile from Sheillah Belle, who organized program to honor African-American men. Six other men were honored with Mr. Bracey.

ders of those who came before us." But that process is not ended, he said in urging greater efforts for black advancement.

Moved to the church from Brown's Island because of the threat of rain, the gospel festival and awards program was the first public event sponsored by Ma & Popop Productions Inc. which is headed by Sheillah Belle.

...experience and training was hard," Bracey remembered. "Even track shoes were a problem."

All this led to the Penn Relays and Bracey's overwhelming interest in track — not for himself, but for youngsters he makes certain will not have to learn about track in service.

Bracey said that he always could run, "But I felt I could have done better with an earlier start."

To give some others an earlier start, Bracey came out of the service and, three years back, organized the West End Striders for junior high age boys. The object is to teach them track fundamentals, as well as other aspects of life. "We try to give the junior high student a reason to go to school," Bracey said. "And, the more we can do for the kids, the more we can keep them off the streets."

Bracey has four men who help, all without pay, like Bracey — "people I knew who know something about track" — John Mitchell, Walter Carter, Louis Evans and James Mayo.

"We also have tutors. Track is not the only thing. We have social activities, also, but it takes money — can you imagine taking 50 boys bowling, what it costs? Or feeding 50 boys?"

There are also the problems of equipment, facilities and "we have trouble getting the boys examined — we

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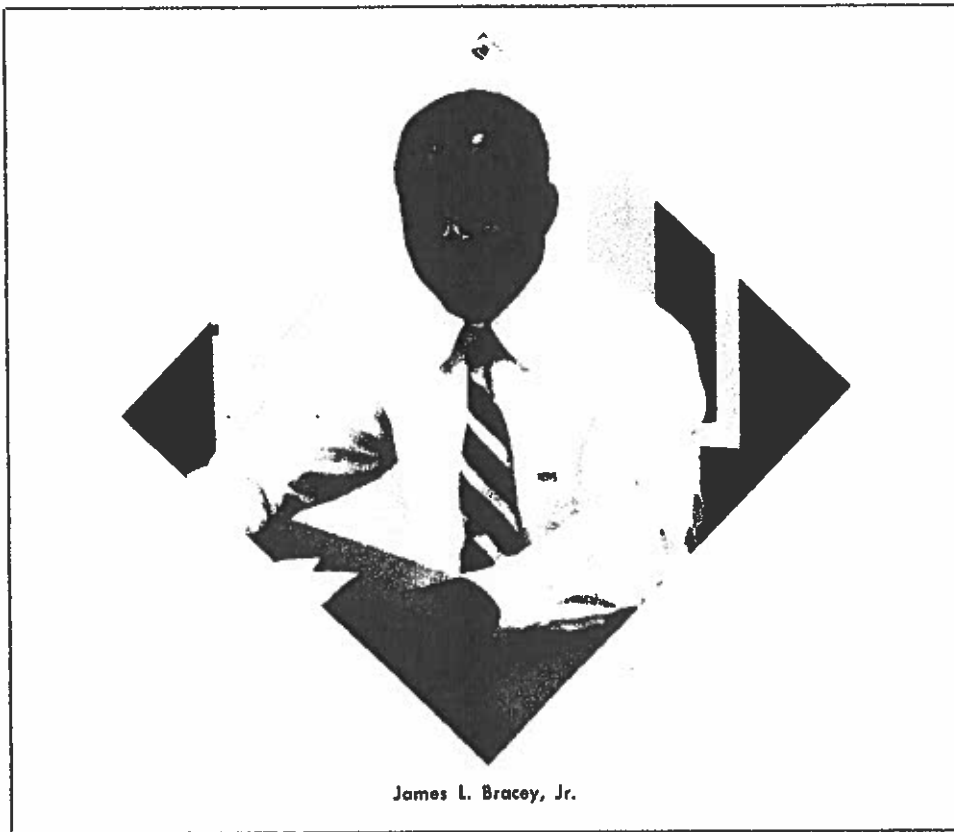
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## By Example He Encourages Area Youth

They call him Bracey . . . his friends and acquaintances, his fellow employees, the young people he works with after Bank hours. They like him and respect him because James Bracey is one who doesn't have to tell you he cares; it's evident in his involvement with other people—especially the young.

So often we bemoan the world's problems. And so many of us wring our hands and knit our brows

brother, and this lack played a big part in his early years. You see, when a boy went out for sports, the coach asked, "What's your name? Oh, you're Butch Johnson's little brother . . . well, he was sure a good little ball player . . . you're on. . . ." But with no big brother's reputation to rely on, James found that he was one of those who wasn't "on," so he had a lot of idle time to kill. And as he became a



James L. Bracey, Jr.

in frustration. A few of us, though, are brave enough to tackle a problem right now, right here where we live. We start small, in what may seem to be an insignificant way; but our beginning catches on and others join in. And one more problem is on its way to a solution.

So it was with Bracey. . . .

James Bracey grew up on Parkwood Avenue here in Richmond. It was a rough neighborhood and there was little to keep a boy occupied in leisure moments. Then, too, James Bracey had no big

teen-ager, with no organized outlet for his energies and no one to encourage his athletic bent, James became increasingly bored. It was only a matter of time, then, before an older boy's suggestion that he "meet a bunch of us guys at ten tonight" sounded like at least something to do. Bracey went, the meeting turned into a let's-break-into-cars adventure, the police spotted them, and Bracey ran and hid in Byrd Park. Scared to death! What in the world would he do if his folks found out?

His folks . . . fortunately, James Bracey comes

from a strong family, and his upbringing is probably what kept him from finding that ten-o'clock meeting an exciting adventure worth repeating, just for kicks, if for no other reason. But Bracey's conscience got the best of him that night and in the days to follow, and there never was a repeat. Instead James Bracey used that encounter as experience and learned from it.

He finished Maggie Walker High School, spent four years in the Air Force, and began work here at the Bank in 1961 as a night cleaner. He's now in the Money department as a Currency Shipping Clerk. Many years have gone by since that hot summer night Bracey had a brush with the law, but he doesn't forget. That's one reason he can identify with young people today. Although the saying goes among the young, ". . . can't trust anyone over thirty," the kids do trust Bracey. They know he was one of them, he was determined to succeed, but he hasn't forgotten how it felt to grow up.

