



43rd Street  
Festival Photos  
page 10

## Hopes for House Tour Still High; Homes Sought for 2009 Lineup

Many people enjoyed the two house tours sponsored by the Forest Hill Neighborhood Association in the past. On the first one, residents of 14 houses opened their homes on a beautiful day in the spring. Attendance was high and the association profited, and was able to contribute to projects to improve the community. The second one was a lot of fun, included seven houses, and was not quite as profitable. However, attendees agreed it was a great event.

Plans for another house tour have hit a few roadblocks. First of all, the committee chairs were transferred to South Africa by their company. Even though there are strong committee members, no one has stepped forward to take over the chairmanship.

Secondly, of the 700 households in Forest Hill, only six volunteered their homes for a tour. Dave Broocke, who serves on the committee, said, "We really need a strong showing of houses to make the tour successful and ensure that subsequent tours are attended".

Dave and Amy Broocke opened their home for the last house tour. Amy said, "It was very festive and fun. It made us take care of projects we had put off for a long time."

To help get the house tour going again, please contact Grace LeRose at 804-332-2704.

## 5K Event Slated for Valentine's Day

By Zac and Katie Sheldon  
*Event Coordinators*

The inaugural "Heart Tree 5K" will take place on Valentine's Day (Saturday, February 14, 2009) at 9:00 am. This event will be a community walk/run race through the Forest Hill Neighborhood. Proceeds will benefit our neighborhood association and a portion of the proceeds will be donated to an employee appreciation fund for the Richmond Police Department,

3rd Precinct, Sector 312, who serve to protect our neighborhood and surrounding areas



(Woodland Heights, Westover Hills, Stratford Hills, Jahnke, Midlothian, and more).

The cost to participate in the 5K is \$15, which includes a long-sleeve t-shirt.

To make this event a success, we hope you will participate by racing or volunteering. If you would like to help organize this event or volunteer on race day (organizers and volunteers will receive a free race t-shirt), please email [ihearttree5k@gmail.com](mailto:ihearttree5k@gmail.com).

### Patrick Henry Initiative Ratified:

## Charter School is Now Reality

The Patrick Henry charter school is now official. The Richmond Public Schools Board (RPS) and the Patrick Henry School of Science and Arts, LLC (PHSSA) signed a contract in October 2008 paving the way for the first charter school in the city (and only the fifth in the Commonwealth)! So now the *real* work begins with the goal of getting the school ready for students by July 2009.

Because such a long period elapsed during the contract development phase, RPS included in the contract an opportunity to delay the opening for one year if insufficient progress is made in preparation or fund raising. But PHSSA has high hopes and

interest from Richmond parents has been extraordinary.

PHSSA held a Volunteer Rally at the school on November 8th. It was a huge success thanks to more than 120 people who were in attendance. Attendees participated in a question and answer period, had drinks and sandwiches graciously donated by Crossroads Coffee and Ice Cream, WaWa, and Sheetz, then sat down to fill more than 20 committees working to open the school.

If you want to help the effort, visit the school website [patrickhenrycharter.org](http://patrickhenrycharter.org) and click the *Get Involved* tab. The school needs volunteers, donations (corporate and individual), and participation at

the weekly meetings (every Tuesday at 8:00PM at the Berryman Center, 400 W. 32nd Street).

The committees range from facilities, to curriculum, to grant writing. During the next two months, PHSSA is in particular need of donations as the school must fund the principal's salary and fringe during the first six months of operation. That and many start-up costs to get the school ready define the urgent need for donations.

The PHSSA Board of Directors suggests to all that it will be great to tell your grand children that YOU helped start Richmond's first charter school! Please consider donating and volunteering.

**Forest Hill Neighborhood Association Holiday Meeting/Social**  
Wednesday, December 10, 7:00-9:00 pm at the Stone House

## ***Association Recap: Notable Achievements Highlight 2008***

**by Grace LeRose, FHNA President**

I can't help it – this time of year is always bittersweet for me. The garden heaves its last breath before going dormant, but I love when the berries on the holly turn red. The hummingbirds go south, but the hawk and owl in Forest Hill Park are still around. I get to pull out my favorite beat-up sweatshirt, but I can't swim in the river anymore. It has taken me more years than I care to say to learn that the sweet in life would not be as sweet without some bitter. So I believe that next year I will see my favorite flowers again, marvel at the hummingbirds and dip my toes in the James.

