



Work Continues on Historic Designation and Fund-Raising

By Carolyn Paulette
Historic Designation Committee

The Historic Designation Committee continues to work toward a September deadline to file the Historic Designation Nomination for Forest Hill. They have completed 75% of the required tasks: the survey is complete except for the sketch maps, 75% of the data entry is complete, and 75% of the written nomination is complete.

The Department of Historic Preservation accepts nomination applications on a quarterly basis. September will be the next date that they will accept a nomination.

For the last month, the Historic Designation Committee has focused on raising funds to pay for printing, data entry, and the fee for the Historic Preservationist, Nancy

continued on page 2

Take a Break on July 18 at Sunday in the Park

By Curry Nelms
Friends of Forest Hill Park

Come to Forest Hill Park on Sunday, July 18, from 12:00-4:00 p.m. for a family-friendly day of fun. Bring a picnic lunch and enjoy music, crafts for the kids, ice cream, watermelon and learn more about "green" practices.

Kathy Graziano and the Friends of Forest Hill Park will once again sponsor this day of fun for the whole family at the park. The event is free.



The lake dedication held on May 22 culminated in a ribbon-cutting ceremony to officially re-open the recently rehabilitated lake in Forest Hill Park. Scissors wielders included (from left): Council President Kathy Graziano, Linwood Seward of the Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities, Mayor Dwight C. Jones, FHNA President Grace LeRose, volunteer Roger Clark, and Parks Director J.R. Pope. Photo: Brent Tennefoss

Mayor Jones Dedicates Lake and Woodland Heights Wins Prestigious Boscobel Cup

By R. Shelton

When Richmond Mayor Dwight Clinton Jones dedicated our new Forest Hill Park Lake on May 22 he spoke of Forest Hill and Woodland Heights saying, "Let's be thankful for wonderful communities to live in."

Thanks to Jones, Councilwoman Graziano, J. R. Pope and others, our neighborhoods are even better and the Jewel of Southside, Forest Hill Park, is returning to her days of glory.

The opening ceremonies of the event were followed by the first annual Forest Hill

Yacht Club Regatta. FHNA Park Committee Chairman Robley Jones conceived the idea, and at events' end he said, "I have to confess that my idea for the yacht club bloomed beyond my wildest expectations. I hope all who were involved know that as charter members of FHYC they are now entitled to look down on the rest of humanity."

Although Woodland Heights won the neighborhood competition fair and square, taking the coveted and prestigious Boscobel Cup, it was the South of Forest Hill Avenue (SOFA) Mamas who stole the

day and the hearts of every male in the audience.

Wearing aprons and paddling with pots and pans, they charged into an early lead only to choke and watch the Woodland Heights yacht cruise to victory.

The first casualty in the regatta's history was the Devonshire Team from Westover Hills. Despite sinking, they righted the yacht, threw out two crew members, and made a spirited attempt to catch up with the fast ladies of 42nd Street.

The true champion of the

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GRACE NOTES

Rooting for the Home Team

by Grace LeRose, FHNA President

The SOFA mamas were paddling furiously toward the finish line, their apron strings flapping in the breeze. Their toned arms were straining at the water, pulling, pulling, pulling. I could not believe my eyes – Forest Hill was actually going to win the first ever Boscobel Cup!

My dream of a neighborhood race between Woodland Heights, Westover Hills and Forest Hill, born in the short, cool days of September 2009 long before the lake was restored, was coming true right before my eyes! We were doing it – we were going to have bragging rights for the next year. We would be second to none – not Woodland Heights with its bohemian mix of artists and freethinkers, not Westover Hills with its genteel, family friendly vibe. This time the “middle sister” Forest Hill would emerge victorious! We might not have the cool Victorian houses of Woodland Heights, or the river views of Westover Hills, but we would claim the Boscobel Cup!