After his service days, where for the first time he ran track, Bracey noticed that several boys in his West End neighborhood who were going out for track didn't have much of an idea about form or technique. Neither did they have equipment. The boys asked Bracey to help, and he was willing. That first spring he worked with five boys, and when they needed a group name for competition, Bracey chose the West End Striders. Good word spreads fast. The second year there were thirty-five boys; now there are fifty, most of junior high school age. That very loosely-knit bunch of boys has now become a fully-organized corporation—West End Striders, Incorporated—non-profit, non-stock, with a Board of Directors and several qualified instructors in various sports. Girls have joined the group, too. The corporation hopes to sponsor its own boys' and girls' track teams this year, plus a swim team (scheduled to practice in a west end city pool), and there are ten boys anxiously awaiting the opportunity to advance in tennis, under the corporation's tutelage. It is an active, thriving organization!

What motivates Bracey? His family is certainly a factor, for they are there to pack the food for day trips to various meets, and, most important, they provide the necessary moral support. But there's something else. Perhaps because he's been there, James Bracey knows it's imperative that a child feel somebody cares, that somebody will listen—and communicate, not preach. So many of these children come from broken homes, so many feel that they don't really matter to anybody, and they need so desperately a guiding hand in their mixed-up teen-

age lives. Bracey and his team are willing to provide that guidance as much as possible; their enthusiasm is matched only by their concern for the city's youth.

What else do we need? Surely, West End Striders, Inc., can't be expected to guide the young from our entire metropolitan area. Naturally we would hope that a child's family could give him training in the way he should go. Oftentimes, sadly enough, family support is non-existent.

What about our schools? A hot subject locally these days! Why aren't they solving some of these problems? Bracey feels that, in the main, they're misguided. They're missing the point, as he sees it. "What these kids need is motivation, something to go to school for. . . . Let's face it, you're not going to sway many of them by telling them they'll need algebra 'one of these days' . . . or English literature. But if you have something to attract them, something they *want* to come for, then you say, 'Keep your grades up and you can participate.' You just have to have that one drawing card."

Bracey feels that sports provide that drawing card for many of today's teen-agers. And if they can feel that they're accomplished at even one thing, then they're more likely to try to excel in another.

What of government programs aimed at the young? With the exception of Head Start, Bracey feels that most of these government programs are wasted. Why? The key ingredient is missing—personnel who *understand* the children, or who really *want* to understand them. It takes empathy—sometimes just naturally there; more often, acquired through careful training—or all the money available won't do the job.

In April the West End Striders, Inc., with the Richmond School Board in hearty agreement, held an Image Day assembly at Maggie Walker High School. They invited successful alumni in many different professions and the sports world to participate, so that the young people could see, in the flesh, some of the people who sat where they are today—and made it. "Other Maggie Walker graduates have done it; why not me!" This was the response hoped for. Whether it caught on for good cannot be determined in a day. But as Bracey approached it in its initial stages, "Image Day may or may not say what the kids need to hear; it's an attempt, though . . . just one more way of trying to reach them in a positive way."

So . . . what have we here? One man who reached out to help a few individuals and in the process inspired many.

Right on, James Bracey . . . we're proud of you!

Staff photo by Bob Brown

**TRACK TEACHER** — James Bracey, coach of the West End Striders Track Club, watches Tanya Coley head out of the blocks as another Strider looks on.

# Bracey's basics

## Track club gains lift on life

By Skip Wood  
Times-Dispatch staff writer

Either the man didn't hear James Bracey or he ignored Bracey's call.

"Excuse me, sir? Sir? Hey there! Sir?"

The man and his leashed pit bull continued their stroll across the infield of the Maggie Walker track, so Bracey sprinted up and let the man know that his pet was not welcome at the facility, nor would it ever be while the West End Striders track club was practicing.

Bracey's about as protective of his "children" as could be possible. And they are his children, all 62 of them, ages 6-15. They gather twice weekly for track and field instruction but invariably gain considerably more valuable lessons.

Many of Bracey's charges could be termed "at-risk" kids. As Thomas Jefferson track coach Jim Holdren notes: "He does a real service for a lot of these kids who otherwise, well, who knows what road they might take."

Bracey, 53, does, in fact, teach them track and field fundamentals. He also teaches discipline, respect and an appreciation of education.

He lines up tutorial sessions with area teachers for many of them. Each Wednesday night, he invites them to a classroom setting where he drills vocabulary.

The practice began shortly after Bracey began his track program 27 years ago. It seems a Virginia Tech coach had heard about one of his former pupils who'd gone on to excel in high school.

"He asked me what the boy had gotten on his college boards, and I said, 'What's a college board?' It turns out that the boy had never taken them, and he wasn't able to go to college.

"I said to myself, 'That's it. None of my children is ever again going to miss out on a chance like that!'"

Bracey stresses the importance of schooling, but he can stress 'till he's blue in the face and some still don't get it. They also don't last long in his program.

He's a regular watchdog when it comes to what

Continued on page 8, col. 1

# Striders learn more than track

Continued from first page

genuinely can be called his student-athletes. He regularly talks to their teachers, looks at their grades and sees to it that they're making progress.

"This man has the biggest heart in the world," Holdren said. "He does anything and everything for these kids. Lots and lots of kids around here over the years owe a lot to that man."

Bracey had never been exposed to track until he served in the Air Force, and once he was out, he decided to share his knowledge with a few youngsters in his neighborhood. From there, the sessions grew each year.

The club travels to meets in neighboring towns and states, and has been as far south as Florida. Although a majority of the Striders come from low-income families, others come from well-to-do backgrounds in the city, Henrico, Hanover and Chesterfield counties. That's one reason he turns down federal

## funding

"If I did that," he said, "they'd tell me who I could and couldn't have out here."

Since retiring from the federal reserve system in 1978, Bracey has made his hobby virtually a full-time occupation. Among his former Striders are Brenda Brown, who attended the University of Virginia on a track scholarship and was an All-American in 1981; Charlene Hinton, who also won a full ride to U.Va. via track; and Shellah Belle, who attended Howard University on a track grant and holds the school shot put record.

Belle, now a reporter and assignment editor for Channel 8, remembers an instance in the late '70s when she was running for Maggie Walker. Her mother had died, and Belle was having problems coping, much less competing. She was the anchor on the 800 relay, and when she grabbed the baton, her team was far behind.

"But Bracey kept yelling at me. Do it for your mom, do it for your

mom," Belle said. "Well, we won the race, and I was pretty teary-eyed afterward. That's the most memorable race I've ever been in."

"The thing about Bracey is that he always makes you feel important. He always gave me the words I needed to hear."

