



## Alert 3-Year-Old Averts Serious Fire

In the wee hours of dawn on a Sunday in February, Landen Broocke, age 3, awoke from her usual deep sleep crying "Something is red, something is red!"

Her parents, Amy and Dave, brought her into their room to calm her down, when Dave noticed the fire next



Young Landen Broocke poses with her Junior Firefighter certificate awarded to her for alerting her parents of a fire outside their home.

door. A trash can fire had broken out and was beginning to spread.

If Landen hadn't woken up at 4:00 am, something that she never ever does, Dave would not have seen the fire next door, which was now quickly spreading from the trash can to the wooden telephone pole to the row of sev-

*continued on Page 7*



## South-of-the-James Market is an Instant Local Fave

With a minimum of fanfare the Market opened on the first weekend in May. That first curious crowd has grown each following week as word of the success and quality of the market has spread. Even some cruelly hot and humid Saturdays have not deterred the curious, and certainly not the regulars. The Market will continue operation into the Fall. See related article on Page 9. Photo Brent Tennesfoss

## Sunday in the Park with Friends Teams with Music in the Park on July 20th

By Monica Rumsey  
**Friends of Forest Hill Park**

If you were around for last summer's Sunday in the Park with Friends, you know that Forest Hill Park really comes alive on one special Sunday in July. This free, fun, family-centered event is designed to bring people together from across South Richmond for one great family picnic in the park. For 2008, the picnic will be held from noon to 4pm on Sunday, July 20.

What goes on? It's down home, old-fashioned fun, with clowns from Clown Alley, live music by Tammi Kamen, Tinker's Dam, and Corie Kelly and Friends; free food and drink; nature walks, history tours, eco-friendly exhibits; outdoor

games, face-painting, a misting tent to keep tots cool, and so much more.

As in years gone by, this event is co-sponsored by Friends of Forest Hill Park and 4th District Councilwoman Kathy Graziano. This year, it is made possible with funds and/or in-kind services from Verizon, Comcast, Dominion Virginia Power, Wal-Mart, Ukrop's, Virginia House of Delegates member Frank Hall, Forest Hill Neighborhood Association, Westover Hills Neighborhood Association, Woodland Heights Civic Association, Westover Hills Merchants Association, and the Richmond's Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities.

Sunday in the Park will be followed immediately by Music in the Park featuring a bluegrass concert by the Sugar Hollow Ramblers, 4:00 to 6:00 pm. (Music in the Park is presented monthly, May to October, by the Forest Hill, Westover Hills, and Woodland Heights Neighborhood Associations, with the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Community Facilities.)

**Want to Help?** Friends of Forest Hill Park need volunteers to help do everything from slice watermelon to supervise children in the misting tent. If you have a few hours to share the fun with us on July 20, please call Robley Jones at 233-3748 or email RobleyJ@aol.com.

**GRACE NOTES**

# Summertime in Forest Hill: 'Where All the Good Stuff Is'

by Grace LeRose, FHNA President

The hydrangeas have never been so profuse in my garden, thanks to the wet, cool spring. Their dark glossy leaves mingle with dozens of bluish purple compact blooms. For me nothing says summer like a big vase profuse with billowy hydrangeas. For those of us lucky enough to live in Forest Hill, Summer may mean a trip to the River with the pooch, a dive meet that lasts till midnight at the local pool, biking the many trails through the Parks, or simply enjoying the scene from our porches. Whatever your definition of Summer I encourage you to enjoy it; as someone once said, "The beginning of life is hard and the ending is sad - it's the middle where all the good stuff is." Summer is our middle - so get out there and make the most of it.

We have enjoyed our first two concerts of the Music in the Park series. Many thanks go to Keith McPhee and the Circuit Riders for their patience in waiting out the rain delay (and for escaping the rain on the second try!). It was a great first start for this summer series with all the kids enjoying dancing for their Chick-fil-A coupons. The Social Committee came up with a great idea of Corporate Sponsors to help us build a bigger stage for the bands. We are thrilled to have O'Tooles, Cielto Lindo, Chick-Fil-A and Dominion Heating & Air Conditioning as our very first Corporate Sponsors. Riverside Outfitters will be bringing a climbing tree to one of the concerts for the kids to try out for their contribution. We are also collaborating with folks at the Crestwood Presbyterian Church for other children's activities at the concerts. Many thanks to our neighbors for joining us. Check out this year's T-shirts - they are colorful and funky. Watch this space for future information on ordering your very own Forest Hill neighborhood flag.

