

CROSSING REEDY CREEK



The engineer told the crane operator "One more inch." The steel bridge section slipped gently to the east one inch and dropped into place. At 11:14 am, August 3rd, 2010, the first section of the Forest Hill Park Bridge touched ground, marking the beginning of the end of the project six years in the making. When the bridge and its approach sections were finished by the end of the month, the almost \$2 million Forest Hill Lake and Park restoration project was complete. A ceremony dedicating the bridge to the memory of the Harvey family will be sponsored by Friends of Forest Hill Park on Sunday, September 19, at 2:00 pm. Photo: Brent Tennefoss

Arts Festival is September 25 Criminals Target Forest Hill

Put it on the calendar! The 43rd Street Festival of the Arts is returning to the Forest Hill neighborhood on September 25! This is the festival's 18th year of sharing the fine works of selected regional artists and craftsmen and featuring local musicians, festive food, and special activities for children.

Building on the current move to Think Local and Shop Local, the festival encourages folks to support their local artisans and vendors who participate in this event.

This year's juried outdoor show will include paintings, prints, pottery, sculpture, jewelry, glasswork, and more. We are delighted to have 75 artisans participating this year.

Committed to keeping the show small and neighborhood friendly, the show has now reached its intended size and there are no plans to expand

beyond this point. Festival organizer, Robin Cage says, "Come see what's new. You will be amazed and inspired by the beauty and craftsmanship exhibited by festival artisans." Original works of art will be available for purchase and exhibitors will be on hand to answer questions about each piece.

The musical line up, at this time, begins with Susan Greenbaum at 10:00 and is followed by the Huge Guitars, Blue Line Highway, Bluz Catz and Rachel Leyco.

The 43rd Street Festival is an annual event and fundraiser that benefits Freedom House, a non-profit group that provides shelter, meals and assistance for Richmond's homeless population.

For more information about Freedom House or volunteering for this event contact Christy Cellis at 233-4064.

By Shannon D. Taylor FLYER Correspondent

In recent weeks, Forest Hill neighborhood has been targeted by criminals. In July alone there were three armed robberies here, and two more in June in Woodland Heights. The robberies have the following in common:

1. occurred within a half mile of each other near in the streets surrounding FH Park
2. occurred during the week (Tuesday - Thursday)
3. occurred at night, from 6:30pm - 10:15pm
4. victims were exiting vehicles or walking
5. assailants were young black men, 16-25 years old
6. assailants were slender, 120lbs to 160 lbs
7. assailants were average height, 5'7 to 5'9
8. assailants usually had get-away cars & drivers
9. ALL HAD GUNS!!!!

Clearly these robbers are targeting us as easy prey for a quick buck. However, we are not helpless and can successfully deter these thugs from returning to our peaceful neighborhood. If the criminals know that residents are alert and communicating quickly with the police, they will move on to different areas.

There are several ways to protect yourself from danger and help the neighborhood.

Report Suspicious People or Behavior. Believe it or not, most crimes are solved by citizens reporting suspicious behavior. The police cannot be everywhere 24/7 and heavily rely upon us (there are 700+ of us!!) to alert them to suspicious people or activity. As a former city prosecutor, almost every arrest report I received began with the officer stating, "I responded to a

continued on page 2

CRIMINALS

continued from Page 1
citizen call..." This is not the time to fret over manners or worry about offending someone. Call 911 or the non-emergency police line 646-5100 when you see something out of place on your street. Let the police do their job by approaching and engaging suspicious people – no harm if it turns out to be nothing, but your "spidey" sense will likely lead to the arrest of one of these robbers. Do not assume that someone else will make that phone call.

Trust Your Instincts. Recognized your neighbors and the cars they drive. If you see a stranger or strange car, call the police. Let them check it out. If you are about to enter or exit your home or get out of your car and you see this, be safe and stay inside for a few minutes or drive around the block as you call police.

Be Observant. If you see something unusual, note details such as the type of car, color, license plate number, height, weight, clothing, age, facial hair, clothing. The more details we can give the police, the better chance that they will track the person down and determine whether he/she is good or bad. In fact, when the police approach these suspicious people, they are often charged with other crimes or for unrelated arrest warrants on file. This means bad people are locked up, taken away from Forest Hill, and are sent a clear message that lurking in our neighborhood increases their chances of coming into contact with the police, something no criminal wants.