Hinton's about to enroll at Washington and Lee's law school, but she might never have made it to college were it not for Bracey.

"She used to come up here and sit on that little box over there, just watching," Bracey said. "She never wanted to join us, but finally I got her to give it a try one day. She wasn't bad, either."

Recalls Hinton: "I was sort of belligerent about it. I just went there with a friend of mine to watch — I didn't want to run track, I wanted to be a cheerleader. But he basically pushed me into it."

Not all the Striders are All-Americans to be. Many wouldn't even be able to win an event after reaching high school.

"We've got kids that are not going to be track stars," Bracey said. "But they are going to be men and women."

Bracey has help. His wife, Theresa, attends every practice. So does daughter Adrienne. Other helpers include Jeff Brown, Ethel Cardledge, Sam McCoy, Warren Goldsboro, Bob Andrews and Douglas Hicks. Too, former Striders pop in from time to time to lend a hand.

Rex Atkinson, Thomas Jefferson's athletic director, didn't know much about the Striders until he happened to watch them one day while attending a TJ softball game.

"Just watching all those little kids running around there, that really had an effect on me," Atkinson said. "I'd just been reading in the paper about all those teen-age murders in the city, and sometimes I get to wondering if there's any hope for our young people."

"Well let me tell you. Seeing all those kids out there, and then talking to Mr. Bracey, that made me realize that there is hope after all."



July 8, 1972

# State, City and School

## Papers Donate Funds

# Track Meets Stated

Richmond Newspapers announced yesterday that it is donating profits from its paper reclamation project to sponsor a series of summer track meets expected to involve 7,000 city youngsters.

Five regional meets, overseen by the West End Richmond Striders, a local track club, will begin July 18 and end Aug. 12 at the City Center at Richmond.

Boys and girls 10 through 15, are eligible to participate in one of seven track competitions ranging from run, jump, high jump, discus and shot put. Applications are available at

city playgrounds and must be submitted a week before the meets.

A small portion of the profits from the drive will fund the new newspaper plant, with the remainder, after deducting the share of the city and company-owned plant in New Jersey.

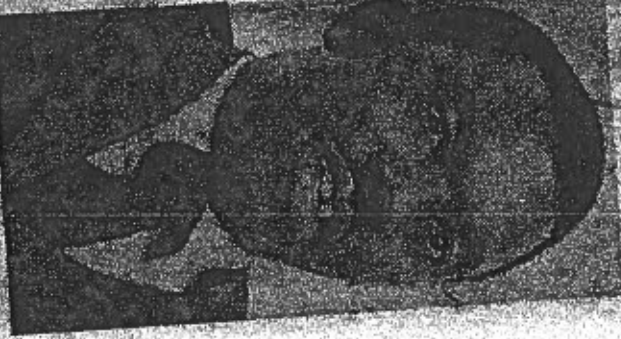
The newspapers have pledged that all profits from the venture will be used to finance youth activities in the city. The project began in April, and to date more than

52 tons of paper have been reclaimed.

The meet's L. Bracey, Jr., founder and coach of the Striders, outlined the following schedule for the meets, all of which will begin at 6 p.m.:

- North Side Richmond: July 18 at John Marshall School.
- South Side: July 20 at George W. Yule High School.
- Central and West End: July 25 at Margaret Walker High School.
- East West End: July 27 at Th. O. Williams High School.
- East End: Aug. 1 at John Marshall School.

Continued on Page 3, Col. 2



James L. Bracey, Jr.,  
Founder Track Team

# Happenings

## Personality: James Bracey

### He's a champion volunteer with city youth programs

**Occupation:** Retired, personnel department, Federal Reserve System.

**Community involvement:** Volunteer in numerous youth programs related to Richmond Public Schools, Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority; founder, West Richmond Striders Club, boys/girls track team founded 27 years ago; volunteer assistant to athletic coaches at Thomas Jefferson High School; founder, math-vocabulary program for elementary school students.

**Place of birth:** Richmond.

**Date of birth:** May 25, 1938.

**Current home:** Glen Allen, Va.

**Alma mater:** Maggie Walker High School.

**Marital status:** Married to the former Theresa Jenkins; one daughter, Adrienne.

**No. 1 priority:** Keeping West End Richmond Striders going strong with strong emphasis on the track as well as in the classroom.

**Volunteer time:** 20 hours a week.

**Why I give so much time to volunteerism:** It's a rewarding experience.

**How I fight time shortage:** Make time to do what I have to do.

**Some of the young people in Richmond:** Our young people have great energy and potential - but there are too few wholesome programs and places for entertainment.

**The concern I hear most often from young people:** Does anybody care about us?

**Your foremost wish for our youth:** Opportunity to excel.



**to be in life what they wish to be.**

**Definition of a man:** A man is a person who can stand up to his responsibility.

**Greatest reward for working with youth:** Watching them grow up and become responsible citizens.

**Favorite childhood memory:** Growing up in West End Richmond and attending Maggie Walker High School.

**Outlook when I start the day:** Positive with the thought of how I can help someone.

**How my family feels about my volunteer work:** My wife and daughter support it. I feel very fortunate that God has given me the gift to work with children.

**A guiding principle:** Do unto others as you would have

them do unto you (treating everybody with respect).

**The song I most often sing in the shower:** Too many to name.

**I knew I was a man when:** On my second day in the U.S. Air Force.

**Prized possessions:** Family, extended family.

**Nobody knows I'm:** Shy.

**Perfect day:** When my presence makes a difference with young people.

**Perfect evening:** To go home, relax and feel that I've done something good. Also when I receive a call telling me I helped someone.

**Favorite pigout food:** Coconut cake, chocolate cake, apple pie.

**Favorite flower:** Tulip.

**Favorite color:** Green.

**Car:** 1957 Chevrolet.

**What people think when they first meet me:** That I should be committed to a mental institution because of the things I do in the community.

**How I find time to relax:** It's difficult to find time to relax, but sometimes I just take a break.

**What I do to relax:** Go fishing.

**Nobody knows that I:** practically everything and very forgetful.

**The one thing I can't let a human being treating other human being cruel:**

**The person who inspired me the most:** There so many.

**The book that influenced me the most:** The Bible.

**What I'm reading now:** "Track and Field Athletic Basic Coaching Manual" J.M. Ballesterus.

**My next goal:** To start a Discovery Program to cover athletes at a young age and to mold them into student-athletes.

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# Striders' Bracey finds right mix for relay team

BY MIKE HURLAND

Times-Dispatch Staff Writer

Gen. Allen's James Bracey, coach of the West End Striders, had a problem as the summer track season opened.