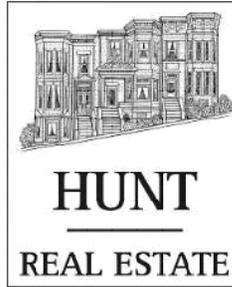
The first weekend in June saw the biggest number of participants ever for the neighborhood Yard Sale. Twenty-nine families joined together to clean out their garages, closets and attics and to offer these treasures to the rest of us. I heard only good comments about this event and expect that it will be even more popular next year. Thanks to Susan Campbell, Bernard Casey and Dorna Braswell for all their efforts in putting on this event (and to Brent Teneffoss for the expert map).

Shannon Taylor has volunteered to revitalize our Neighborhood Watch Program. This very important program depends solely on the efforts of each of us - knowing each other, watching out for each other and working collaboratively to protect each other. When your block captain knocks on your door asking for your participation in this very vital effort - please consider joining Shannon and her team. Contact Shannon if you are interested in becoming a block captain.

Our neighborhood has witnessed two highly visible controversial projects - the Patrick Henry Charter School initiative and the Manchester on the James project. We hope the PHI will revitalize a shuttered Patrick Henry Elementary School with an environmentally based curriculum in a refurbished "green" building for all children in Richmond. In addition, as we strive to balance the competing forces of growth and preservation, we hope the Springhill development will not overburden our neighbors to the east in Old & Historic Springhill.

Looking ahead for the FHNA, we are planning another joint meeting with Woodland Heights and Westover Hills for a candi-

dates' forum for September. We are also putting together a special meeting for ways our neighborhood can go "green". We hope to have information on ways we can all help the planet and lessen our footprint. We hope to present the following topics: green lawn care, recycling, James River Association representatives, City of Richmond arborists and the Department of Environmental Quality. Finally, we are planning a Fall Festival in October with Good Shepherd School. We will be taking the month of July off both to enjoy our summer and to prepare for the fall events we have planned. Please join us for the next Association meeting on August 13 at the Presbyterian Church at 44th and Forest Hill Ave. at 7:00 pm.



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Photo: Martha Cooper

**The Flyer Profile:**

# Celebrity Pooch

**What's your name and age?** My name is Marty and I am four months old.

**Who are your humans?** Mary and Patrick Maiberger.

**Where and when did you get adopted?** I was adopted at 12 weeks old from Rhoadesville, Virginia, from a nice family that has nineteen adult Basset Hounds.

**What's your heritage?** I am a Basset Hound.

**What's your favorite toy?** I have a puzzle cube toy that releases food if I play with it, Yum!

**What's your best trick?** Getting strangers to rub my belly!

**What are your best traits?** I love children, cats, dogs, squirrels, birds, people, and anything I can smell. I love to be the center of attention, and can be very stubborn. You may see my humans trying to coax me into walking when I just feel like sitting.

**What else do you have to say about yourself?** I have big feet and trip on my ears a lot. I am enjoying my walks through the Forest Hill Neighborhood, albeit at a slow pace.

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## Meet Your Neighbor

# Deborah Fellman's Art Delights Kids – and the FBI

By Martha Cooper  
FLYER Editor

Forest Hill is known for a lively diversity of residents, but perhaps one of the most unique is Deborah Fellman, a nationally known balloon artist and owner of BalloonEntertainment.com. She has been creating works of balloon art and entertaining guests of all ages throughout Virginia since 2003. Who else do you know



*Not mad, but definitely a Hatter, Deborah Fellman displays her sartorial flair at the South-of-the-James Market where she regularly demonstrates her balloon art.*

*Photo Martha Cooper*

who could claim to be the preferred balloon artist to the FBI at Quantico? A Tidewater native, Deborah has lived in the neighborhood for over three years.

Deborah's roster of clients includes; Cantor for Congress, Capital One, UPS, the YMCA

and Regal Cinemas. Not only does she cover her local area of Richmond, she's been engaged to tour the Eastern Seaboard for the UPS Centennial Event, and has done municipal celebrations in Ashland, Fairfax, McLean, Glen Allen, Fredericksburg and Richmond. She's become a fixture in regional library systems, and is regularly featured on Thursday nights at the Mexico Restaurant in the Arboretum on the Midlothian Turnpike.