I have a lot to be grateful for this season. Is it just me or has the foliage been particularly spectacular this year? The oranges of the maples seem to be brighter and the yellows of the ginkgos are stunning. Maybe it was because the weather played along and it was warm for so much of the fall and we could be outside to enjoy the show. Maybe it was that for the first time in my life I planted grass seed and it actually came up!

The Association has had another successful year – we have almost doubled membership. This is due to the hard work of



*Association members at the South of the James Market. From left, Grace LeRose, Bernard Casey, Susan Winiecki and Roger Clark.*

many people who worked the Association table at the Farmer's Market and the 43rd St. Festival and Music in the Park and who planned the events we all enjoyed throughout the summer and fall. We almost tripled the number of participants at the June yard sale and participated and helped sponsor the Good Shepherd Fall Festival.

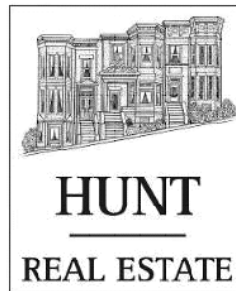
We had a fantastic Mayoral Candidates Forum in October in conjunction with our neighborhood associations to the East and West. For those of you unable to attend it was standing room only! The candidates answered thoughtful questions posed by the audience and I was awed by the attendance. The night spoke volumes about the people who live in the 4th district and their concern for their city and their neighbors. I was proud to be a part of it. We hope it puts the concerns of our neighborhoods on the map for the folks in City Hall!

We have some great events planned for next year – including an "I Heart Forest Hill 5 K" on February 14th. The route goes through our neighborhood (river views are promised) and begins and ends in Forest Hill Park. Check out this newsletter for an article on how to participate or just come out and cheer on the runners!

We also plan to keep the Music in the Park series to six concerts. The May and October concerts were well attended and

enjoyed by all. Look for some exciting new bands to entertain us next year! Thanks to our Corporate sponsors who helped us purchase additional stages for the musicians: Chick-fil-A, Dominion Heating and Air Conditioning, O'Tooles, Cielito Lindo and to our friends at Riverside Outfitters for bringing us the climbing gear. Thanks also to Crestwood Presbyterian church for the fun children's activities.

I hope you all will join us as we celebrate our year and enjoy a cup of cheer and a cookie at the Stone House in Forest Hill Park on December 10th at 7:00 pm for our Holiday Meeting. Come out to say hello to your neighbors or meet a new friend. We have much to celebrate!



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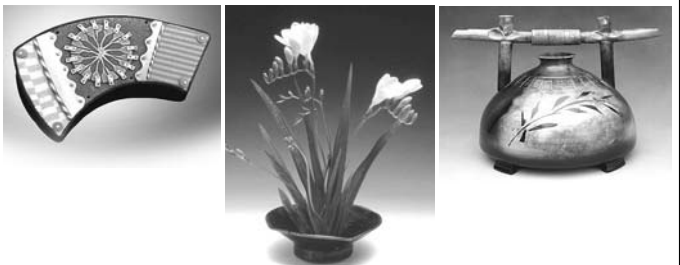
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# FOREST HILL FLYER

Published by the  
Forest Hill  
Neighborhood Association

## 2009 Publication Dates

**April 1**

Ad/Articles Deadline: 03/13/09

**July 1**

Ad/Articles Deadline: 06/12/09

**September 1**

Ad/Articles Deadline: 08/14/09

**December 1**

Ad/Articles Deadline: 11/13/09

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## Good Shepherd Fall Festival

# Local Support Appreciated



*Pumpkin Bowling was a popular challenge at the 2008 Fall Festival.*

The students, parents, teachers and administrators of the Good Shepherd Episcopal School cannot thank the Forest Hill Neighborhood Association enough for their collaboration and support. It was a cold day, but fun event!