My heart was pounding as I cheered in front of the gazebo. Woo hoo! Go Forest Hill! Woo – wait. What was happening?? No – not THAT way – keep going straight. Turn! Turn! Turn! Arghhhh! And then it was all over. Our valiant team, the beautiful and formidable SOFA mama’s, within a few short feet from the finish line had inexplicably made a left turn and headed for the eastern shore of the lake.

Woodland Heights floated past them to claim victory. Westover Hills, still recovering from their initial sinking was a distant third. I was dumb-founded. My heart was broken, my joy crushed to dust. However – I never felt more pride in our team than at that moment. What strength! What heroic effort! What great aprons! It was a moment to live forever in the history of Forest Hill. Just wait until next year!

Spate of Break-ins Hits Neighborhood

A number of incidents have been reported recently, including a locked car break-in on Springhill Ave and a lawn-mower theft on New Kent Ave.

You can subscribe to Neighborhood Watch alerts by sending a request to foresthillsafety@hotmail.com to receive notification about local crime.

Illegal Dumping In Forest Hill

By Shannon D. Taylor

Over the past several weeks, neighbors have witnessed illegal dumping in the 800 block of West 46th Street, near the Ashton Square Apartments. A densely wooded lot owned by the city provides a convenient, albeit illegal place for people to dump unwanted belongings.

This is a criminal offense, punishable by up to 12 months in jail and/or a fine of \$2500. See Richmond City Code Sections 66-116 and 38-151. If you see anyone dumping trash or other items in the

area, call police at 646-5100. Make sure to note what the person looks like, automobile type and license plate number. Let’s work together to keep our neighborhood clean.

On another note, does your property back up to an alley? Make sure your shrubs and trees don’t block the alley.

On at least one occasion a trash truck has gotten stuck trying to clear an alley in Forest Hill.

Remember, it is the homeowner’s responsibility to maintain shrubs and trees facing an alley.

HISTORIC DESIGNATION

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Krause, who is writing the nomination.

The budget is \$7000. FHNA has donated \$2,500 for the budget which leaves another \$4,500 to be raised.

The Committee has created for sale a 1-1/2 year calendar of the history of Forest Hill with photos of some of the oldest houses: Maple Crest on New Kent Ave, the Forest Hill Inn on Dunston Ave., the Taylor house on Reedy Ave. and 15 other houses and churches with architectural descriptions and histories of the houses.

The calendar includes a map of the first two tracts of

land purchased from William Byrd III in 1766.

They also have note cards of old houses in Forest Hill and note cards of some water-colors of scenes in Forest Hill: Crossroads Café, the gazebo at the lake, the Stone House, the James River Railroad Bridge, and sledding in the Park.

The 1-1/2 year calendar is \$12 and a pack of 5 different cards is \$12.

You can stop by the FHNA booth at the Market in Forest Hill to make a purchase or order from the ad in this paper or order online: historicforesthill.com.

Support historic designation for Forest Hill. Any donations will be welcome as well.

FOREST HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETINGS EVERY 2ND WEDNESDAY
at 7:00 PM at FOREST HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FOREST HILL

FLYER

*Published by the
Forest Hill
Neighborhood Association*

**Remaining
2010 Publication Dates**

September 1

Ad/Articles Deadline: 8/1/10

December 1

Ad/Articles Deadline: 11/1/10

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for upcoming issues. Please
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Know Your Neighbor

Boat Builder is Just Down the Alley

By Martha Cooper
FLYER Editor

If you don't believe boat building is an art form, talk to Walter Atkins for about five minutes, and you will. He creates boats, the same way artists create their works – love, dedication, and talent. In the shop in back of his house on New Kent, a beautiful fantail launch with curved woodwork and a new mahogany deck awaits final finishing. A canoe with custom trim work, varnished wood and extra finishing touches sits outside the shop.