Turn On Your Porch Lights. Criminals prefer to commit crimes in the dark, where they are less likely to be seen. The simple act of turning your porch lights on may just be the deterrent to criminals, who will move onto a darker part of the neighborhood. Same goes for your back porch, especially given the

recent "junk men" who've been helping themselves to our property.

Many of you may be wondering what the police are doing in response to these robberies. Rest assured, they are doing everything humanly possible, including increased patrols, changes in shifts and the assignment of a robbery detective.

There are also other resources and strategies the police are currently utilizing but cannot share the details with us or risk jeopardizing their attempts to deter and catch the robbers. Remember, the best tool the police have to catch these guys is US calling in suspicious people and behavior.

If you are the victim of a robbery or other crime, please notify the police right away. To the extent that you can, remember as many details as possible, even days, weeks, and months after the crime.

For those unfortunate neighbors that were robbery victims, although you may want to immediately forget the traumatic experience, the very best thing you can do to help prosecute and CONVICT the robbers is to remember what happened and what they looked like. At some point, the police will catch these guys and you likely be asked to pick out a photograph of

your assailant. You want to remember his face so you can confidently pick him out, which will lead to his arrest and eventual prosecution, so the more you try to remember, the better.

Please take care. If you'd like to sign up to receive immediate email alerts for incidents happening in Forest Hill, please email foresthill-safety@hotmail.com.

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FOREST HILL FLYER

*Published by the
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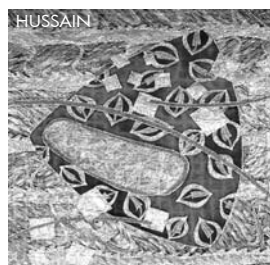
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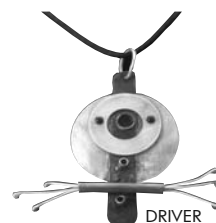
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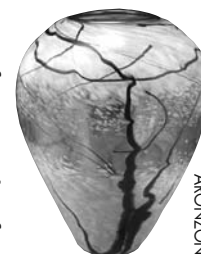
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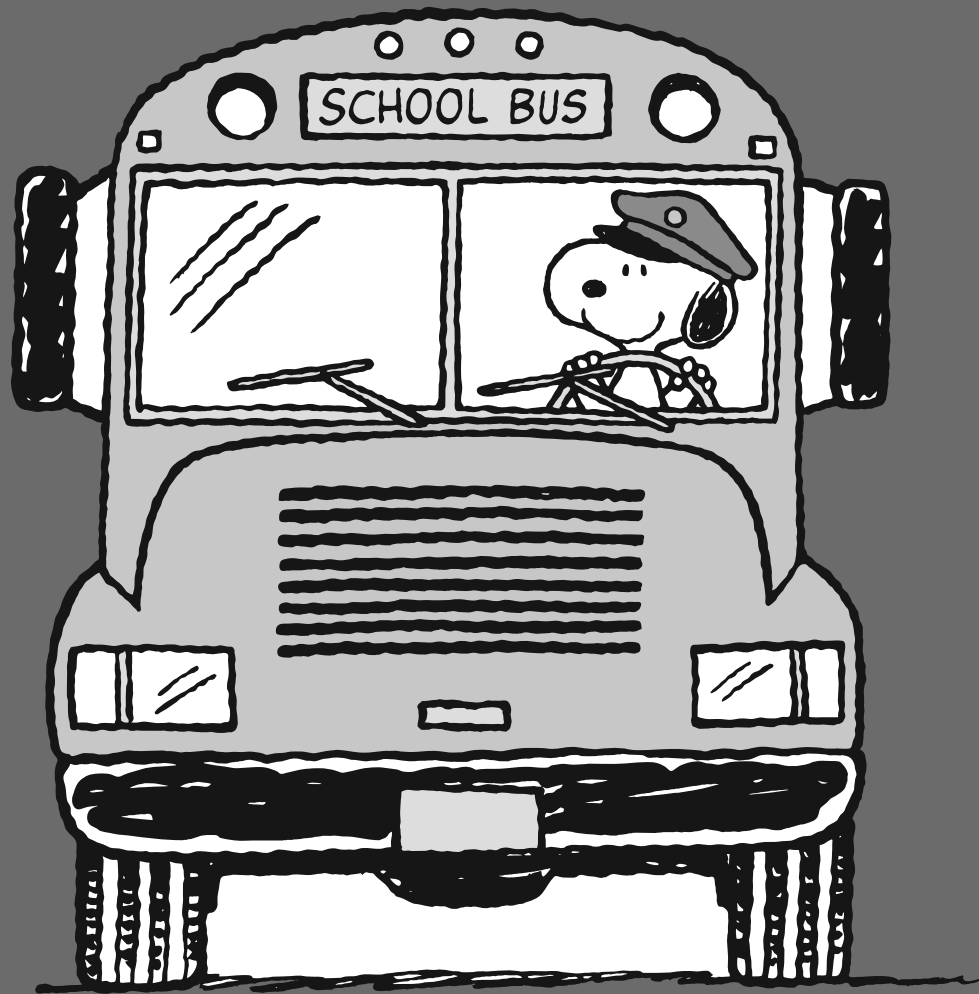
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South Anna River