Manchester's Shantrel Houston supplied the answer.

"I needed a short-power runner," said Bracey, 65. "I had only three good runners back from last year's 4x100 relay team in the 11-12 age group.

A friend told me that his niece, while not a runner in school competition, had potential."

That runner turned out to be Houston. Bracey held an audition that was almost like an actor trying out for a play.

"We went over to the school track near my house and I ran for him," said Houston. "I liked to run and fool around, but I'd never done anything serious."

Bracey liked what he saw. The rising sixth-grader at Manchester Middle and a Heming Elementary graduate joined his 50-member track club and practices at Maggie Walker High.

Houston proved Bracey has an eye for talent. He has coached such standouts as Krista Berryman, Charlene Hinton, Aston McCarty and Greg and Stan Grooms through the years.

Shantrel learned all our drills really quickly," said Bracey, a former Walker track standout who put Houston into the pressurized third relay leg. Charisa Napier from Salem Middle and the 11-year-old leads off. Namasha Joyner from Henderson Middle in Richmond, who's a natural quarter-miler, runs second. New Kent standout Kamesha Oley runs anchor.

Napier is the daughter of Jerome Napier, one of

the great quarter-milers in Thomas Jefferson High history.

The highlight of their season was a second in the East Coast National at George Mason University July 23 and 24. Teams from New York to Florida, plus the Bahamas and Bermuda, were there.

With Oley not quite 100 percent physically because of an injured groin, the Striders ran a 52.1 and lost to the Davon Striders from New Jersey. West End did a season-best 51.2 in the semifinals.

The foursome had several wins earlier this summer. They dropped the baton and were disqualified just once — in a big meet at Durham, N.C.

Running the 100 seems to be the last thing the girls practice.

"We run longer stuff like the mile," said Houston. "We run on stairs and we stretch out 45 minutes. A sprinter can do long stretches. A miler can't because they have to save energy."

At Fairfax, Houston took the baton in seventh place and moved her team into fourth. Oley, running at 85 percent, according to Bracey, pushed West End up to second at the finish.

Because Oley's not quite healthy, the quartet won't head to Knoxville for the early August nationals. They'll run cross country in the fall and get back to relay work in the indoor season this winter.

In 1962, Bracey picked up a newspaper one night and saw that a youth track meet at the University of Richmond was to be held.

"That intrigued me," he said. "I didn't quite know what it would be. I went. A couple of city kids there asked me to help them and it went from there.

"I told them, I can't teach you things right



UNCV WEST END/WALTER GOSPEL

**WINNING EFFORT.** James Bracey is surrounded by the runners (clockwise from his left) Namasha Joyner, Charisa Napier, Shantrel Houston and Kamesha Oley.

away. Meet me at a track some day. And they did."



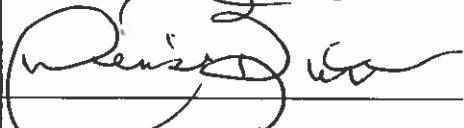
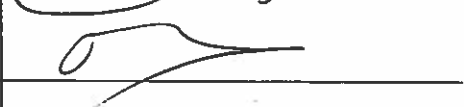
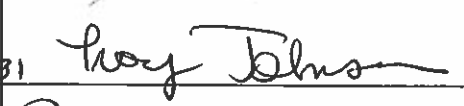


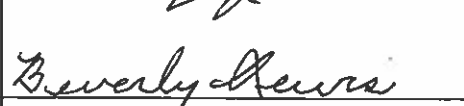
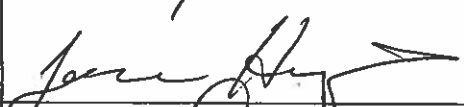

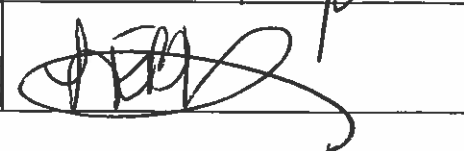
Bracey, who's retired from the Federal Reserve System on disability, is assisted by wife, Theresa daughter, Adrienne, and Henrico High's Jet Brown. When he isn't coaching, he's helping out any way he can — such as listening to problems and advising sports or non-sports kids at public city schools.

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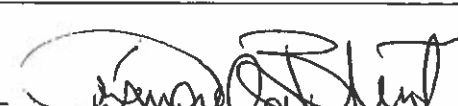

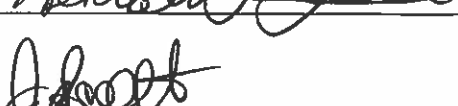

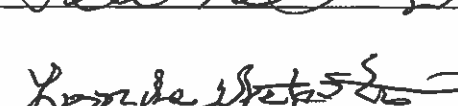
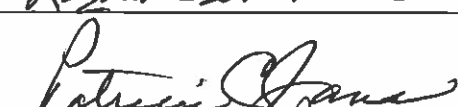
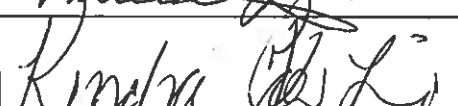
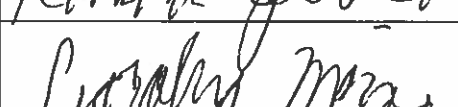
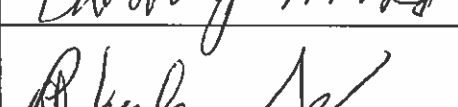
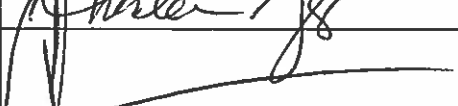

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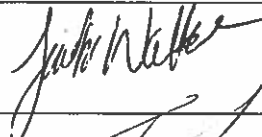
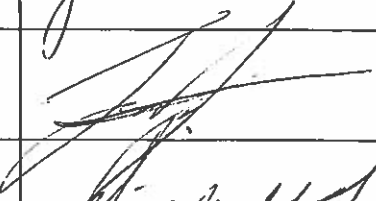