Walter's shop faces the alley behind his house and draws neighbors in to view his work. "Everybody has some



Alissa and Walter Atkins met on a boat and the love affair continues in their home on New Kent Avenue. Walter's boat building activities have grown to include classes for neighbors. Photo: Martha Cooper

connection to boats," Walter said. "People talk about boats, ask questions, and stop by to view my progress." Walter welcomes the interest and enjoys chatting with friendly neighbors.

The interest people have in boats has inspired Walter to offer boat building classes on weekends and evenings for people in the community. "It would be a great experience for them," he said. "They could build something like a canoe or small sailboat, launch their boat in the river and enjoy the pride of using a boat that they have built."

Walter cold molds his boats with epoxy. He also uses electric motors. "They don't pollute, are quiet and clean. You can sit on your boat, have a conversation, and relax without all the noise you get with other engines," he explained.

Walter, who grew up in the Chesapeake Bay area, started building boats in the early 1990s. He has built all kinds of boats from kayaks to 60-foot sailboats, and also worked in boat restoration and repair.

In his day job, he works for Bennet Brothers Yachts using his expertise to help the company with full service restoration and repair.

Walter said his wife, Alissa, is very supportive of his boat building passion. "She lets me spend my weekends out back working." Alissa is proud of her husband. "He can build anything, fix anything, bakes artisan breads, and is an

amazing guitar player."

Alissa, who works for Markel, also has her own interests. She loves their dogs Luke and Jasmine. Because she didn't want to give them unhealthy snacks, she started making her own dog treats. She created "Sandy Paws", an all-natural dog treat enterprise, and started selling her snacks at the farmer's market.

She also loves film and photography and has worked on productions such as the HBO mini-series "John Adams."

No surprise, Walter and Alissa met on a boat – the Annabel Lee. Walter was earning hours to get his captain's license and Alissa was a bartender. Both of them lived in Richmond. After spending about five years in Wilmington, NC, they moved back.

"We knew we wanted to live in the Forest Hill area," Walter said. "It is a great location, and has a real sense of community."

You can learn more about Walter's boat building at www.atkinsboatworks.com.

About boat building, Walter said, "The joy is in doing it; you give it life and send it on its way. It builds its own stories, and I know I created it. It breaks my heart when it leaves." Is that not an artist?

Historic Forest Hill

founded in 1780



Calendars for sale until August 31, 2010

for \$12.00

The Historic Forest Hill Calendar goes from June 2010 to December 2011 and each month contains a photograph of a residence of Forest Hill with its significance. Documented history of Forest Hill can be found on the back of the calendar.

Visit HistoricForestHill.com now to order.

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Help Fight the Asian Tiger Mosquito in Forest Hill

By Jennifer Timmons

Imagine a summer full of neighborhood activities without the constant attack of mosquitoes. Sounds impossible with Reedy Creek and the James River close to our backyards, or is it?

The Asian Tiger Mosquito has ruthlessly attacked us with its itchy bite summer after summer. Products such as citronella plants, mosquito magnets and bug zappers claim to deter this resilient pest away from your yard, but alas it is wasted money and you still sport itchy bug bites. So what can we do? One solution is to spray the chemical DEET on you before going outside, but DEET only repels the mosquito, it doesn't help control and kill the population. However, there is a way to destroy future generations of this insect without spending a cent.

Our most important weapon to control this pest is to get rid of all standing water in our yards. The female Asian mosquito is a daytime biter that hunts in the early morn-



ing and late afternoon. In this time, she also seeks out her favorite habitat to lay her eggs. She will lay them in either a shallow pool of water or in areas that will flood later.

The female lays her eggs

above the water level on the sides of the container and waits for a summer rain or water from your watering to inundate her eggs for hatching.

A small pool of water that lasts for ten days may produce hundreds of these invasive pests. But with the absence of longstanding water, the eggs will never grow into adult mosquitoes.

