

The Forest Hill Neighborhood
Association Newsletter

Spring 2015

Forest Hill Flyer

Forest Hill Neighborhood Association meetings are held every third Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the Forest Hill Presbyterian Church. See you there!

We are always looking for stories about our neighborhood and the people who live here. Please send ideas and comments to Linda Mills, foresthillyer@gmail.com.

Published by the Forest Hill Neighborhood Association

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Know Your Neighbor: Robin Cage – Art with Heart

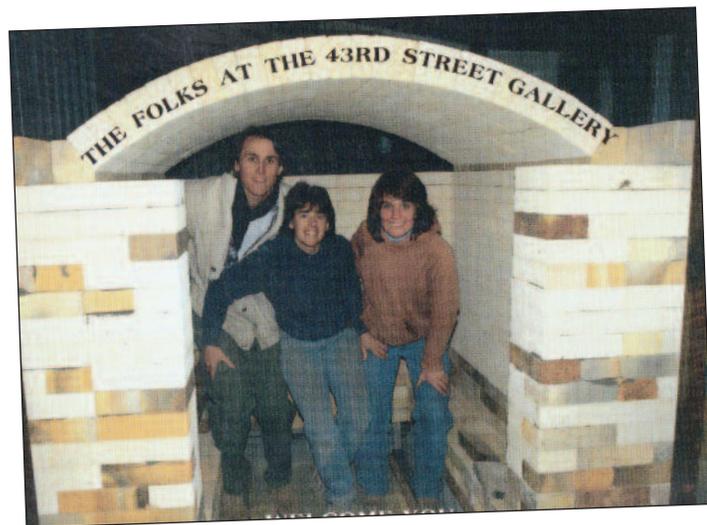
By Judith Warrington

One of our best known neighbors does not actually reside in the neighborhood, but spends most of her waking hours here. For the past 30 years, Robin Cage has been the owner and resident artist of the 43rd Street Gallery.

Robin was recently named a Virginia Master Artisan by the Artisans Center of Virginia (ACV). The award recognizes excellence in design and craftsmanship, and the mentoring, training and apprenticeship of young artists. The time-honored tradition of learning from a master craftsman is still alive in the potter's art.

"I studied as an apprentice for two years with John Friemarck and a year in Vermont," said Robin. And now she is passing that knowledge on, linking the past to the present, through her own students.

But it may come as a surprise to learn that such a gifted potter did not start out to be an artist. Originally from Halifax, Virginia, she grew up in a home where her father was an artist and sculptor, and she did "a little" art in high school. As an undergrad studying social sciences at The College of William



Potters Lee Hazelgrove, Robin, and Diana Cole collaborated to build the large kiln at the 43rd Street Gallery in 1985.

and Mary, her other activities included tennis, and there was no time to explore studio art classes. But all that changed.

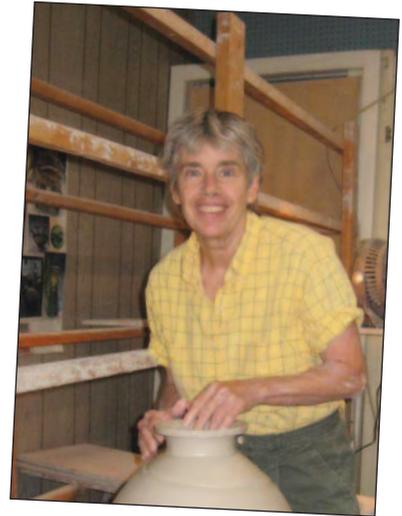
"I was in graduate school in Ohio studying sociology when I saw a potter working at a wheel, and that was the start," said Robin.

Today Robin works exclusively in stoneware, a high-fired clay that creates beautiful, durable items. In her workshop in the back of the gallery, orderly rows of wheel-thrown mugs, bowls and plates are drying before being glazed and fired. Many of her design elements are influenced by nature. Trees, winged insects and birds appear frequently in the soft and earthy glaze on her pieces.

"Because I fire at cone 10 (2,300 degrees F) the color range is determined by the clay and the firing temperature. So you won't see any vibrant reds in my work," she said.

Since 1985, the gallery has been an important part of Robin's life. That's when the retail-zoned building that was formerly Uncle Earl's Trash and Treasure was up for sale. Part of the building was boarded up, the floor was shaky, and rain came in through the roof. After a lot of repair and rebuilding it became the 43rd Street Gallery, a potter's workshop, and a cornerstone of the neighborhood. For the past 20-some years, Jan Hampton's violin shop has been tucked away around the side of the gallery.