Welcome To 606 Shelton Bend Drive

This charming Arts & Crafts custom home, modeled after the Gamble House in Pasadena is nestled on 5.9 acres on the South Anna River.

Historic Designation Committee Finds Original Grave Site of Holden and Charles Rhodes

By Carolyn Paulette
FLYER Correspondent

The thousands of pages of architectural descriptions, photos, and individual footprint maps for the 776 properties in the Forest Hill Historic District are falling into place. The nomination for historic designation for Forest Hill is in the final stages.

In the process of putting all of this information together, members of the committee have discovered some interesting history about Forest Hill.

Of note is the answer to where Holden Rhodes and Charles Rhodes, his nephew and heir, are buried? Are their graves still in Forest Hill Park?

When the Forest Hill Park property, originally Rhodes'

estate called Boscobel, was sold to the Southside Land and Improvement Company in 1889, the deed reserved a quarter-acre for the family and servants' burial ground and allowed the family ingress and egress to the graveyard. No map or description showed the location of the graveyard. The graveyard remained in the midst of the Amusement Park which opened in 1890.

Looking for deeds to verify construction dates for some properties in Forest Hill, a member of the Committee, Mary Godsey, found a deed dated August 2, 1913, in which the widow of Charles Rhodes, Mary Kerr, gave up the family's right to the quarter-acre graveyard and removed the bodies:



Grave stones marking the final resting place of Holden Rhodes and his nephew, Charles Rhodes, at Maury Cemetery

"All the bodies here before buried upon the said land having been removed from the same prior to the execution of this deed." A plat map was filed to show where the graveyard had been located, 692 feet east of the northwest corner of 41st St and Springhill and from that point 67' 5"

north at an 87 degree angle.

A cedar tree to the north and a cedar tree to the east marked the grave site. The deed did not reveal where the bodies were reburied. A phone call to Maury Cemetery located the graves of Holden and Charles Rhodes, but there was no record of the servants.

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The Flyer Profile:

Celebrity Pooch

Cinder Donohue

What's your name and age?

Cinder Elizabeth Donohue- about 14 yrs old. I am a rescue dog and was pushed out of a car in front of my human's house almost 13 years ago. So my exact age is a little iffy. My name is a contraction of Cinderella to reflect my fairy tale existence since coming to live in Forest Hill.

Who are your humans? My

parents are Carol and Jim Donohue. I have two human brothers also - Nick and Tim. There are also two sister cats who live with us.

Where and when did you find your home? In 1997, the man who lives next door saw me get rudely tossed from a moving vehicle in front of the house where I was adopted. The man, Tootie Price, and his wife, Frances, kept me in their back yard for two days looking for an adoptive home for me. My human brothers wore down my parents and the rest is history!

What's your heritage? I'm a proud mutt. Best guess is a little shitzu and a little terrier.

What's your favorite toy? Nowadays, I'm a little old for toys. In my younger days, I loved plastic milk bottles. I must admit I stole them from the recycling bin and loved to have mom, dad and the boys



toss them to me for a rousing game of catch.

What's your best trick? If I say so myself, I am a great dancer. I can balance on two legs and twirl quite prettily.

What are your best traits? Gosh, I'm blushing over having to brag. I'm sweet and friendly. I try very hard to be a good dog and do what is asked of me. I love most everybody, am kind to cats

and can be depended upon to greet my family and friends with affection. However, I do not like squirrels and the mailman sets my teeth on edge.