Being mindful after a summer storm or when you water, you can prevent hundreds of mosquitoes from hatching in your yard. Common breeding spots are:

- birdbaths
- buckets
- potted plant saucers
- tarps
- soda cans, (recycling bins)
- clogged gutters
- buckets
- plastic bags
- puddles under English ivy

•“junk” around the yard

The Asian Tiger Mosquitoes do not normally breed in ground pools or water that contains soil, so neither Reedy Creek nor the James River is the first choice for the mosquito to lay her eggs in.

Together as neighbors, we can work together to reclaim our backyards and have an itch-free summer. If you are being viciously attacked, try to go around with your neighbors to get rid of any standing water. Breeding grounds are closer than you think. You may have no standing water but the little pests travel and your neighbor may have lots.

The Asian Tiger Mosquito only goes about the length of a football field (so about a city block)—close to you! Remember dump out all standing water as soon as you see it. Trust me, your skin will thank you!



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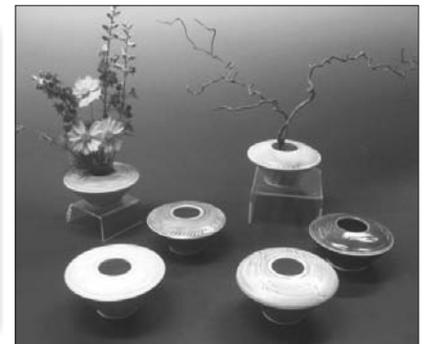
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Cheese Maker Says Craft Requires Patience

By Martha Cooper
FLYER Editor

What better hobby for someone who loves all kinds of cheeses than cheese making?

Cindy Pearson discovered this when a friend invited her over to make 30-minute mozzarella. The results were very good and Cindy decided to try it on her own. With her first successes with mozzarella, she branched out into making a broad assortment of cheese products including hard cheeses like cheddar.

"My mozzarella is more rustic than what you buy in a store," she said. "It is a little meatier and not quite as bright in color."

She demonstrated how to make 30-minute mozzarella by heating a gallon of milk—the amount needed for a pound of cheese—to about 105 degrees, raising the temperature 10 degrees at a time. Then she added citric acid, lipase powder—an enzyme that helps flavor develop—and rennet, another enzyme used in milk digestion.

Curds began to form in the milk. When the curds reached cottage cheese level, she removed them and drained off the whey, the liquid that was left. Next she heated the curds in the microwave, kneaded them like dough, and removed more whey. The resulting cheese was warm and delicious.

"It doesn't take many ingredients to make cheese," Cindy commented. "The different flavors in cheeses are determined by how long it is cooked, the temperature, and the length of time needed to age it."

Cindy has a wine refrigerator filled with wax-coated rounds of cheese in the aging process. Some of them will have to age as long as a year.

She won't know how good they will be until they have finished the process.

Cindy's favorite cheese to make and eat is Manchego, an Italian variety. The first time she made it she had to go to a cheese shop and buy a piece to make sure her batch tasted like the real thing. "After a taste test, I was pleased with how it turned out," she remarked.

To get her milk for cheeses, Cindy owns a share of a cow at a farm in Powhatan. The milk is delivered every week. She admits, "I like using the freshest milk available. However, you can use any kind of milk so long as it is not ultra-pasteurized."

She also uses a cheese press to shape the hard cheeses, and food-grade wax to coat them while they age. Supplies come from local cookware stores or sometimes from the Internet. "Cheese making is not hard," Cindy said, "but it does require a lot of patience."

Cindy, who hails from Grand Forks, North Dakota, came to Richmond to attend Virginia Commonwealth University. She majored in History and minored in Geography.

She works as a salesperson for DATAMAX, a company that provides billing solutions for large corporations. She got the travel bug when she studied geography, and said, "One of the things I love about my job is that I am able to travel all over the US. I also take at least one big trip a year."

She moved to her home on West 45th Street in 1995. "I love the neighborliness of Forest Hill," she said. "When Isabel hit we worked as a team to clean up our yards, and the yards of some of our elderly neighbors. It was tough going, but we had fun doing the work." She added,



Cindy Pearson shows off batches of cheese aging in a re-purposed wine cooler. Some varieties will age up to a full year. Photo: Martha Cooper

"We all look out for one another around here."