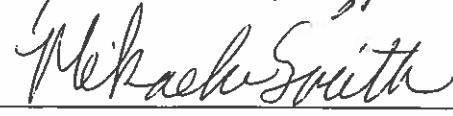

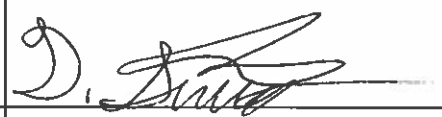


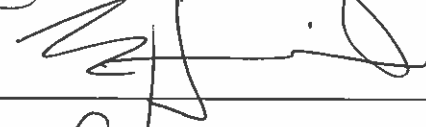



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Tos Jacobs		Tos Jacobs
Keola Armstrong	1602 Redwood Ave	Keola Armstrong
Annette Symon		Annette Symon
Julius Jacobs	7750 Leeds Castle Ln.	Julius Jacobs
Julia Hathaway	7750 Leeds Castle Ln.	Julia Hathaway
Shannan G. Jacobs	5709 Plaster LN Quinton, VA 23141	Shannan G. Jacobs
Monica Robinson	4920 LURGAN PI. Richmond, VA 23228	Monica R. Robinson
AL JULIUS JACOBS	5709 PLASTER LANE QUINTON, VA 23141	Al Julius Jacobs
Tamia Pickett	8841 Crumps Mill rd Quinton VA 23141	Tamia Pickett

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Tony Fitzgerald	2201 Eagles Landing	
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Sharon Baker	Sharon Baker	131 Sweeney Rd Richmond, VA 23236
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Mary C. Davis	407 S. Stafford Ave	Mary C. Davis
Candace Carey	3009 French St Richmond, VA 23221	Candace Carey
Odessa Braxton	1730 W Leigh St Richmond, VA 23220	Odessa Braxton
Robert Taylor	3517 Delaware Ave Richmond, VA 23222	Robert Taylor
Catherine Taylor	3517 Delaware Ave Richmond, VA 23222	Catherine Taylor
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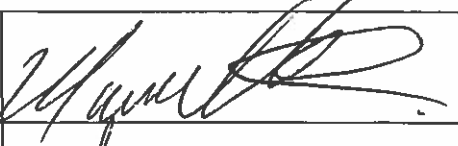

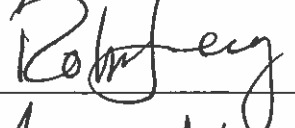

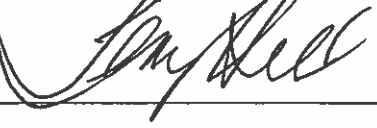






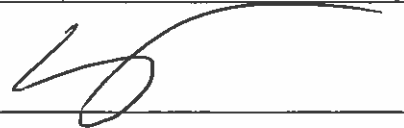
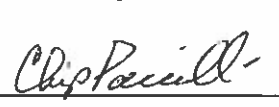

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ROSA STONE	#301 37 S Meadow St	Rosa Stone
Doris S. Taylor	507 KENT DARY LN	Doris S Taylor
Sheila Green	4318 Brixton Road Chesterfield VA 23832	Sheralyn Green
William Green	4318 Brixton Rd Chesterfield, Va 23832	William J Green
George S. Waller III	806 Overbrook Rd Richmond, VA 23222	

Maurice Gove	13393 Karas Way Asland, VA 23005	
Igor Maltic	2302 Rosewood ave. Richmond, VA 23220	
Robin Lavey	2446 Maplewood Ave RVA 23220	
James Sties	2122 LAKVIEW RVA 23220	
Terry Hill	2122 Maplewood Ave	
Arthur King	2116 Lakin	
Christopher Law	2406 Rosewood	
Kurt Engleman	2308 Idlewood Ave	
Olivia McGrath	2215 Rosewood Ave	
Mike Reed	2215 Rosewood Ave	
Ashlea Krouse	2218 Maplewood Ave	
SAM Prather	1221 Meadow	
CHIP PACIULLI	2402 Maplewood Ave	
Ann Paciuili	2402 Maplewood AVE	

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Attach any supporting documents or letters of support if available.

PRINT NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
Sharon Banksdale	7590 Apt #26 216 Henrico VA 23294	Sharon Banksdale
Stephen Buse <del>Lula Thomas</del>	611 W. Laburnum Cres Rte 2305	Stephen Buse
Lula Thomas	2107 Eagle West Ct 23051	Lula Thomas
Mary Ann Mason	1301 Hampton St - 23220	Mary Ann Mason
ELWOOD SOOKINS, JR	4608 GREATWOOD DRIVE	Elwood Sookins Jr
Nadine Rozler	12111 Whitby Rd	Nadine Rozler
Anita Robertson	1905 Cedar St 23223 Unit 218 Richmond VA	Anita Robertson
Bernadine Givens	1660 Oak Place Blvd Apt. 104	Bernadine Givens
Evelyn Funn	2007 Walter St Rich VA 23220	Evelyn Funn
VERONICA STUCKEY	1937 Lakewood Rich, Va 23223	Veronica Stuckey
MERDIE JOHNSON Merdie Johnson	5717 Carrington Hill No. Starline Va	Merdie Johnson

Kesha S Howard	3406 Veyan @ N. Chesterfield, VA 23037	Kesha Howard
Maevin Puckler	901 Greenview Drive	Maevin Puckler
Mary A. Daniels	594 Morningmist Dr.	Mary A. Daniels
Dorothy James	3738 Forest Haven	Dorothy James
Barbara Robinson	4918 Tuley DR Chester, VA 23031	Barbara Robinson
Sandra Lee Coles	1713 Belfour <sup>apt 417</sup> 23231	Sandra Lee Coles
ELLEN SPOKINS Ellen Spokins	4608 Greatwood Dr	Ellen Spokins
Cierra Shelton	117 S. OAK AVE Highland Springs, VA 23075	Cierra Shelton
Tierra Harrell	5805 Willow Lake Dr. #10 Richmond, VA 23025	Tierra Harrell
Tereza Harvey		Tereza Harvey
Anthony Ryan	11236 Last Parish Dr Chesterfield VA 23032	Anthony Ryan
Dillon Smith	956 Hawthorne Rd #810 Richmond VA 23025	Dillon Smith
Marilyn E Cole	Marilyn Cole 2732 Perview Way Glen Allen VA	Marilyn Cole
ALLEN W COLE	2732 Perview Way Glen Allen, VA 23059	Allen W Cole
Jamie Cotman	117 S OAK Ave Henrico, VA 23075	Jamie Cotman

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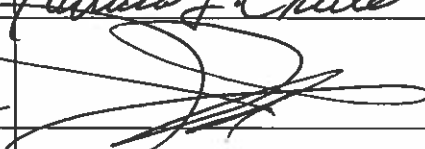
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Attach any supporting documents or letters of support if available.