What else do you have to say about yourself? Every morning my mom takes me walking in the neighborhood. Maybe you've seen us? Please feel free to say hello - I'd love that.



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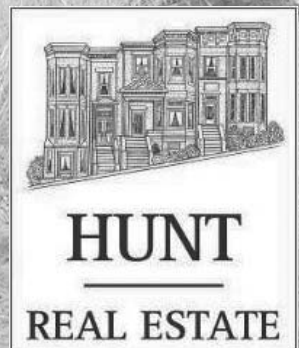
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Know Your Neighbor

Love of Community and a Yen for the Bay Keep Millers Close

By Carolyn Paulette
FLYER Correspondent

Asa Miller, who lives on Forest Hill Avenue, grew up in Forest Hill in the 1930s and 1940s, and except for a brief period during WWII when, at 17, he enlisted in the navy, he has lived here ever since.

He married his childhood sweetheart, Carol Paul, who grew up in Manchester and Westover Hills. They both attended Patrick Henry Elementary School.

After they were married in 1951 at Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, they bought a house on Sharon Court. Carol taught 6th grade at Patrick Henry where Mary Goodman, a neighbor on 42nd Street, was still principal. Asa worked in the engineering department at

Esso (later Exxon) for 15 years and then at American Tobacco until he retired.

Their life together is the story of a family that loves the Forest Hill community and loves being close to the Chesapeake Bay.

Asa recalls going to the Forest Hill Amusement Park with his father when he was about two years old. One of the games he liked to play was catching metal fish in a stream with a magnet on the end of a string.

When he was a boy, he had a kayak that he used on the Forest Hill Lake and the James River. A friend recalls seeing a kayak walking down the street with two legs under it. That was Asa.

In the summers he visited



Asa and Carol Miller with a string of trout they caught while visiting her parents in Tampa Bay, Florida, in March of 1955.

his Aunt Gay Miller in Newport News where he rigged his kayak with a sail and sailed all over Hampton Roads.

Often in the afternoons, after school, he would head out to the farmland along Jahnke road with his dog to hunt quail.

Over the years he and Carol had a number of different sailboats and motorboats. When Asa retired from American Tobacco, he bought a Bertram 28' Flybridge Sports Fisherman and they spent most of their time boating on the Chesapeake Bay. His daughter, Emily, and son, John, enjoyed the water with them. The rest of his time he spent in Forest Hill.

In 1959, after his father died, he and Carol moved into the house his grandmother had built on Forest Hill Avenue in 1927. They were active in Good Shepherd Episcopal Church where Asa served on the Vestry for 20 years.

They were founding members of Good Shepherd School. Both served on the board, and Asa was president of the board for one session. They were active in the Westover Cotillion Club. Asa served on the board and was president though he didn't like to dance.

When asked what had been the best thing about living in Forest Hill all these years, they both answered, "The people, the neighbors."



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The Millers on the sidewalk in front of their Forest Hill Avenue home.

Know Your Neighbor

Natural Light at Play in Janet Saad Cook's Sun Drawings

By Martha Cooper
FLYER Editor

Sunlight, the rotation of the earth, metal, glass and time all make up the very unique art of Janet Saad Cook, a Forest Hill resident who lives on 43rd Street. Janet moved to the neighborhood seven years ago from Washington, DC, and uses the major parts of her house as a studio.

Janet's work is quite complex. She uses reflective metals, glass, and sunlight to create shapes that move with the sun and the rotation of the earth. She heats and shapes glass to capture the sun's rays to reflect them on other surfaces. To see how beautiful the results are, you will have to check out her web site: www.janetsaadcook.com.

She first got the idea to work with sunlight in 1979 while renting a studio in the Le Droit Building in Washington, DC. "The place had huge windows and I could watch the sun's movements all day," she said. At the time, she was painting pictures, but did not feel that was her medium. Nonetheless, Janet followed the idea that developed there and started researching sun imaging in other cultures.

She went to New Mexico to conduct site work and research at prehistoric sun marking sites, documenting ways in which ancestors of today's Native American cultures tracked sunlight to mark the Solstices.

This work, begun in 1983, has led her to years of ongoing research in the field of Archaeoastronomy. A new field of study in 1983, Archaeoastronomy is the multidisciplinary study of ancient cultures through their ethnography and the ways in which they used the earth and sky to mark time and the seasons. Some of Archaeoastronomy disciplines include archaeology, anthropology, astronomy and history.