Cindy is very much involved in Richmond and holds season tickets to both the Richmond Symphony and the Barksdale Theater.

She sometimes works with animal rescue and said, "I

have met so many people in the neighborhood while out walking my dogs."

Currently, Cindy has only one rescue dog, a poodle named Booker. He has a good life, and really enjoys a little Manchego or mozzarella when it comes his way.

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The Flyer Profile:

Celebrity Pooch

Smoot Bibona

Photo: Brent Tennefoss



Smoot was the winner of the dog racing competition held during the Regatta at the dedication of the Forest Hill Park Lake in May.

What's your name and age? Smoot Bibona and I am three years old!

Who are your humans? Jeane and Kevin Bibona.

Where and when did you find your home? When I was a young pup, I chose my parents out of many suitors by chewing on my mom's toes.

What's your heritage? Brown Lab.

What's your favorite toy? Anything I can fetch: my float,

socks, shoes, cell phones . . . they all work.

What's your best trick? I LOVE to catch Frisbees.

What are your best traits? I am obsessed with swimming and will swim anywhere, anytime, in any temperature. I am happy that my folks take me to the lake several times a week now.

What else do you have to say about yourself? I enjoy long walks through the neighborhood, candle-lit dinners, and am single, ladies!!! Also, I am very proud to have won the first annual Forest Hill Yacht Club dog swimming race and can't wait for next year!

**July 18th
6-8pm**

**Capoeira Resistencia
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**August 15th
6-8pm**

**The Atkinsons
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**October 3rd
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Neighborhood Associations and the City of Richmond Parks and Recreation.

Some Positive Accomplishments



Dear Neighbors;

As we sweep past the solstice, and summer comes and sits on us for several months, there are some good things we can look forward to, and behind at.

Behind us is a budget season that saw no residential tax increases, and no cut in services. We authorized two new programs creating revolving loan funds to help hard-pressed small businesses expand (details after July 1). We have supported plans by GRTC to make their system more cost effective and available to more people.

On a local front, on May 22, Mayor Jones, the neighborhood groups and I rededicated the rehabilitated Forest Hill Park Lake. The lake was rebuilt last year to its historic boundaries and refurbished with new lights, benches and paths. In addition, old, unsatisfactory bike paths were removed and new trails established.

In May there were two meetings to engage the neighborhoods in the design of the new Huguenot High School. The school administration and the city administration want a school building that also serves community needs: for recreation, meeting spaces, all the things that can tie the schools and the neighborhoods together. So far the school administration has not had good luck getting the neighborhoods near Huguenot to participate in the planning events.

Looking ahead, the Sunday in the Park event is scheduled for

July 18 at Forest Hill Park. The free event has games, demonstrations by police, fire and sheriff's departments. This year, police officer Stacy Rogers is planning a bike rodeo for children who will receive a free bike helmet for participating.

Finally, the Department of Public Utilities Stormwater Management program is beginning a year-long project to create a stormwater management master plan for the entire city. There are more than 40 watersheds either totally or partially within the city, all headed toward the James River and the Chesapeake Bay. The master plan will provide a long range tool to determine how the stormwater management resources are spent.

Finally, a prescription: it's going to be hot this summer so spend time in the shade with lemonade, and enjoy the season.

Thanks for all your support through the year.