PRINT NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
Barbara Pitty	527 Tarpley Rd	Barbara Pitty
Zandra Barry	6109 Merrifield Dr	Zandra Barry
Daricka Jones	8632 Springwater Drive	Daricka Jones
Tillasia Jones	2810 Ennday Cree Lane	tillasiaajones@gmail
LaNette Jones	2816 Ennday Creek lanes	lanjones@vcu.edu
Patsy R. Young	4105 August Ave. Rich. 23222	Patsy Young
Orlanda Pearson	2804 Farmcreek Dr Richmond Va 23223	Orlanda Pearson
Mario B. Suarez	1327 Idlewood Ave Rich Va 23221	M. Suarez
Cynthia Akers	1327 Idlewood Ave Rich VA 23220	Cynthia Akers
Svanhis Pillard	1310 Idlewood Ave R.Ch. VA 23220	Svanhis Pillard
Ed CARTER	2936 HATHAWAY RD RICHMOND, VA 23223	Edward Carter

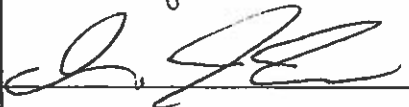
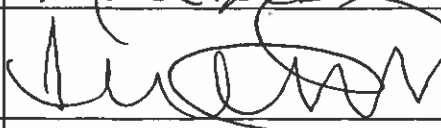



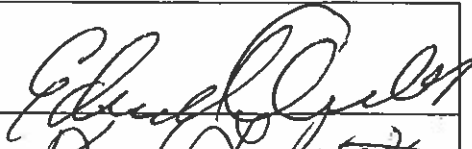

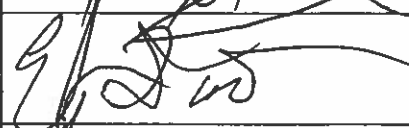

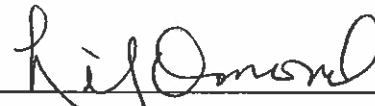

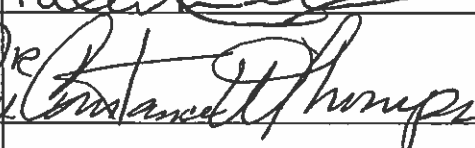


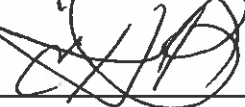


Brenda Burwell	1620 N Hamilton St Rich VA 23230 #202	Brenda Burwell
Oscar Lacks	1139 North Place Rich VA, 23223	Oscar W. Lacks
Michelle Dalton	6006 Grayson Ave RVA 23222	Michelle Dalton
Rohet Weyerside	3102 French St Richmond VA 23221	Royce Weyerside
DeYonda RIVERS	1310 Bull Run Dr. Henrico VA 23231	
Stacy Hawkin	10750 Timber Chesapeake VA	Stacy Hawkin
Patricia L. Crute	2901 Glenan Dr Rich 23234	Patricia L. Crute
Joseph Sams Jr	3021 Montrose Ave Richmond VA. 23222	
James E Henson Jr	8637 Shadymist Ave North Chesterfield 23235	James E Henson, SR
John R. Fitzgerald, III.	6709 N. Grand Blvd 4 Richmond, VA. 23225	John R. Fitzgerald, III.
Thelma Branch	1601 Gynn St Richmond VA 23224	
Denise C. Hill	521 Lowell St Richmond VA 23231	
Veronica Williams	1233 (C. P. BOSTON) - (62) 23114	Veronica Williams
Chanelle S. M	1916 Blair St. Richmond, Va. 23220	Chanelle
G.M. Penn	4027 Cuddehull St Richmond, VA	



Valerie Westphal	2707 Northumberland	Valerie Westphal
ALEXIS SCOTT	1142A KOLLMONT CT. N. CHESTERFIELD, VA 23238	Alexis Scott
Angela Moseley Scott	1142A KOLLMONT CT. N. CHESTERFIELD, VA 23238	Angela Moseley Scott
Delores Moseley	3208 Douglasdaye Rd. RICHMOND, VA 23221	Delores Moseley
Jacqueline Saspee	4325 Cretakfield St Apt 309	Jacqueline Saspee
James Hutchins	801 Rex Av	James Hutchins
David C. Deay	5120 J Norman Dr Charlottesville, VA 22903	David C. Deay
Lolaya McHead	102 E Cary St PO BOX 35916	Lolaya McHead
Jada Henry	521 Lowell St	Jada Henry
Jane Alexander	Richmond, VA 23223	Jane Alexander
BRENDA MOORE	3705 Moody Ave Richmond VA 23225	Brenda Moore
Camen Eruch	7312 Newlay Crossing Dr Apt 701 N. Chesterfield, VA 23235	Camen Eruch
Jackie McFarland	601 Winnetka Ave 300 Randolph St #315 Richmond, VA 23220	Jackie McFarland
Phyllis Smith	3545 Pierson Dr Chesterfield, VA 23838	Phyllis Smith

Christy Smith	1916 Blair St Richmond, VA 23226	Christy Smith
Julia Underwood	4895 Penny Ln Glen Spring, VA 23065	Julia Underwood
MARK A. Holloway	5120 Linkshire Lane Providence Forge, VA 23146	<del>Mark A. Holloway</del>
Stephani V Sams	3021 Montrose AV Richmond VA 23222	Stephani V. Sams
C. Shirley Gault	1017 Hi Oaks Rd #230 Rich, VA. 23225	C Shirley Gault
L.K. Gethers	6709 N. Grand Brook Circle Richmond, VA 23225	L.K. Gethers
I. Gethers	6709 N. Grand Brook Circle Richmond, VA 23225	Swoy Gethers
Irwin Jackson	2812 LAURADAKE Ln Richmond, VA. 23234	
J Sterling Smith	1807 Clarifield St Rich VA 23224	
Berlette Jacobs	1139 KORTA Place Richmond, VA 23228	BK Jacobs
Tomoka Mitchell	1713 CHIBURN ST Richmond, VA 23220	Tomoka Mitchell
Alfreda Davis	3430 Cedar Grove Rd Richmond VA 23235	Alfreda Davis
Maria Deane	13911 Berkley Davis Dr Chesterfield, VA 23838	Maria Deane
Trina McCall	5710 Dendron Drive Richmond, VA 23223	
		