"I love the corporate and municipal jobs, but it's always a thrill when a child to whom I've given a balloon immediately turns to his parents and asks if I can be invited to their birthday party! That excitement lets me know that I've done my job well. Those parties keep me in touch with the reason I first started—which was to have fun with my nephews."

Deborah says her career as a balloon artist began when she took the elder of her two (then) little nephews to the Smithsonian. "Neither the dinosaur skeletons in the Natural History Museum nor the IMAX movies in Air and Space Museum made an impression. All he remembers of that day is that on our return journey a naval officer boarded the train at the Pentagon station, and pulled a skinny pink balloon from his pocket which he transformed into a balloon dog. I understood the power of that pink poodle though, because as a child myself I always thought balloon twisting was magic! So when a few years later I came across a balloon twisting manual at a book store, it seemed like a perfect activity to share with my little guys."

"I learned twenty designs that first night and thought that was as good as it gets, but shortly thereafter I discov-

ered a convention called Balloon and Magic Mania—and learned balloons could be an art form. Last year I was invited back to that same convention as an instructor."

She says that a common question is whether you have to go to school to be a balloon artist. Deborah says, "I always tell the kids to go to college first! Believe it or not I studied French to English literary translation. Seriously, there are about a dozen international balloon art conventions held annually, and I try to attend about three per year. My French is useful for that. More than once I've pulled double duty as a translator."

But if you ask Deborah what was her best moment as a balloon artist, she'll tell you a story about the time she and

her family went to Manteo, NC on vacation. She recalls that "Another family joined us at our picnic table and my younger nephew (and balloon critic) turned up his discerning nose at the basic balloon creation their child was holding. My nephew soberly told the other little boy that he should give the balloon to his Aunt Debbie, because she would make it into something good!"

Deborah, who has a day job at Capital One, demonstrates her talents at the farmer's market at Forest Hill Park a couple of times a month.

For more information on Deborah and her balloon designs, go to [www.BalloonEntertainment.com](http://www.BalloonEntertainment.com) or call 888-213-7884.

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# City Council Passes Development Despite Vocal Opposition from South Richmond Neighborhoods

By Carolyn Paulette  
FLYER Correspondent

Much to the disappointment of concerned area residents, the much-debated Springhill development passed on June 9th with little opposition from the nine members of City Council.

Crosland, a developer from Charlotte, North Carolina, proposed to build a 200-unit apartment complex with a 350-space parking deck and limited commercial space on the corner of Riverside Drive and Cowardin Avenue adjacent to the James River Park and the historic Springhill neighborhood.

To do so, they needed a Special Use Permit (SUP). Traditionally, a SUP requires the neighborhood's endorsement, but in this case Council

ignored the public opposition.

Thirteen speakers from the affected neighborhoods voiced their opposition to the project, giving substantive, fact-based presentations that highlighted the main issues: the massive size and design of the building which is so incongruent with the river and the neighborhood, the project's lack of development plans, the potential for traffic congestion, inadequate provisions for security, and procedural irregularities during the planning process. These issues were explained in more depth, and with graphics, in a bound packet that residents had compiled and distributed to each Council member the week before the hearing.

There were only five resident speakers in favor of the

project and only one was a resident of the area. Their main argument was that these neighborhoods were "opposed to progress."

With more than 100 residents standing in opposition in chambers that night, and despite having received petitions containing more than

1000 signatures of individuals opposing the issuance of the SUP, City Council perfunctorily voted 6 to 3 in favor of the project.

Fifth District Councilman Marty Jewell's support was unwavering and he berated his constituents for their opposition.

## Lake Makeover May Start in Fall

The latest on the Forest Hill lake renovation, from Richmond's Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services, is that, having secured a permit for lake renovations from the Army Corps of Engineers this spring, the final engineering drawings will soon go to the City's Procurement Services Department.

If all goes as planned, Pro-

curement will send out requests for proposals on various phases of the project sometime this summer, with work to begin in the fall.

If you want to join Friends of Forest Hill Park in its ongoing efforts to preserve, maintain, improve, and educate people about Forest Hill Park, go to: [foresthillpark.rpfoundation.org](http://foresthillpark.rpfoundation.org).