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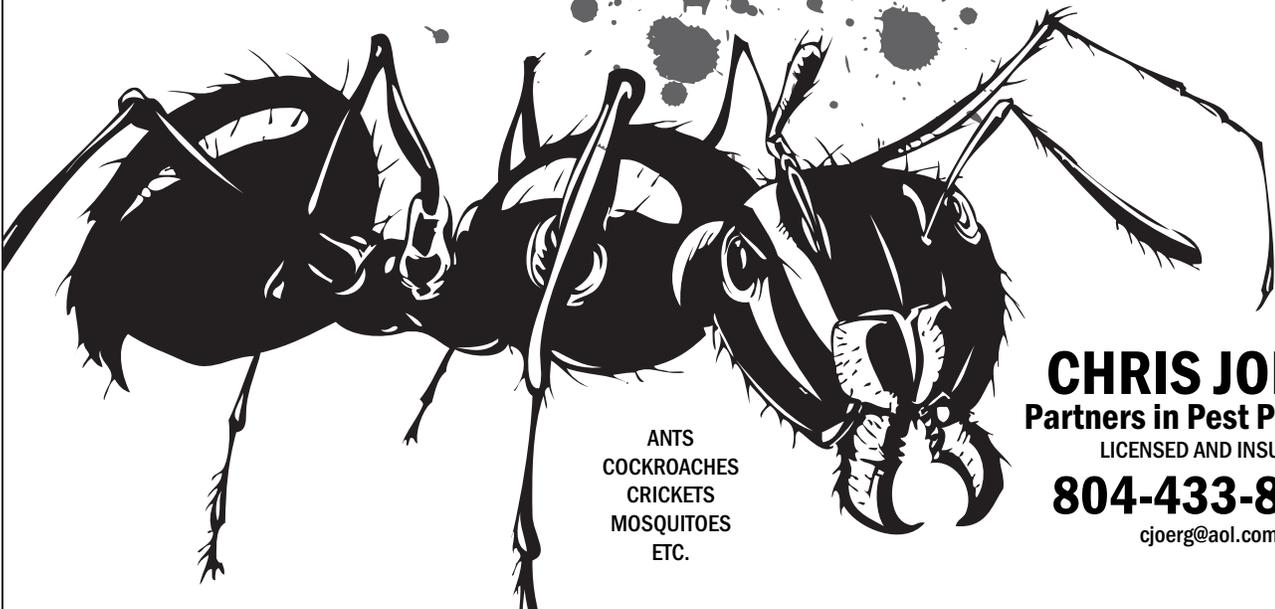
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LAKE DEDICATION/REGATTA

continued from Page 1
 day was Smoot, who had the eye of the tiger as he jumped into the lake. He flat-out dogged the competition. Smoot prevailed and the other entrants left with their tails between their legs.

It appears that the event generated almost \$1,000 which will be used for park improvements. FHNA President Grace LeRose said, "Linwood Seaward, Trades Superintendent for the Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities, has suggested that we replace the River Birches that had to be removed in the renovation process."

Linwood, who celebrated his birthday at the Regatta, has been working in the park for over 25 years and loves it.

We owe thanks to the wonderful staff at Richmond Parks and Recreation, to the FHNA Park Committee, to the James River Outdoor Coalition for providing lifesaving personnel, to the 31 volunteers who sported yellow FHYC t-shirts.

And we're grateful for the steadfast support of our corporate sponsors: World of



Our own South of Forest Hill Avenue (SOFA) Mamas were defeated by team Woodland Heights but but smiled bravely through the pain of the loss. The Mamas were (from left): Linda Mills, Barbara Burke, Michele MacPhee, Winnie Canup, Joanna Sallade and Sue Zechini. The coveted Boscobel Cup, pictured below, was fashioned by Robin Cage and hopefully will be wrested from the hands of Woodland Heights next year. Photos: Brent Tennefoss

Mirth, Richmond Magazine, Riverside Outfitters, 43rd Street Gallery, GRTC, Chick-Fil-A, Crossroads Coffee and Ice Cream, and Uptown Color.

The Park Committee solicits your suggestions as to how we can make next year's Regatta even better. Please send suggestions to RobleyJ@aol.com.