For Robin, having the ability to sell her work where she works, rather than selling exclusively at shows, gives structure and stability to her life. In addition to her pottery, the gallery features the varied work of 20 to 25 local artists, including several from the neighborhood. Robin produces items for sale in other galleries, does special orders, and teaches students at the shop. Approximately every six weeks she loads and fires up



Robin at her wheel.

Continued on page 3

The President's Column



It's Your Neighborhood. Join Us!

By Shannon D. Taylor

The Forest Hill Neighborhood Association is working hard to host another fun year for you. Our flagship events are on track to provide you, your families and your friends with opportunities to engage neighbors, meet new people and become part of our close-knit, friendly neighborhood. Our annual 5K spring fun run is slated for April 11, 2015 - this is a change as the previously scheduled date fell on Easter weekend. Ask anyone who has participated in years past and you'll find this race is family and dog friendly, and a low-key way to get out and explore the neighborhood. Brunch parties abound after the race as people reload on carbs lost while running or walking. Volunteers high-five each other as they embrace the positive vibes that come with contributing back to the neighborhood. Don't miss this great event—either by volunteering (we need lots of help!) or signing up for the race. Plans are also in the works for the Trash to Cash annual yard sale, Music in the Park, and the Forest Hill Fall Fest.

Our association meetings are a great way to learn about current events in both the neighborhood and city. During meetings we receive updates from our city representatives on topics ranging from school issues, water and gas rates, trash and recycling pick-ups, leaf collection, gas line construction and road improvements. Yes, we send out email blasts and neighborhood Facebook updates, but if you want to hear the news first, join us every third Tuesday at the Forest Hill Presbyterian Church at 7 p.m.

The monthly FHNA meetings are also a great way to rally neighborhood support on important issues. One single voice is not as strong as a unified or majority front from our association, which represents more than 700 homes. For example, we have voted on significant issues such as continuing to support the South of the James Market location in the park, while voicing concern for the traffic impact on nearby neighbors. We have opposed certain city traffic and engineering plans for Forest Hill Avenue such as the proposed circle at Roanoke Avenue. Every year there are important issues to address as a neighborhood, and the FHNA is the best way to get our voices heard. Thanks to all of you who have joined the association, debated issues, and helped shape the positions that represent all of us. Join the FHNA so you too can vote on vital issues that concern us all.

One final plug for attending the meetings—we've got great guest speakers lined up! Tom Silvestri, the president and publisher of the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, will join us on March 17, 2015 to talk about the importance of neighborhood newsletters and regional newspapers in today's digital age. In April, we'll enjoy a cooking demonstration (and samples!) from neighbor-owned Victory Farms, using fresh produce from their farm.

I hope to see you there!

Shannon is busy lining up more interesting speakers for FHNA meetings, and daydreaming about her spring garden.

Forest Hill Neighborhood Association 2015-2016

www.foresthillneighborhood.com

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***Celebrate
the 30th Anniversary
of the 43rd Street Gallery
on Friday, April 24, 2015
from 5 to 8 p.m.***

The neighborhood open house will feature an "All Media Teapot Show." Local artists are invited to create a teapot using their chosen medium for the exhibit. For details contact Robin at the43rdstgallery@gmail.com or stop by the shop.

A Message from Our Council Representative



Dear Neighbor,

I hope all is well! So far it's been an uneventful winter. I hope I didn't just jinx it.

The leaf collection this season has not been very good. I will continue to talk with DPW to see how we can do better. Their goal was to complete the first cycle in all areas the first week in February. Please let us know

if you have not had your leaves picked-up.

On a very exciting note, the NEW Huguenot High School opened in January. What a beautiful building!

While the gas main replacement in Forest Hill Avenue (from the Powhite Parkway east to Jahnke Road) is taking longer than expected, I do think they are making progress. We're hoping for completion in the spring. As soon as they are finished, Forest Hill Avenue will be paved.

I wanted to let you know, to our surprise, the City of Richmond's Department of Public Utilities (DPU) will be undertaking water main work in preparation for the Forest Hill Avenue Project (from Powhite Parkway to Hathaway Road) starting March 1, 2015. We were under the impression work would not be starting until spring 2016. Here is a statement from the Department of Public Utilities:

"Water main work will be performed on Forest Hill Ave. This will affect both eastbound and westbound traffic while the crossing is performed. Each intersection will take approximately 10-15 days. All signs will conform with V.D.O.T. specifications as jobs done on State Projects. Police will be on site to assist in

traffic control. This work will begin March 1, 2015 and will be done during normal business hours (9 a.m.-4 p.m.) weather permitting, and will take approximately two to three months to complete this stage of the project."