***"We can't have neighborhoods without neighborhood schools"***



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## LANDEN

Continued from Page 1

eral cars parked closely together. With car tires beginning to explode, the fire was in danger of igniting the gas tank and spreading to other nearby cars and homes, all wooden.

Dave was able to call 911 right away and the firemen at local Station 20 on Forest Hill Avenue arrived quickly to this area on 44th Street. "We are so lucky to have the brave firemen right in our neighborhood. The fire, which looked

extremely scary to us, seemed to be nothing to these brave men," Dave said. "They quickly put the fire out and truly saved the day! Our heroes!"

Barbara Wust, a neighbor on this street, is good friends with one of the firemen at Firehouse 20, Frank McKearin, a veteran fireman who has served many here in Richmond and in Vermont.

She told him about Landen's fortuitous vision the morning of the fiery near disaster, and he sprang into action. He visited Landen at her house and honored her

with the title "Junior Firefighter" and showered her with gifts that she treasures: a fire hat with Quint 20 on it, a t-shirt with Station 20 emblazoned on it, a fire cup, and a framed certificate with Junior Firefighter written on it for her to hang in her room.

Dave reports that Landen feels truly special and whenever she sees a fire truck or hears a siren she lets everyone know that she had better go get her fire hat so that she can join Fireman Frank and the other heroes at Station 20 because she's a firefighter, too.

## Another Record for Neighborhood Yard Sale

Despite the temperature hovering around 100 degrees, the Forest Hill neighborhood saw a good turn-out for its 3rd Annual Neighborhood Yard Sale. This year, we broke the record again with 29 households participating.

It's not too early to start planning now for next year's sale. Mark it on your calendar: the first Saturday in June, June 6, 2009!

### FOREST HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

#### Grace LeRose

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#### Susan Winiecki

vice president, editor@richmag.com or 232-2847

#### Roger Clark

treasurer, 232-6898

#### Vicky Hamrick

secretary/membership chair

#### Janet Bowers

board, social committee, 200-1922

#### Dave Broocke

board, social & house tour committees

#### Bernard Casey

board, social committee, stonewallave@yahoo.com

#### Rob Jones

board, park improvement, robleyj@aol.com

#### Phil Licking

board, webmaster, phil@adeptadvertising.com

#### Kathryn Skudlarek

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# Reedy Creek Coalition Lives On!

By **Monica Rumsey**  
**FLYER Correspondent**

*Poor Reedy Creek! Nobody loves it—or do they?* Last December, a "green" task force came together to address the ongoing problem of impaired water quality in the Reedy Creek Watershed. The group started with a handful of members from Friends of Forest Hill Park, the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, and faculty from the Geography Department at VCU.

Recently, the group decided to adopt the name "Reedy Creek Coalition," the one that a group of concerned citizens used several years ago to prevent excessive development along Reedy Creek, near Crutchfield Street. (They succeeded, and later disbanded.)

**"If you live or work in the watershed we want to reach you"**

The new Reedy Creek Coalition has stated its goal, namely: "To raise community awareness among all those who live or conduct business on land that drains into the Reedy Creek Watershed."

The "community" in this case will involve everyone in the Reedy Creek watershed, from the Beaufont area on Midlothian Turnpike, the Midlothian business corridor, the businesses and apartments along Belt Boulevard at Midlothian Turnpike, residents and businesses in Forest Hill, Woodland Heights, and Reedy Creek neighborhoods, all of Forest Hill Park, and on downstream, to where Reedy Creek empties into the James River. Students in schools located in or near the watershed will also be invited to learn how to reduce their impact on Reedy Creek and help keep their local watershed clean.

"If you live or work in the watershed," says Coalition

member Suzette Lyon, "we want to reach you. Our first public event will be at Sunday in the Park with Friends on July 20th.

We will have educational materials and take-home environmental audits to help you determine your watershed footprint. We will be taking names of those who wish to participate in a raffle to receive a free residential home

## **SAFETY TIP**

# Check Carefully When a Stranger Knocks

By **Shannon Taylor**  
**Forest Hill Neighborhood Watch Coordinator**

Knock knock! Has an unsolicited visitor knocked on your door recently? Did he ask you about installing a new burglary system? Did he try to convince you that your roof needs fixing or your gutters need to be replaced?

Please be very wary when answering the door to strangers. My personal philosophy is that if I don't know you and I'm not expecting you, I will not answer the door. It may be rude but it's safe.