Janet was able to photograph the anciently designed images created by sunlight that they had recorded. Later, she was invited by NASA to do a science education workshop for Native American teachers.

"I was very nervous," she said. "The region had been closed and what I was showing in my presentation was sacred ground for the Native American attendees." When the presentation was over, one of the people present told her, "Your art made the spirit of our ancestors visible." Janet was overwhelmed.

Janet frequently lectures at architectural schools around the country to explain how to use sunlight in design, and in enhancing the beauty of buildings both inside and out.

When Janet decided to leave Washington, DC, she chose Richmond because she



Janet Saad Cook was first inspired to work with sunlight in 1979.

had a daughter here, and she also felt very at home. "Years ago," she said, "I came here to create a site-specific installation for the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. They put me up in the old Jefferson Hotel. A little old man lived there but that was it. It was kind of spooky."

She chose Forest Hill because she liked all the trees, the nice mix of people, and

the peaceful feel of the neighborhood.

"Recently," she remarked, "there has been an increased interest in my work as green technology moves to the forefront. Architects are looking for ways they can use sunlight in their designs."

Janet has a vision for a Global Sun Drawing to express the unity of the human race by showing everyone shares the experiences of the earth and sky. "The arc of light passing from site to site symbolizes that each of us is apart of the great earth-circle, all sharing the same timeless cycle of the sun," she explained. "I am going to have to live a long time to see this completed," she laughed. She already has artwork in place, or in process around the world, as well as designs for longitudes in the Pacific.



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Parenting Skills Workshops Offered by Local Church

By Will Roberts
Ministerial Intern

Forest Hill Presbyterian Church will be sponsoring a speaker series on ways to enhance parenting skills. This three-part series will include dinner, child care, a lecture, and a question and answer session.

The series begins on September 22 with the presentation, *How Child Development Theories can be Applied to Parenting*, by Mrs. R Kirby Worthington, co-author of *Value your Children: Becoming better parental disciple-makers*.

Then on October 6 a presentation will be given on, *How a healthy marriage can lead to better parenting*, by VCU professor of Psychology Everett L. Worthington, author of *Forgiving and Reconciling: Bridges to Wholeness and Hope*.

Finally, on October 20, a presentation will be given on *Time management and Parenting: Finding Time for your Family in a Fast Paced World*, by Marianne Vermeer, a Senior Fellow with the Acumen Fund.

For each of these free events, dinner begins at 6:00 pm and the presentation begins at 7:00 pm. Child care will be provided. However, if you need child care please call or email the church at least two days before the event so we can get a sense of the number of children we will be providing child care for.

For more information and to reserve child care please call Forest Hill Presbyterian church at 804-233-4371 or email at info@fhpcrichmond.org.

Thank you all and we look forward to seeing the Forest Hill community.

Hosts of June Wine Club Shindig to Do It Again for Halloween

By Sarah MacDonald
FLYER Correspondent

No amount of heat could keep folks away from the Forest Hill Wine Club shindig on June 26, hosted by David Craig and Trip Edwards. At least 30 neighbors turned out to sample wines, visit with old friends, meet new neighbors and enjoy some tasty goodies.

"It was a wonderful way to make new friends and meet neighbors that you pass around the neighborhood from time to time," says David.

Couldn't make it to the June event? Not to worry because David Craig and Trip Edwards have graciously offered to host again on October 23 at 7 p.m. (1515 Cedar Lane).

You won't want to miss this: David, a visual stylist for Nordstrom since 2003, and Trip are famous for their

Halloween decorations. "In the house, every nook and cranny has something in it for Halloween, but pay close attention to the family pictures on the walls," says David.

Costumes aren't required, but it sure would add to the fun. Please call or e-mail David and Trip if you're able to come (232-1192 or west-overhillguy@aol.com). Many thanks to David and Trip for their hospitality!

How does the Forest Hill Wine Club work? The host provides some munchies and the guests bring bottles of wine to share. Whether you're a fan of red, white or bubbly, we promise it'll be fun and not stuffy.

Interested in opening up your home or backyard for a future Forest Hill Wine Club event? E-mail Sarah McDonald at timsarahmcd@gmail.com.



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