We will continue to pass on information as we get it. Don't hesitate to call with any questions.

South of the James Winter Market continues Saturdays from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. through April 25, 2015.

Real Estate Tax Relief for the elderly and disabled is available for Richmond residents who qualify. Applicants must be 65 years or older, or disabled at any age, property owner living at property, have a gross income of less than \$50,000 for 2014, and have a total net worth of less than \$200,000 (excludes the house and land they live in/on). Applications are being accepted until March 31, 2015 and can be accessed through the Department of Finance site at richmondgov.com/Finance/index.aspx, by calling 311, or my district office.

I invite you to call or stop by my district office at 6948 Forest Hill Avenue to share your ideas, concerns, and discuss issues. It's probably a good idea to call before you stop over. Your involvement with my office has and will continue to be vital to setting policy and providing services that improve our community and quality of life. I value your input. By the way, you can now follow me on Twitter (@kathygraziano).

The Honorable Kathy Graziano is councilwoman for the Southwest 4th District in Richmond. You can reach her at kathy.graziano@richmondgov.com or 804-320-2454.

Robin Cage Continued from page 1

the shop's propane-powered kiln. She and two other potters built the large kiln which can hold 100-plus pieces at a time.

About the time that the gallery started, Robin and other local potters became aware of the Empty Bowls Project, an international grassroots effort to fight hunger. Potters and other craft people were holding fundraising soup dinners in which donors could take their bowls home as a reminder of all the empty bowls in the world. The local potters held an Empty Bowls event for the former Freedom House, and Robin said the organization was overwhelmed by the idea that someone would do that for them. That idea of supporting Freedom House meshed with the potters' desire to hold a small, well-juried show for local Richmond artists. The 43rd Street Festival was born.

In 1991 the first 43rd Street Festival was held in the parking lot of Good Shepherd with, as Robin described it, "a handful of artists, one food vendor, and a musician who played all day." Because Freedom House ceased operations a few years ago, the festival now benefits CARITAS, an organization that provides lasting solutions that help individuals and families break the

cycles of homelessness and addiction to reclaim their dignity.

Robin gratefully acknowledges Good Shepherd Episcopal School and the gallery's neighbors for their support for the festival over the past almost 24 years. Its impact has reached beyond art. "People have told me that they found the Forest Hill area because of the festival and moved here," she said.

Even after 30 years, Robin says she is not ready to retire. Few artists ever do!

"I hope to one day bring in a potter to take over the gallery. At least that's what I'm putting out to the universe for the next 10 years," she says. In the meantime, another load of pottery is ready for the kiln and the next festival to benefit the city's hungry and homeless is only seven months away.

"It's especially important to me to make something people use and treasure in a throwaway society; to feel real," says the potter, teacher, gallery owner, and benefit/festival organizer, who is still deep-down, a sociologist at heart.

Judith Warrington is a long-time resident of Forest Hill and can see the 43rd Street Gallery from her front door.

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FOREST HILL PICKUP LOCATIONS

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1000 Westover Hills Blvd, Richmond VA 23225
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43rd Street Gallery

1412 W 43rd St, Richmond VA 23225
Every Wednesday, 2:30 - 6:30 PM

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Register Now for the Forest Hill 5K!

Registration is open for the Forest Hill Neighborhood Association's 2015 Forest Hill Run for the Hills 5K. The fun run (not timed) will take place on Saturday, April 11 beginning at 9 a.m. Proceeds will support neighborhood projects.

This is our seventh annual 5K and it is a fabulous day throughout the neighborhood. The race begins and ends at the Stone House in Forest Hill Park and travels through the park and the surrounding neighborhood. Registration for the race is \$25. The entry fee includes a race tee shirt if you sign up by April 1. (No joke!) If you sign up after April 1, or on the day of the event, we cannot guarantee you a tee shirt. Sizes are available to fit most participants. Prizes will be awarded for the fastest woman, man, kiddo and doggy.



Don't miss this great opportunity to be a part of a fun run (or walk or stroll.) We enthusiastically welcome volunteers to help with jobs such as finish line assistant, trail monitor, and cheering voice. Volunteers will be rewarded with a 5K tee shirt and good karma. Please contact foresthillassoc@gmail.com for more information.

As with the 2014 run, we are using a trusted partner, Racelt! to handle our online registration. Go to the Forest Hill Neighborhood Association website at foresthillneighborhood.com for registration details and payment information.