Forest Hill Yacht Club 2010 Winners

- Solo Kayak** – Robley Jones
- Dual Kayak** – Whitney and Stacy Rogers
- Neighborhood Competition** – Woodland Heights
- Youth** – Elmo Alexander
- Electric Remote** – Ed Gorham
- Dog Swim** – Smoot Bibona
- Best Decorated Kayak or Canoe** – Reedy Creek

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Westover Hills Library News

By Debbie Thompson

On May 15, 2010, our WHLAG met with Clare Shapiro, Vice Chair of the Board of Directors for Richmond Public Library to discuss the future plans for our library. By the end of August, new shelving should be put in place and electricians will be hooking up lights.

It will take 5 days to put the books back and the plan is a possible early October opening. Naturally, the WHLAG will be hosting a grand re-opening celebration and inviting the public to return to see the library improvements.

For further information about pictures of the renovations, please contact Clay Dishon. He has taken wonderful pictures to help keep us informed of the renovations. You can find them at: www.richmondpubliclibrary.org/branch_blog.asp?branchID=9.



Renovations on the Westover Hills Library have begun in earnest. Channels have been cut in the concrete floor to remove existing duct-work. In the next few weeks, work will begin on the installation of an all metal roof and the extensive rewiring of the building will take place as well. The Library was originally built in 1959. Photo: Clay Dishon

Rain Barrel Workshop

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The Old Stone House in Forest Hill Park

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Farmer's Market is Refreshing Weekly Ritual

The variety and number of vendors at the South of the James Farmer's Market has grown to over 50 since it first started three years ago. The Market is open every Saturday from 8 am until noon and will run until December 4. Visit hillsandheights.org for regular vendor updates and photos. Photo: Brent Tennefoss

Real Estate Activity in Neighborhood is Steady

By Jim Donohue

In spite of all the doom and gloom talk in the media, Forest Hill is having decent real estate activity. This is due to the continued popularity of the neighborhood, low mortgage rates and the recently expired tax credit for new home buyers.

Market activity through 5/31/2010 is as follows:

	#	Average Fin. Sq. Ft.	Average Price	Average Price/Sq. Ft.	Average Days on Market
Active Listings	17	1643	\$227,435	\$140.72	70
Pending Listings (Under Contract)	9	1793	\$199,866	\$131.84	44
Sold Listings	6	1578	\$179,550	\$111.67	45

This information came from the Central Va Regional MLS and was prepared by Jim Donohue. If you have any real estate questions, send them to JIM.DONOHUE@Longandfoster.com.

Patrick Henry Charter School Seeking New Treasurer

After almost three years of service on the PHSSA Board of Directors, Susan Martin will be stepping off of the board in early August 2010. Susan has served as treasurer for about a year-and-a-half.

PHSSA is now accepting nominations for the treasurer position for a one year term to begin in August 2010.

Ideal qualifications for the position include at least eight years of professional experience in the following areas: accounting, bookkeeping, auditing, financial analysis and/or budgeting. Accounting degree and CPA certification preferred.

Responsibilities include: Coordinating budget process, ensuring strong internal controls, environment, monthly financial reporting; oversee bookkeeping, cash-flow management, coordination with RPS Accounting and Finance representatives, and other related duties.

If interested, please contact susan.martin@patrick-henrycharter.org.

DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER FLYER ARTICLES IS 08/01/10

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Household Membership \$15 2 Years \$25 Corporate Annual Membership \$30

Yes, I want to join the Neighborhood Watch and receive e-mail updates about crime and safety in our neighborhood.

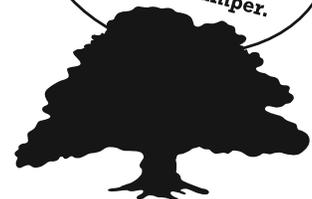
Yes, please send me email updates on current neighborhood events.

No emails please.

Pay by cash or check payable to Forest Hill Neighborhood Association
ATTN: Roger Clark, FHNA Treasurer,
4216 Stonewall Avenue,
Richmond, VA 23225

For more information visit www.foresthillneighborhood.com

Get a groovy decal when you join!
Add a little pizzazz to your car bumper.



Forest Hill