Grace Quarles Edward Quarles	Richmond 4710 Cutshave Ave. VA 23230	
KIRBY BATTLE	2967 GLENAN DR RICHMOND, VA 23234	
Elisha Jordan	2618 Geneva Dr. Richmond, VA 23224	
Charlie Aiken	8530 Scottingham court 23236	
Lily A. Omond	8303 Penobscot Rd Henrico 23227	
Valenet. J. Dixon	1306 S. Meadows St Richmond, VA 23220	
Constance W. Thompson	2316 Fernbrook Dr Richmond VA 23224	
Aaron Darden	2618 Geneva Dr Richmond VA	
Valencia Darden	2618 Geneva Dr Richmond VA 23224	
Carrie <del>Thompson</del>	1054 Gayfield Rd Richmond, Va. 23215	



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PRINT NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
Horace Fields	5618 ERICK CT Richmond Va	Horace Fields
Valerie S. Gilbert	Second Baptist Church	Valerie S. Gilbert
Russel Archer	G. B. Church	Russel Archer
Gregory Turner	5013 Bobwhite Ln	Gregory Turner
Archer Collier Jr	3130 Parkwood Ave	Archer Collier Jr
Sean Taylor	7730 Shady Dr	Sean Taylor
Herbert M. Anderson	5305 Dalglish Rd PR	Herbert M. Anderson
Kee A Ford	4407 Fieldrun NE Chester	Kee A Ford
RIC MORTON	320 CONFED FRATE RUN CT	Ric Morton
Cornell Andrews	4912 Thornhurst Dr Arlington VA 22225	Cornell Andrews
David Calloway	1907 Laning Av	David Calloway

Print

Address

Signature

Print	Address	Signature
Beatrice Scott	3308 Litchfield Pl. <sup>Richmond</sup> VA 23222	Beatrice Scott
WELFORD Lewis	805 Edgemoor Rd	Welford Lewis
Kenneth Threant	3224 Douglas Ave	Kenneth Threant
Dorothy Harrison	390 Autumnhaze	D. Harrison
James Harrison	919 Bramwell Rd	J. B. Harrison
Elsie Holmes Elsie Holmes	8157 Indian Springs Rd	Elsie Holmes
Samuel Branch	6104 Hymer Rd	Sam Branch
Connie Turner	5507 Ironhorse Rd	Connie Turner
Bernard Turner	5507 Ironhorse Rd	Bernie Turner
Hal S. White	4306 Amberly Rd Richmond, VA	Hal S. White
Patrick Foster	3701 R Street Richmond, VA	Patrick Foster
Kristen Hobson	8101 Chippitza Ave	Kristen Hobson
Martin Roane	2025 E. Main St 110 Richmond VA 23223	Martin Roane
Scherronda Brooks	1008 Garber Street Richmond, VA 23231	Scherronda Brooks

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PRINT NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
MAISHA McCollum	3306 Edgewood Ave	Maisha McCollum
Teresa White	3517 Griffin Ave	Teresa White
Ida McCollum	3306 Edgewood Ave	Ida McCollum
Rudolph McCollum	7417 Lakeview Ave	Rudolph McCollum
Carole Jones Hall	7600 E. Park Ave Rd <sup>Apt</sup> 103	Carole Jones Hall
Carolyn Washington	1504 S. Geneva	Carolyn Washington
Shirley Montague	2213 Warwick Ave	Shirley Montague
Rev. Dr. Dudley Phyllis	2600 Odlewood Ave	Dudley Phyllis
Brenda Francis	2600 Odlewood Ave	Brenda Francis
Donathy Warden	2419 Parkwood Ave	Donathy Warden
Charles M. of Mrs. M. Nicholson	9533 Brant Lane Glen Allen VA	Charles M. Nicholson

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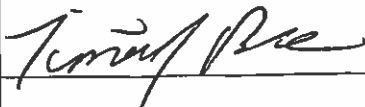




PRINT NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
Charles B. Wall, Jr	604 Hickory Tree Dr.	Charles B. Wall, Jr.
Samuel Stokes	3101 Cove Ridge Rd	Samuel Stokes
Ricardo McMeore	401 Beechan Dr	Ricardo McMeore
Edward Lee	6901 Alpealaine Dr	Edward Lee
ELWOOD SOOKINS, JR	4608 Greatwood Dr	Elwood Sookins Jr
Lloyd Mosley	4204 MYLANE	Lloyd Mosley
WELDON EDWARDS	8706 Midway Rd.	Weldon Edwards
Harvey Wilcox	4935 Millers Ln	Harvey Wilcox
HAROLD HARRIS	802 Oxbrook Rd	Harold Harris
LARRY MANLEY	324 NORTH 24 <sup>TH</sup> ST.	Larry Manley
CARLTON HARRIS	3306 LAMB AVE	Carlton Harris

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PRINT NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
Timothy Brown	2813 Edgewood av	
Derrick L Martin	5555 South St	
LORINE TAYLOR	4912 Breckstone Pl. N. Chesterfield	
FREAGER SANDERS	11600 DRAYTON LANDING CHESTER, VA 23831	
Louis Bonaparte	3405 Delano St.	

Print	Address	Signature
LeVonne E Johnson	3418 East Broad St	LeVonne E Johnson
McDaniel X Anderson	3400 STRATFORD RD	MCDANIEL X ANDERSON
BERNADETTE ANDERSON	23525 3400 Stratford Rd.	Bernadette Anderson
Jada C. Flowers	1301 Claiborne Street	Jada C. Flowers
ALVIN MAHORN	4700 Birkfield Ct.	Alvin Mahorn
NATHANIEL WILLIAMS	1503 1/2 1995 W Cary St	Nathaniel William
Melody Washington	1231 Pearson St. #A	Melody Washington
Wayne Cole	23705 Delmont	Wayne Cole
Angela Gordon	478 Westoverhill Blvd	Angela Gordon
Violet Mahone	4700 Burtfield Ct	Violet Mahone
WALTER LANEY	3428 Lockinva	Walter D. Laney
SYLVIA LANIER	3428 Lockinva	Sylvia Lanier
Althea Smith	22 S. Meadow St Apt 305	Althea Smith
DOUGLAS JOHNSON	2617 GAY AVE RICH VA, 23231	Douglas Johnson III
Michael B. Hawkins	315 N. 36th St.	M. B. Hawkins