However, if you choose to

audit conducted by a trained environmentalist. We will also lead a Watershed Walk, down to the lake in Forest Hill Park."

If you want to help make Reedy Creek healthy again, or want to learn more about the new Reedy Creek Coalition, please contact Chris French with the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay at 804-775-0951 or cfrench@acb-online.org.

answer the door and a stranger tries to sell you something, DON'T BUY IT! If a stranger tries to convince you that your house is going to fall apart if you don't give him money to fix it, DON'T BUY IT!

Scam artists routinely prey upon innocent trusting people. They will promise you services, take your money, and disappear. Without information like his real name, age, date of birth, physical description, car description, or address, the police probably won't find the con artist.

So how do you protect yourself? How do you tell

## **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 or 231-1789.

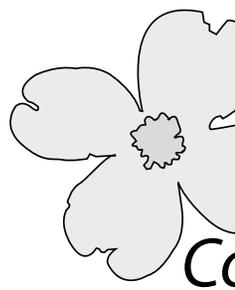
legitimate service providers from the scam artist?

### **Ask questions.**

Are you insured? Are you bonded? Do you have a business license? Do you have any literature or have a website? Do you have a list of references?

Legitimate companies will provide this information without making you feel guilty and without trying to pressure you into making a rash decision.

Be careful with your money; be careful with your property. Don't trust the nice looking stranger who knocks on your door unexpectedly.



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# It's Market Time, Every Saturday

By David Hathcock  
FLYER Contributor

The South of the James Market has been open since the first weekend in May, and has become the destination on Saturday mornings.

More than 30 vendors will be there, selling the freshest local produce, the healthiest organic meats and eggs, and the most tasteful and tasty treats and crafts.

It's also the best place in town to meet your neighbors and discuss what plants we need for our yards and gardens.

Every week more than 400 people walk, bike and drive in for the 8:00 am opening. The market closes at noon. It is located at the east end of New Kent and 42nd Street, at the shelters in Forest Hill Park. Parking is free and plentiful.

Come join us every Saturday, get a cup of coffee from either Blanchard's or Koralee and look for your neighbors. Chances are they will be there.

The market is sponsored by City Council Member Kathy Graziano, and is not funded by the city.



The selection of bedding plants was plentiful on the Market's opening day in May and drew avid interest from local gardeners. Photo Brent Tennefoss

## Link of Note

<http://crankytaxpayer.org/Crime/foresthill.htm>

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# Canine Cuddles at the V.A.

By Barbara Wust  
FLYER Contributor

Many folks in our neighborhood are aware of the nice field that sits at the end of 44th Street. They bring their dogs, sometimes ride their bikes down our dead-end street. Sometimes they even ogle the strange equipment in our front yard, equipment my friend's daughter dubs a "dog playground".

But what most people don't know is that the dogs residing at 812 44th Street do more than voice their assorted welcomes or infringement messages. Each Monday and twice a month on a Sunday, they dress in their special jackets, and deliver important snuggles, and assist with physical therapy at Hunter Holmes McGuire Veteran Affairs



Therapy Dogs in action at the V.A. Medical Center. Photo Martha Cooper

Medical Center.

Cricket, Rikki, Kiowa, Chief – all Australian Kelpies (a herding dog akin to Border Collies) – as well as our latest addition Rev, a Schipperke (a Belgian dog bred to guard the boats and keep them rat-free)

are part of more than 50 dogs who participate in the Animal Therapy program run by Cara Carlson, a Recreational Therapist, at the McGuire Medical Center.

They visit the Spinal Cord Injury unit, Polytrauma, the Nursing Home and sometimes the Substance Abuse patients. Their jobs range from sitting on laps, or up on the beds, to helping patients in the Physical Therapy Department, to entertaining the staff, to doing obedience or agility or trick demonstrations.

Especially with so many of our men and women in uniform sacrificing their health and well-being each day, it feels good to have a way to say "thank you". And truly the dogs understand their role

Some of his neighbors can attest to Chief's rather intense personality. But once his jacket is on, he thinks only of his job at hand. He ignores passing cars, presses on despite loud noises at the hospital, and focuses on the job at hand.