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FHNA Meetings to Feature Guest Speaker and Cooking Demonstration

Join us at the March 17, 2015 membership meeting to hear guest speaker Thomas A. Silvestri, president and publisher of the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*. He's advanced in his profession as a stringer, reporter, copy/line editor, business editor, deputy managing editor, division staff executive, the president of a community newspaper group, publisher of a mid-size newspaper, vice president of a regional group and a Sunday columnist. In Richmond, he's mostly known for the *Richmond Times-Dispatch's* engagement initiative called the Public Square, which has been hailed by the community for demonstrating civil public conversations on important topics.

He's learned the importance of resilience after going through complicated mergers, the surprise sale of his long-time employer, many product launches, innovations, reductions in workforce, countless system changes, a major fire at a production plant, an earthquake and violent weather that disrupted operations at inopportune times.

His distinctions include induction into Virginia

Commonwealth University's Virginia Communications Hall of Fame, alumnus of the year from VCU, Pace University and Leadership Metro Richmond, and top leadership positions in community, regional, and national groups. The first in his family to earn a college degree, he continues to learn every day.

On April 21, 2015, the FHNA will welcome our neighbor Gina Collins of Victory Farms to share a delicious recipe created from their Certified Naturally Grown produce. The Collins family has served the Richmond area since 2007. Their farm is just outside the city limits, a mere 4.5 miles from downtown Richmond. Farmer Charlie Collins has more than 20 years of experience in the field. He tends his fields himself with the utmost care, using only natural methods and custom compost. Victory Farms grows a wide array of heirloom and Mediterranean varieties of your favorite vegetables, greens, herbs, and summer fruits. Come enjoy the fruits of their labors and sample a nutritious treat made from some of the healthiest produce around.

**The Forest Hill Neighborhood Association meets the third Tuesday of each month, except for July.
All meetings begin at 7 p.m. at the Forest Hill Presbyterian Church, 4401 Forest Hill Avenue.**

Turn Your Trash Into Cash!

Forest Hill Neighborhood Yard Sale

Saturday • June 6th • 8am-noon

Everyone who signs up will be listed on the official map, plus we'll run an ad in the Saturday Richmond Times Dispatch and notice on Hills & Heights along with Craigs List showing our map and listing your address.

For Forest Hill Association members its **FREE**. For Non-Members the cost is just \$15 per household for the membership, but the deadline to sign up is May 31st.

**For Sign Up or Questions contact Dorna Braswell
at foresthillassoc@gmail.com**



Forest Hill

Visit www.foresthillneighborhood.com for more information.



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Celebrity Pet Caesar

By Colleen Dee and Howie Hall

What is your name and the name of your human?

My name is Caesar. I have been called Skeezer, Sleestack, Dog2, and Seizure by one lady at the apartment where I used to live. My human is Colleen and there's a man, Howie, who smells like cats, who comes over. He cooks a lot. I sort of like him; and definitely better when he has a piece of bacon in his hand.

Where and when did you find your home?

Colleen adopted me when my previous human, Alfred Lightfoot, went out to a farm in the country where he could run and play all day long. I miss him, but I am loving life on W. 42nd Street!

What's your heritage?

I am 100 percent purebred All-American Bucktooth Hound. I look like a cattle dog and I am maintaining my red-on-white-colored coat into my 15th year.

What is your favorite toy and/or activity?

I like to chew on teddy bears and catnip mice. There are toys everywhere, even cats. My BFF is my roommate, Buddy. When I met Buddy at Forest Hill Park three years ago, I knew I had to live with him. We watch sports while the humans aren't around. My favorite activity is going for a WALK, and don't try to spell it, I'm on to you.

What is your best trick?

I am good at moving food out of Buddy's bowl into mine when he isn't looking.



Caesar (right) and his BFF Buddy couldn't be happier to live on W. 42nd St.

What are your best traits?

I am loyal and listen well to commands, got the sit trick down. I have learned to be respectful of the kitties that live with me. The fat cat is slow and no problem, but the little ninja kitty keeps me on my toes. She's the boss.

What else would you like your admirers to know?

I love walking around the hood, the James River, Forest Hill Park and the Lake, Hollywood Cemetery, and anywhere there are squirrels. Every time I see Jerry Jones on TV, I voice my displeasure.

Colleen gardens on W. 42nd Street and has since 2000. Howie peddles comics and toys from Oregon Hill.

Mark your calendars!