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PRINT NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
James Giles	1620 West Hall Garden	James Giles
JAMES HAYES	822 FAIR ST	James Hayes
Alfred Jones	2505 The Terrace	Alfred Jones
REGINALD EDWARDS SR.	301 HOOPER LN.	Reginald Edwards
GREG WALLACE	2022 HOSPITAL ST APR 11/12	Gregory Wallace
William Barrett	9232 Kings Charter Dr Mech. VA 23116	William Barrett
Emily R Carter	2817 Windsorwood Dr Rich. Va 23225	Emily R Carter
ELWOOD SOOKINS, JR	4608 GREATWOOD DRIVE RICHMOND, VA 23231	Elwood Sookins, Jr
Charles Pleasants, Jr	6408 Oakmead Ln Henrico VA 23231	Charles Pleasants, Jr
Carlton Byrd	1011 N 35 <sup>th</sup> Street Richmond, Va 23223	Carlton Byrd
Keith W. Burton	5912 Willowbranch Drive North Chesterfield, VA 23234	Keith W Burton

Vernon Allen	5108 Sulky Drive	Vernon Allen
Mckenzie Fisher	809 Old Denny St.	Mckenzie Fisher
Arman Moran	301 Karl Linn Dr	Arman Moran
Nathan Munford	1514 Oakwood, Ave.	Nathan Munford
Jaleese Arrington	12417 Branner Way	Jaleese Arrington
Londrey Henderson	408 Acaposew Dr	Londrey Henderson
Jae Pickering	5979 Dugut Ter	Jae Pickering
Roxanne Pickering	5979 Dugut Ter	Roxanne Pickering
Schonda Brooks	1008 Garber Street	Schonda Brooks
Conden B Montage	1902 W. Livingston Ave	Conden B Montage
John Lewis	3115 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ave	John Lewis

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PRINT NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
Todd Anderson	2604 Idlewood Ave	Todd Anderson
Rita Henderson	6501 Erhart Rd	Rita Henderson
Audrey Anderson	210 E. 34th St.	Audrey Anderson
Bessie Lee Hamy	1138 Summit	Bessie Lee Hamy
Gracie D. Dolly	2314 Maplewood Ave	Gracie D. Dolly
Bessie Banks	102 S. Laurel Ave	Bessie Banks
Rose M Turner	2320 Maplewood Ave	Rose M Turner
Rose E Turner	" "	Rose E Turner
Bessie Anderson	624 Westover Hills Blvd	Bessie Anderson
Bernadine Spencer	5701 Victoria Park Tern N. Chesterfield, VA 23234	Bernadine Spencer
Cornell Roan	PO Box 58012 Rich VA 23231	Cornell Roan

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PRINT NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
Sandra Allison	2618 Seminary Ave	Sandra Allison
Pamela Bridgeforth	5513 Limestone Drive	Pamela Bridgeforth
Gayle Wilkerson	8405 Klarey Ct, Henrico	Gayle A. Wilkerson
Zolandra Friday	10707 Mountain Ash Dr.	Zolandra Friday
Linda Anderson	709 Goddard Rd	Linda W. Anderson
Celeste M. Gary	14225 BERAMUDA PKY	Celeste M. Gary
Aileen E. Coles	3455 Riverview Dr Richmond, VA 23225	Aileen E. Coles
Robinette F. Diggs	2505 WCHYPOINT Rd Hopewell VA 23860	Robinette F. Diggs
Janya N. Lyle	7700 Belasco DR North Chesterfield	Janya N. Lyle

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PRINT NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
Bobby Hall	1923 Lakewood	Bobby Hall
Denise A. Coleman	5701 Victoria Park Terrace	Denise A. Coleman
<del>MRS</del> Leroy Finch	2604 Edgewood Ave	Leroy Finch
MAYESMA E FINCH	2604 Edgewood Ave	Mayesma E. Finch
JACQUELINE MCCOLLUM	3356 EDGEWOOD AVE	Hall

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PRINT NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
Deborah Alston	1201 Middleberry Dr. Henrico VA 23231	Deborah Alston
Ron Spencer	14412 Huntgate Woods Middleton, VA 23112	Ron Spencer
Debra Womack	1515 Wallace Street Richmond Va. 23226	Debra Womack
Lucy B. Jones	Unit C 940 Masters Row	Lucy B Jones
Harry T. Jones	Unit C 940 Masters Row	Lucy B Jones
Charles E. Tefl, Jr	6304 Dawnfield Ln 23231	Ch E Tefl
Angela C. Taylor	6304 Dawnfield Ln 23231	Angela C Taylor
Angela Hannah Taylor	6304 Dawnfield Lane, 23231	Angela Hannah Taylor
Butch Jones	1477 Avondale Woods Dr Glen Allen, Va	Butch Jones
Tachon King	Unit E 920 Masters Row	Tachon King
Elwood Thomas	1705 Fox Downs Ct Rich, Va. 23231	Elwood Thomas

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PRINT NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
Donald Bentley	7007 Whitewater Dr N. Chesterfield 23113	Donald Bentley
Randa Dixon	1201 Lakeview Ave #1 Richmond Va 23220	Randa Dixon
Linda Collins	1805 Idlewood Ave Richmond, Va 23200	Linda Collins
Andrea Long Wimbush	3700 Sunora Drive Richmond, VA 23234	Andrea L Wimbush
Pamie Andrew	Richmond Va	Pamie L Andrew
Gerald L Stovall III	6085 Kikmia	Gerald L Stovall III

# Byrd Park Civic Association

Richmond, Virginia 23220

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March 13, 2026

James Bracey Street Honoring Committee c/o Khari Branch-Nkabinde 725 Arts and Culture LLC  
Email: [khari@725artsandculture.org](mailto:khari@725artsandculture.org)

## **Re: Letter of Support — Honorary Street Name Designation for the 2300 Block of Rosewood Avenue in Honor of James Bracey**

Dear Members of the James Bracey Street Honoring Committee,

On behalf of the Byrd Park Civic Association, I am pleased to write this letter in full support of the initiative to designate the 2300 block of Rosewood Avenue with an honorary street name in recognition of James Bracey and his extraordinary contributions to the youth of the West End and the broader Richmond community.

This matter was formally presented to the membership of the Byrd Park Civic Association at a duly noticed general meeting held on February 11, 2026, at which a quorum was present. Following discussion, a motion was made and seconded to support the honorary street name designation. A vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously with no opposition or abstentions.

The Byrd Park Civic Association believes that an honorary street name designation on the block where James Bracey lived is a fitting and meaningful tribute to his lasting impact on our community.

Sincerely,

Daniel Alloway  
President, Byrd Park Civic Association