For information on how to have your dog be evaluated to become a Therapy Dog, contact me at: [barbarawust@mindspring.com](mailto:barbarawust@mindspring.com)



## Westover Hills Library News

By Laura Dysart

Wreaths Across America and the Westover Hills Library Advisory Group are looking for your support. Rocky Angone, Director of Richmond Wreaths Across America has a goal of placing 5000 wreaths on the graves of fallen war veterans at the Richmond National Cemetery on Saturday, December 14th.

This is a nationwide event and all wreaths will be placed concurrently. The mission of Wreaths Across America is to remember the fallen, honor those who serve and teach our children the value of freedom.

You can help by purchasing wreaths at the Westover Hills Library for \$15.00 a wreath. All wreaths purchased at the library will be placed on graves in the Richmond National Cemetery. For every 20 wreaths sold, Wreaths Across America will give \$100.00 back to the Westover Hills Library Advisory Group. All of those proceeds will directly benefit the Westover Hills library. All contributions are completely tax deductible. Mr. Angone hopes to have secured donations by September for planning purposes.

Please consider this opportunity to recognize and pay tribute to our war veterans and support your local library. For more information on Wreaths Across America, go to [www.wreaths-acrossamerica.com](http://www.wreaths-acrossamerica.com).

If you are interested in purchasing wreaths, please stop by the Westover Hills Library. You are welcome to call the library at 646-8833 or Laura Dysart at 231-7662 for more information.

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**KATHY GRAZIANO, 4TH DISTRICT CITY COUNCIL**

## The Market's a Hit!



It's a great summer in Forest Hill! The South of the James Market is a huge success, drawing farmers and producers from as far away as Keysville and Warsaw, with vegetables, organics, baked goods, plants, flowers and coffee. It's great fun and a real benefit to our neighborhood.

On July 20th, we are looking forward to Sunday in the Park at Forest Hill Park. We have three musical groups, food, games, clowns, face painting, a misting tent and moonwalk, and fun for the entire family. It's all free, of course.

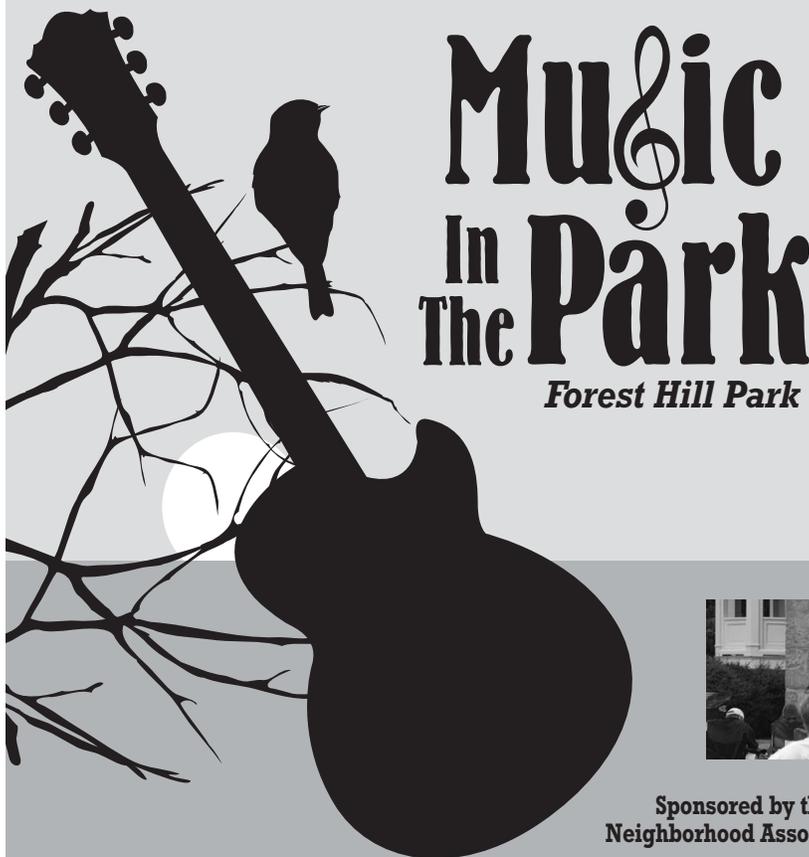
Music starts at about 12:30 with our own Tammi Kamin, followed by Tinker's Dam, who were such hits last year. At 3:15, Corey Kelley and Friends will be providing some soul-stirring gospel. We will again have hot dogs and water, along with watermelon and this year for the first time, ice cream.