May 10 • 6-8 pm
The Atkinsons (Alt-Country/Americana)

June 14 • 6-8 pm
Tin Can Fish Band (Folk Rock & Roots)

July 12 • 6-8 pm
Hotel X (African Jazz Funk)

Aug. 9 • 6-8 pm
Mighty Joshua & Zion #5 Band (Reggae)

Sept 6 • 5-7 pm
Elana Lisa and the Hot Mess
(Hot Jazz and Swing)

Oct. 4 • 5-7 pm
New Misty Centralis (Folk-Pop & Rock)

Grab the entire family and
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Loving an Old Forest Hill Home

By Alexis Morehouse Thompson

We're the Thompsons—rescue dog adopters, child wranglers, once-in-awhile runners, and home renovators. We are on our third home restoration project in six years, the last two being right here in Forest Hill—a 1950s colonial brick beauty and a 1920s stucco American Four Square.

We moved into the brick beauty while expecting baby #1 and proceeded to paint, landscape, demo walls and remodel a kitchen all before Little-Miss-Dog-Tail-Puller could say, "Hammer." Not the easiest thing to do with an infant—note Willy's lack of hair. After all the blood, sweat and teething, we thought we might never leave our sweet home by the river. Yet somehow we found ourselves moving two years later to our current home...this time when Alexis was eight months pregnant with Little-Miss-Eardrum-Tester.

A well-loved home only four blocks away had the architectural character we had dreamed about. We jumped right to work. In our family, power tool lessons begin in utero. But in one fell swoop we blew out the electrical system with the orbital sander, a neighbor broke his ankle as he fell through an old coal grate in the floor, and we all had to evacuate when a gas leak joined the party. Did we mention Alexis was eight months pregnant? And we had a toddler? (Willy loses more hair.) The realities of a 94-year-old house hit home when it took somewhere in the neighborhood of ten weeks to install beautiful, 100-year-old salvaged front doors, and even longer to finish exterior painting and siding. We did not meet our pre-birth goal for Phase One renovations. Instead, we returned home with a newborn as the painters awkwardly applauded while backing up slowly.

Despite the questionable decisions, and less than ideal timing, we have a passion (read: unhealthy obsession) for paint sticks, power tools and old houses. Our girls still fall asleep to the lullaby of the belt sander and yard work often becomes family backyard adventure parties.

We sometimes wonder, "Should we post a 'pardon our dust' sign in the yard?" or "Should we tell the neighbors that we promise the deck will not remain unfinished forever?" But

overall, everyone has been lovely and we enjoy talking to all of the joggers, dogwalkers and farmers-market shoppers as we pile HardiePlank in the backyard or refinish hand-me-down furniture on the porch. We get many of



the same questions, usually having to do with who our contractors are, or what projects we're working on. One couple even asked if they could come in and see the massive 10-foot by 14-foot, 1960s map of Richmond on our dining room wall (really, it's what sold us on the house).

So in the spirit of sharing, we're going to post fun house updates on Alexis' real estate blog along with other stories of our home renovation adventures. We've only just begun on house number three, so stay tuned for three bathroom renos, a kitchen overhaul, fence building and DIY projects on a shoestring budget!

Alexis has backpacked all over the world, but now finds adventure in rescuing dogs and 90-year-old homes. When she isn't working on her own house, she helps others buy and sell theirs. You can reach her at RichmondRenos.com.

Tell Us about Your Home Project

We're looking for home renewal stories for future issues of the Forest Hill Flyer. Have you refurbished a bathroom, modernized a kitchen, or remodeled a basement? Have you experienced less glamorous projects like replacing a sewer line, installing a new furnace, or evicting bats from your attic? We would be delighted to hear from you! Please contact foresthillflyer@gmail.com to contribute your own story of loving a fabulous Forest Hill home.

Little Free Library Entertaining Folks through the Winter Months

The Little Free Library located by the Tot Lot in Forest Hill Park has been providing books and accepting offerings during the cold "read a book by the fire" weather. The library has received lots of community donations, so it has been continually replenished. Thank you to all those generous folks who have supported this project. Please contact Laura Dysart at lauradysart@verizon.net if you have donations of children's books, or feel free to add appropriate children's books to the Little Free Library yourself.



Order Your Plaque at a Discount!

Look for the Forest Hill Historic District plaques as neighbors install them. They are visible from the street and add a touch of class and distinction to the homes they adorn. Show off our historic district by displaying a plaque on your house.

*For a limited time, the foundry that creates the Forest Hill Historic District plaques is offering a 20 percent discount on orders. Request your bronze plaque today and pay the discounted price of only \$160. Please submit your application and the payment by **March 13, 2015**.*

FOREST HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT PLAQUE ORDER FORM

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(Screw mount is recommended for wood or siding over wood. Invisible Mount is recommended for brick and stucco.)