The event was a terrific mix of Good Shepherd families

and the community surrounding it.

Children really enjoyed carnival games such as "find the turkey in the straw," "pumpkin bowling" and more traditional games like cup cake walk, basketball shoot, balloon pop, ring toss and knock the cans.

People enjoyed food from local restaurants, thanks to Cielito Lindo, Seven Hills Market and Maldinis. Live music at lunch was fun for residents of all ages.

The children truly appreciated the incredible Balloon Artist and Large Slide sponsored by the Forest Hill Neighborhood Association. Both were extremely popular and enjoyed by the crowd.

The event was a great success for Good Shepherd School and we truly appreciate your presence there and support for this community event. All at Good Shepherd School benefit from the wonderful surrounding community and park and appreciate all it has to offer. We hope Forest Hill residents enjoyed their time at the festival as well!

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# Forest Hill Ensemble to Perform December 11

FHASE, otherwise known as the "Forest Hill Adult String Ensemble", just celebrated its one year anniversary. Not only does the ensemble meet in the neighborhood, but also consists of some of your neighbors and friends!

FHASE was started in the fall of 2007 after Diana Cole and Suzanne Maerz (both of the Jan Hampton violin shop) took the opportunity to "sit-in" and play with the Short Pump Sinfonette – a combined elementary/middle school ensemble directed by William Raposo and Chris Novelli. It was after this rehearsal that Diana and Suzanne thought there should be an opportunity for beginning

*continued on Page 12*

Photo: Brent Tennessee



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Photo Brent Tennefoss

**Who's your human?** Keith and Michele MacPhee are my main squeezes, but I love my human sister Annie and brother Daniel very much too.

**Where and when did you get adopted?** I came from Laurel Ridge Goldendoodles in Blacksburg, VA.

**What's your heritage?** I am half Golden Retriever and half Standard Poodle. My parents were both little (40 lbs each) but I grew a little more than my human friends thought I would.

**What's your favorite toy?** I have a stuffed armadillo named "Baby" with shredded ears and tail that I love to squeak, chase Michele and poke her in the behind with it. Outside, I love for Keith to throw the football with me.

**What's your best trick?** If you hide a treat in your hand and let me try to pick which one it is in, I will guess right 50% of the time! If I get 2 guesses, I'll be right 100% of the time.

**What are your best traits?** I am super friendly and I love to play chase with my doggy friends in the neighborhood, Dolly, Ranger, Rasta, Mr. Snoots, Prudie, Lucy, Sonny, Sage, and Darcy to name a few. I love children and I don't jump on them (adults, sometimes I do).

**What else do you have to say about yourself?** I love to go on walks in the neighborhood and in Forest Hill Park. I love going to the Market also because there's nothing better than being around friends, human and canine.

*To nominate a candidate for the Celebrity Pooch profile please contact Martha Cooper by email: [martha\\_cooper@verizon.net](mailto:martha_cooper@verizon.net)*

## The Flyer Profile:

# Celebrity Pooch

**What's your name and age?** My name is Django (the 'D' is silent) Reinhardt MacPhee. I'm named after the famous jazz guitarist, not Jango Fett the Star Wars villain. I will be 2 years old in December.



## Westover Hills Library News

By Laura Dysart

Please welcome the new Westover Hills Library children's librarian, Carol Tucker! Come back to story time at the Westover Hills Library!

**Toddler Story Time** (18 months to 36 months): Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m.

**Book Babies** (up to 17 months): Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.

**Preschool Story Time** (ages 3-5): Thursdays at 11:00 a.m.

Westover Hills Library Annual Children's Winter Fest will take place on Saturday, January 17th from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Come out of the cold for crafts and entertainment!

Please stop by the library for a monthly "Check It Out Brochure" to get the latest information on programming for that month including Wednesday Movie Nights at the Library. The Westover Hills Library Advisory Group has purchased a new movie projector and screen for better quality movie viewing.