We really want to thank the sponsors for making this such a great free event, including Dominion Virginia Power, Verizon, Comcast of Richmond, Wal-Mart, Ukrops, the Westover Hills Merchants Association, Delegate Frank Hall, our three neighborhood associations and many, many volunteers.

This year several members of Crestwood Presbyterian Church on Jahnke Road have volunteered to help make our own Sunday in the Park an even better event.

The long-delayed lake dredging is moving forward, and we can look forward to a complete restoration within the next few months. That's going to be really exciting.

It's an election year, and we can look forward to a spirited campaign for mayor and school board. Thanks for all your help.



**July 20th • 4-6pm**  
**Sunday in the Park**  
**The Sugar Hollow Ramblers**  
**(Bluegrass)**

**August 10th • 6-8pm**  
**Betsy Lynn and the Boys**  
**(Classic Country)**

**September 14th • 5-7pm**  
**Hamburger James**  
**(Rock-a-Billy)**

**October 5th • 5-7pm**  
**Bluz Cats**  
**(Blues)**



Sponsored by the Forest Hill, Westover Hills and Woodland Heights  
Neighborhood Associations and the City of Richmond Parks and Recreation



### Forest Hill Presbyterian Church

Forest Hill Presbyterian Church invites you to a neighborhood picnic on Sunday, July 27, from 4:30-6:30 pm. Bring your blankets and chairs. We will be grilling out on the front lawn, and there will be children's activities as well. Please purchase \$5 tickets in advance through church. Information: 233-4371.

**Celtic Christianity Capsule Course.** Rev. Stephen Price-Gibson, will lead a study on the history, music, prayer life, spirituality, and legends of Celtic Christianity, and how it is still enriching our worship today. The classes will be held in the church parlor at 9 a.m., each Sunday in June and July, beginning June 15. These will be self-contained sessions, drop in any time. Forest Hill Presbyterian Church is located at 4401 Forest Hill Avenue, Richmond VA 23225.



### Proposed Shoppes at Forest Hill

This is an artist's rendering of the proposed mixed use complex on Forest Hill Avenue (next to Blockbuster) by developer CB Richard Ellis. Retail spaces at ground level will be topped by 2,000 sq. ft. apartments with a proposed rent of \$1,500 per month. See local reaction on the discussion board at [www.hillsandheights.net](http://www.hillsandheights.net).

Source: [www.cbre.com/richmond](http://www.cbre.com/richmond)

### James River Park Staff Offers Help on Signage for Park

What with the new Charter School opening up near Forest Hill Park, this might be a good time to examine the idea of creating some interpretive signs about local human and natural history.

For a relatively small amount of money (perhaps \$250 per unit) signs could be produced and installed about the various plants and animals in the quarry pond/wetland that was once Forest Hill Park Lake.

The staff at the James River Park System would be delight-

ed to help. We can draft sign texts, rough-out what the signs might look like, and hire the artists to do the final drawings and design.

This would need to be a community-driven venture. Deciding on what should be interpreted, agreeing on the final texts, and finding the

money would need to come from organizations in the area with an interest in the park.

Anyone with ideas and willingness to spearhead such a project are invited to call. 646-8911 and speak to Ralph White (Park Manager) or Lorne Field (Environmental Educator).



Just a few of the folks who enjoyed the May Forest Hill Wine Club hosted by Genevelyn Steele. Left to right: Harry Tatian, Peter Hubbel, Martha Cooper, Camille Tatian, Dominic Carpin & Marina Alexander. Photo Phil Licking

### Take Part in Your Community

The Forest Hill Neighborhood Association meets at 7 PM on the second Wednesday of each month at Forest Hill Presbyterian Church.

#### Upcoming Meeting Dates

No July Meeting ♦ August 13, 2008 ♦ September 10, 2008

### Get a Groovy Decal when you join.



**ADD A LITTLE PIZAZZ TO YOUR CAR BUMPER.**

### Forest Hill Neighborhood Association Membership Form

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

- Household Membership \$10
- Corporate Membership \$25

Pay by Cash or Check (payable to Forest Hill Neighborhood Association)

Forward to: Roger Clark, FHNA Treasurer, 4216 Stonewall Avenue, Richmond, VA 23225

NOTE: Annual membership dues cover calendar year Jan. 1-Dec. 31, 2008