- Make checks payable to the Forest Hill Historic Designation Committee and deliver/mail to Carolyn Paulette, 4312 Forest Hill Ave., Richmond, VA 23225.
- Turnaround should be 4 to 6 weeks depending on meeting minimum orders. Contact Carolyn at 232-6644 or cmp4312@yahoo.com with questions.
- We would like to verify the construction date for your property with you before we have it engraved on your plaque. We will use the date that the city tax records provide or the date our research provides unless you have other documentation.
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 Michele Zipperer
 Preschool Director
 Email: mazipp@verizon.net
 Phone: (804)232-1769, ext. 15



Westover Hills Preschool is located in the center of the historic and vibrant Westover Hills neighborhood and is a weekday outreach ministry of Westover Hills United Methodist Church. We are very excited to offer our students and their families a play-based, developmentally appropriate curriculum which nurtures the whole child through active participatory learning. Inspired by the many young families who live nearby, we are delighted to offer a premiere preschool program to serve our neighbors and surrounding community for years to come.



- Currently accepting applications for the 2015-2016 school year
- Weekday Preschool program, Monday-Friday, 9:30am-12:30pm
- Enrolling children who will be 2.5 to 5 years old by next September, 2015
- 2-, 3-, 4-, and 5-day options depending on child's age
- Newly renovated preschool facility in the lower-level of Westover Hills United Methodist church
- Recently upgraded Tot Lot on the corner of New Kent and Westover Hills Blvd
- Music, art, special in-house programming & field trips will be offered
- Located near parks, libraries and the James River.

Victory Farms Serves from New Location

Our local urban farmstead is settling in at a new location. Victory Farms will now be selling their Certified Naturally Grown produce, beef and eggs at Forest Hill Presbyterian Church.

This year is Victory Farms' 20th season of growing amazing quality vegetables, greens, herbs, and vining fruits—and they look forward to growing more great food for you this season! Winter hours are dependent on weather, but you can sign up for their mailing list at VictoryFarmsInc.com to keep updated on their progress, or find them on Facebook.

Victory Farms is accepting applications for CSA members. Your CSA share allows for complete flexibility by choosing your own produce and then using a debit system—your \$500- or \$350-share fee is debited at your own pace throughout the 24-week growing season. This is a \$20/week (or \$15/week) rate that is very manageable and appropriate for families, couples, singles, or even share splitting. Plus, CSA members receive 10 percent off all season long!



Lee & Gene Reams

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Facilitating Democracy in Forest Hill

By Robley Jones

We are most fortunate in Forest Hill to have voting precinct 402 in our neighborhood. This precinct, one of the largest in Richmond, is nestled in our neighborhood at the Forest Hill Presbyterian Church at W. 44th Street and Forest Hill Avenue.

It appears that both parties may have primaries on June 9, 2015 to determine their nominee for the seat of State Senator John Watkins (State Senate District 10), who is retiring at the end this term. In addition, on November 3, 2015, we will elect our representatives to the Virginia House of Delegates and the State Senate.

Would you like to volunteer to work the polls? The day is long—you must report at 5 a.m. and may not get home until after 8 p.m. But what a day it is! You get to see your neighbors as you perform a civic duty essential to our democracy. A small stipend that varies depending on the duties you assume is provided. If you would like to help, please contact Chief Election Officer Robley Jones at robleyj@aol.com, or 804-233-3748.

If you are not registered to vote, you can register online at vote.virginia.gov/ or use the link to secure a voter registration form at tinyurl.com/q2xm6q4.

“The vote is the most powerful instrument ever devised by man for breaking down injustice and destroying the terrible walls which imprison men because they are different from other men.”

- Lyndon B. Johnson



Tin Can Fish Band

March 6th @ Legends 8pm
March 27th @ Crossroads 8pm
March 28th @ O'Tooles
April 17th @ Legends 8pm
April 18th @ Crossroads
May 23rd @ Crossroads
May 24th @ Fellini's (C-ville) 10pm

Canned
Progressive
Folk Rock

Watch for a Sunday in the Park this spring!

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CHRISTIE'S
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

Sunday

in the

Park

with
Friends

Sunday, April 19, 2015

Noon—6:00 p.m.

Forest Hill Park

Music

Live music by
neighborhood
favorites.

Food

Food trucks will be
selling great food and
we'll provide water
and spring treats.

Fun!