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## Meet Your Neighbor

# Barnett is Drawn to Community Aspect of Forest Hill

By Martha Cooper  
FLYER Editor

The Happy Lucky Combo, which plays in different venues around town, has Forest Hill resident Pippin Barnett as its percussionist. "Pippin" is a nickname he acquired in high school because his classmates thought he was like the Tolkien character.

Pippin, his wife Kerry Mills, and son, Miles, have lived on West 46th Street for five years. Pippin says he likes the sense of community in Forest Hill – seeing people on their porches, walking their dogs, and just meeting your neighbors on a regular basis.

He also likes crossing the river everyday. He said it is a good indicator of the climate, and makes for a scenic ride, especially since he goes across the parks at each side of the



*Pippin Barnett at his regular Wednesday night gig at O'Tooles.*

Nickel Bridge.

In addition to his various musical engagements, Pippin works as an independent contractor renovating homes and commercial properties, cabinet making, and other types of woodworking.

Pippin grew up in Nutley, N.J., and in Tokyo, Japan, where he took up drums at the age of 12. Since then has traveled all over the U.S. and parts of Europe, playing in numerous bands. In the 80s and 90s he played with the Orthotonics, Curlew, Nimal (a Swiss group) and many others.

When he moved to Richmond from Detroit in 1973, the first person he met was

Barry Bless. It was through Barry that he became involved in music in Richmond.

The two of them opened up the Main Street Grill for evening performances and comedy nights and have been musically involved ever since.

Pippin also plays with the Ululating Mummies, a band that has been around for over

20 years. One of the most unusual things he does is play with The Richmond Indigenous Gourd Orchestra. He not only plays, but he and the other musicians make all the instruments out of gourds. Pippin says it is the only band they know of in the world that plays music with "gourd instruments" exclusively.

Pippin has no favorite type of music. "If the musicians have their hearts in it and love what they do, the music is usually worth listening to," he commented.

Music is becoming a family tradition with son Miles studying piano and violin.

You can see Pippin perform at O'Tooles at 4800 Forest Hill Ave. with the Happy Lucky Combo on Wednesday nights from 8:00-10:30 pm.

*If you want to suggest someone for this column please contact: martha\_cooper@verizon.net.*

## FOREST HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION BOARD

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### A Few Faces at the 43rd Street Festival

The festival celebrated its 17th anniversary and drew the usual enthusiastic crowds on Saturday, September 13, 2008. Photos: Brent Tennefoss



## Local Chick-fil-A On Mission to Foster Relationships within the Community

By Sandy Thurston  
**Chick-fil-A Marketing Dir.**

One of Forest Hill's favorite restaurants, Chick-fil-A, has a long history of community involvement. These connections include sponsoring sporting events, scholarships and neighborhood events. The Chick-fil-A was a sponsor of this year's popular concert series Music in the Park.

Tricia Fox, owner and operator of Stratford Hills Chick-fil-A, had no plans to make a life altering career change six years ago. "I became interested in Chick-fil-A because my Uncle Jeff owns one in Atlanta" Fox said. After working at her uncle's store she was assigned a store in Ohio.

"My husband Carl and I both have family in North Carolina and we wanted to be closer to them. We wanted our daughter Madeline to have those family connec-

tions." Tricia and her husband moved to Richmond and opened the Stratford Hills store.

Tricia loves having the ability to partner with the schools, churches and not-for-profits in the community by offering food donations, coupons, fund-raisers and family oriented events at her store.

Tricia employs many students at her store. "It gives me an opportunity to be a mentor to the youth working for us." Chick-fil-A offers scholarship programs; the ability to have Wednesday evenings off to attend church and are closed on Sundays. "Partnering with Chick-fil-A has been extremely rewarding." Fox said

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### KATHY GRAZIANO, 4TH DISTRICT CITY COUNCIL

## Park is Focus of Activity

There are three big events involving our parks that will take place this fall.

The restoration contract for Forest Hill Lake should be signed in early December. Five firms were selected as qualified to bid, and invitations issued. Two are local, but one is based in New England and reportedly has experience in pond/lake restoration. The bids should be awarded early in the month with work to begin as early as possible.

The restoration will probably be done by suction dredging, rather than with mechanical equipment.

The floors at the historic Stone House are also scheduled for some restorative work. The work will be paid for by the last of the Council District grant provided by Council Member Kathy Graziano almost four years ago, and has been reviewed by a representative of Friends of Forest Hill Park. The current floor is almost 75 years old.

The long-awaited conservation easement to protect James River Park from development is almost complete. The document should be presented to City Council and the planning commission shortly after the first of the year. The easement, the first of its kind in the nation, will keep park property from ever being sold, and will prohibit commercial, industrial or residential development in the 440-acre James River Park system. The easement is the result of work done and a resolution introduced by Council Member Graziano. The three-year long drafting process has involved city staffers from Mrs. Graziano's office, the Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities and the Department of Public Utilities.

### The Stone House at Forest Hill Park

*Welcomes all with holiday cheer  
As we celebrate and close  
yet another year*



Please join us Wednesday, December 10th  
from 7:00-9:00

Hosted by the Forest Hill Neighborhood Association



### Phideaux Field Party

Dogs and their owners are invited to a holiday party at Phideaux Field, Saturday, December 13th at 11 am. We will be serving refreshments. Location: the dog park of Forest Hill Presbyterian Church, 4401 Forest Hill Ave. Information: 233-4371.

### Westover Hills Library

Westover Hills Library Annual Children's Winter Fest will take place on Saturday, January 17th from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Come out of the cold for crafts and entertainment!

Weekly story schedule:

**Toddler Story Time** (18 months to 36 months): Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m.

**Book Babies** (up to 17 months): Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.

**Preschool Story Time** (ages 3-5): Thursdays at 11:00 a.m.

### ENSEMBLE

*continued from Page 4*

adult string students to participate in a similar ensemble; one which was designed specifically for adults. Our main goal for FHASE is to pro-

vide an opportunity for adult beginning string players to experience a group environment in a low-pressure/fun atmosphere!

Membership in FHASE is open to any adult string player who has been playing a minimum of 6 months and can read music in the first position of their instruments across all four strings.

We require a \$20/month participation fee. This helps us cover the cost of rehearsal space and acquiring sheet music to play.

The group rehearses once a week on Thursday evenings at the Forest Hill Presbyterian Church. You are welcome to observe a rehearsal to see if the group would be right for you. Please contact us at

### Join the Forest Hill Neighborhood Watch

Volunteer to be a Safety Coordinator for your block.

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For more information contact Shannon D. Taylor at [foresthillsafety@hotmail.com](mailto:foresthillsafety@hotmail.com) or 231-1789.

[fhase1@yahoo.com](mailto:fhase1@yahoo.com) for more information!

Please attend our upcoming holiday concert on December 11 at 7:30pm in the fellowship hall of the Forest Hill Presbyterian Church (located at 44th and Forest Hill Ave.) The concert is FREE!

### Woodland Heights Art Show to run Dec. 12 and 13

Woodland Heights Artists in Residence Holiday Show will be held Friday, Dec. 12, and Saturday, Dec. 13, at the Historic Stone House in Forest Hill Park. The show will feature such works as photography, jewelry, stained glass, fiber art, mobiles, cards, knitted scarves and handbags, decorative pieces and many, many other seasonal delights.

On Friday night Dec. 12, from 6 to 9 pm, there will be a special celebration including live music and refreshments for residents and surrounding communities. On Saturday, Dec. 13, the show is open to the general public from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. From 1:00-3:00 pm, there will be children's crafts, face painting with Fluffy the clown and, of course, the man himself, Santa Claus.

Artists contribute 20% of their gross sales to the Woodland Heights Community Association. There will also be an on-going art raffle for artist-donated items. Each total purchase from a vendor earns you a free raffle ticket.



### Music in the Park

The next-to-last concert in the summer series featured rock-a-billy band Hamburger James (above) on September 14. The music inspired some spontaneous dancing (below).

Photos: Brent Tennefoss



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### Forest Hill Neighborhood Association Membership Form

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