Loads of kid's activities
Shop with our art
& craft specialty
item vendors!

Sponsors: Friends of Forest Hill Park and the City of Richmond Department of Parks & Recreation

Supporters: Forest Hill, Westover Hills & Woodland Heights Civic Associations

Design by Page Hayes

Volunteer to Help Friends of Forest Hill Park

Sunday in the Park is April 19, 2015

Come celebrate the tenth year of Sunday in the Park sponsored by Friends of Forest Hill Park! This event is one of the most popular in our neighborhood and is a wonderful opportunity for neighbors to gather with their children. Listen to music, create crafts, enjoy the puppet shows and the juggler, and come home with a painted face and a balloon hat. Put **April 9, 2015, noon to 6 p.m.** on your calendar!

It requires many hands to put this event together. We would love to have your input and suggestions planning the event. Or if you would rather volunteer on the day, you could help distribute water and cookies, oversee crafts, or set up and take down—meeting and chatting with neighbors in the process.

If you are interested in showing some neighborhood love, please attend the next meeting of Friends of Forest Hill Park on March 19, 2015 at 7 p.m. in the Stone House in Forest Hill Park. Or contact Carolyn Paulette at 804-232-6644 or cmp4312@yahoo.com.

Sunday in the Park has something for everyone!

Five Bands

Hula Hoop Girls

Bike Rodeo

Crafts

Local Conservation Info

True Timber Tree Climbing

Free refreshments

Stone House Tours

Food Trucks

Also! Elizabeth Watkins Morris from Halloway House in Petersburg will show her collection of original and reproduction women's clothing dating from 1855-1865. She will explore the design, construction, and purpose of 19th century garments as compared to modern fashion. Her display will be in the Stone House from noon to p.m. Presentations will be at 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, and 4:30 p.m.



Westover Hills United Methodist Church Preschool Accepting Applications

Westover Hills United Methodist Church is pleased to announce its new preschool program opening to families with children ages 2 ½ to 5 years old in September 2015. It is the goal of Westover Hills Preschool to provide our families with a convenient, high quality, and developmentally-appropriate preschool home for their child.

Applications are available at our website

westoverhillspreschool.org. Registration for the 2015-2016 school year is already underway and will continue on a rolling basis throughout the spring. For further information regarding the curriculum, the enrollment/registration process, or any other program-related questions, contact Michele Zipperer at mazipp@verizon.net or 804-232-1769.

Forest Hill Neighborhood Association Continues Community Service Scholarship

Are you a graduating high school senior who has put your mark on the neighborhood with your volunteer efforts? Perhaps you worked to clean up Reedy Creek, judged the annual Halloween Howl, or delivered the Forest Hill Flyer on your street. Maybe you volunteered at the Westover Hills Library, set up bluebird boxes, or helped your elderly neighbor by taking his supercan to the curb each week.

If you have been serving your community in those ways, or in any others, your efforts have made you eligible for the third annual Forest Hill Neighborhood Association Community Service Scholarship.

"We have so many wonderful students who contribute to our neighborhood!" says Shannon Taylor, president of the FHNA. "A financial gift to further their education is a small token of our appreciation. I hope this opportunity inspires more volunteerism and community involvement by students of all ages!"

The annual scholarship is an award of \$500 presented to a graduating senior who lives in the Forest Hill neighborhood and who plans to attend college or a post-secondary institution. The selection process is based on an application; original answers to essay questions, including details and documentation of service to the community; a letter of recommendation from a non-

relative who knows the applicant and is familiar with his or her service to the community; and a copy of a letter of acceptance from the college the applicant plans to attend. Once awarded, the scholarship may be used for any college-related necessities.

The scholarship deadline this year is July 1, 2015. All materials must be postmarked by that date. The money will be awarded to the scholarship recipient by the FHNA during the August 2015 membership meeting. The selection committee will be determined every year and will consist of between three and five members of the FHNA executive board. The decision of the selection committee is final.

If you are interested in the Forest Hill Neighborhood Association Community Service Scholarship, the application can be printed from the FHNA website: foresthillneighborhood.com. If you would like to receive a printed copy of the application in the mail, please send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: **FHNA Community Service Scholarship Committee, 4206 Riverside Drive, Richmond, VA 23225**. We will send an application back to you. For any other questions, contact foresthillflyer@gmail.com.

Fun February Snow Day at Forest Hill Park

*The place to go in the neighborhood on a sunny snow day—then home for hot chocolate and a nap.
(At least for the adults!)*



Photos by Ian Mills

At the Westover Hills Library

Mark Your Calendar for These Events!

Teen Tech Week Events.

Tuesday, March 10, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Launch your own rocket! Learn the fun of using up-cycled materials to make an awesome rocket, then watch how far it will go!

Saturday, March 14, 10:30- 12:00 p.m.

Create your own video game! Learn how to make your very own video game using an open-sourced tool called "Twine." Please call 804-646-8833 to register beginning on March 2.

Money Talks at Your Library. *Wednesday, April 1, 6 p.m.*

Richmond Public Library is partnering with Virginia Credit Union to offer free financial seminars at libraries in 2015. This month's session is "Survive and Thrive in Today's Economy." Registration is required. Call 804-646-8833 to reserve your spot!

Peter Rabbit and Beyond...Stories for Bunny Lovers.

Saturday, April 18, 1 p.m.

The Backpack Storyteller, Deborah Alsko, presents stories for bunny lovers of all ages. Come and meet her special "rescue" bunny, S'mores, after story time! No reservations required.

Plant Clinic. *Saturday, May 9, 12-2 p.m.*

Virginia Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners will be at Westover Hills Library to help you with your gardening, turf, pruning, insect, plant disease, and other garden-related questions.

Fiction Focus.

March 20, April 17, May 15, 10:15 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

Join our seniors book club! We meet the third Friday of each month, February through October to read books and discuss them. Fiction Focus is sponsored by the Richmond Public Library and the City of Richmond Office on Aging and Disabilities. We are reading *The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk in March; *Gathering of Waters* by Bernice McFadden in April; and *The Mountains Echoed* by Khaled Hosseini in May. We're always looking for a fresh opinion, so join us!

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL).

Designed for speakers of other languages who wish to learn to speak, read and write English in an American cultural context. Contact the ACE office at 804-780-8311 for information on registration and class fees. *Mondays and Wednesdays, 10:15 a.m.- 1:00 p.m.*

Richmond Story League

The aim of the Richmond Story League is to encourage the creation and appreciation of the good and beautiful in life and literature through the art of storytelling. The meeting is open to anyone who wants to listen to or tell stories. This year's theme is stories from different regions of the United States. For information, contact Deborah Alsko at 804-232-3542. *Upcoming dates are Saturdays, March 7, April 4, and May 2 at 11 a.m.*

Book Babies

Interactive story, music, and play time for babies up to 18 months and their parents/caregivers.

Thursdays, March 5, 12, 19 and 26; April 2, 23, and 30; and May 7, 14, 21, and 28 at 10 a.m.

Toddler Story Time

Early literacy story time features books, music, and rhymes for 18-36 month-olds and their parents/caregivers.

Tuesdays, March 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31; April 21 and 28; May 5, 12, 19 and 26 at 11 a.m.

Preschool Story Time

Early literacy story time with music, books and rhymes for 3-6 year olds and their parents/caregivers.

Thursdays, March 5, 12, 19, and 26; April 2, 23 and 30; May 7, 14, 21, and 28 at 11 a.m.

Westover Hills Library Advisory Group

Interested in supporting your library? We meet the first Saturday of each month September through May at 9 a.m. *Upcoming dates are March 7, April 4 and May 2.*

Are you interested in Training on Demand?

The Westover Hills Library staff offers 30-minute training sessions to help you learn more about computers, eReaders, and even applying for jobs online. All appointments are held on Mondays between 10 a.m. and noon, and Wednesdays between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Call 804-646-8833 to make an appointment or for more information.

Poem in Your Pocket Day is April 30. Get inspired by reading and sharing your favorite poems. Thousands of classic and contemporary poems are ready for you to access. POETRY from the Poetry Foundation (iOS and Droid).

All Richmond Public Libraries will be closed on May 25 in observance of Memorial Day.



Save
the
date!

SATURDAY: 9AM
APRIL 11TH

Sign up
early and
get a
cool
shirt!

Run
for
the Hills!

For more information visit
www.foresthillneighborhood.com

Your Neighborhood Wants You!
Please join the FHNA and become part of a friendly and active
group that works for the good of the neighborhood.

Forest Hill Neighborhood Association
Membership Form

Date: _____

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

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.

Yes, I'm interested in volunteering with FHNA!

Pay online at www.foresthillneighborhood.com
or by check made payable to Forest Hill Neighborhood Association
ATTN: Ramon Puzon, FHNA Treasurer
4400 Stonewall Avenue, Richmond, VA 23225

FREE
Tote Bag & Decal
when you join!



Forest Hill

For more information visit www.foresthillneighborhood.com