

The Forest Hill Neighborhood  
Association Newsletter

Spring 2016

Forest Hill Neighborhood Association meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month 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, [foresthillflyer@gmail.com](mailto:foresthillflyer@gmail.com).

Published by the Forest Hill Neighborhood Association

For Ad Sales please contact David Lynch at [adsalesforesthillflyer@gmail.com](mailto:adsalesforesthillflyer@gmail.com)

# Forest Hill Flyer

## Bicycles, Bread, and Brews: Here's Why You Need to Check Out the Outpost

By Judith Warrington

If you haven't been to Outpost Richmond on the corner of Forest Hill Avenue and Westover Hills Boulevard because you aren't currently a cyclist, then drive there or walk there and check it out. You'll be pleasantly surprised. It's a lot more than a bicycle shop!

On a gray Sunday afternoon a woman and her young son drop off his small red bicycle to have a tire replaced. A spandex-clad cyclist brings his sleek racing bike inside while he shops for a few grocery items. An older man asks about a bike part he's ordered. Everyone appears to leave the store happy!



*Bikes and groceries—a perfect pairing.*

### What's Inside!

Let it Grow—page 7

Bucky, the Celebrity Pet—page 9

Annual Neighborhood Yard Sale—page 12



*Grocery manager Joshua Coleman is excited about the variety of foodstuffs Outpost offers to the neighborhood. A wide array of beers is next!*

Outpost's bike side has rows of bicycles for sale and maps of the James River Park trails on the wall, but on the other side of the shop is a sight you might not expect to see—there are rows of gourmet sodas, local sausages, breads, pastas, water ground cornmeal from Nelson County, coffee, and very soon, craft beers. Plus, there's a welcome selection of fresh produce, thanks to grocery manager Joshua Coleman. You'll also find the basics, like soup and TP among the gourmet groceries and unexpected items on the shelves.

Partners Mark North, Ethan Lindbloom, and Braden Govoni are the brains behind this mash-up of bike shop and corner grocery store. Govoni, a founder of Carytown Bikes, thinks the concept fills a niche in the neighborhood and wants people of all ages and riding abilities to feel at home in the new shop. It's hard not to, because Outpost is making a point of being a good neighbor.

During the late January snowstorm, Outpost was one of the few places in the neighborhood that was open for business. That's because the shop's bike mechanic, Kurt Stolte, hiked in from his home in the Fan. Using social media they made sure everyone knew they were open and grateful neighbors showed up!

"We had milk, bread and eggs," said Stolte. "We didn't have a lot of cyclists that weekend, but families came in pulling their sleds. I never thought I'd work in a grocery store," says Stolte, adding, "I love working here!"

Outpost has also built up its karma by repairing donated bikes and giving them to OAR, Offender Aid and Restoration.

*Outpost continued on page 4*

# The President's Message



By Whit Clements

Winter certainly showed up in a grand fashion this season. It has been a long time since I was in a snow storm that lasted for so long, but it is events like that can provide a whole new perspective on the area we live in. To see all of our neighbors out sledding at the park, the restaurants that stayed open that weekend, shoveling out, or just soaking in the snowy blanket that covered us was so

enjoyable. Fourteen inches of snow couldn't keep Forest Hill from gathering together and having a good time.

It is impressive what we can do as a neighborhood when we come together. Right now a group of neighbors has been working hard to get the city to address a persistent issue of a property management company not following city code or providing the basic services to their renters. Working together they have put on several neighborhood clean ups and a very effective email campaign. Their combined efforts led to a meeting with the owner of the property management company and local council persons to come up with a plan to address the numerous issues.

Every year there is a wonderful group of volunteers in the FHNA whose combined efforts bring us the Forest Hill 5K, Neighborhood Yard Sale, and multiple sessions of Music in the Park. If this group of neighbors didn't come together and make these events happen then some of what makes this a wonderful place to live would be lost. This year I encourage you to meet up with your neighbors. Join us at one of the FHNA monthly meetings at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month at the Forest Hill Presbyterian Church. Volunteer to help out with one of our events, or join the board (we have openings for the secretary and treasurer positions). I know that with more neighbors working together we can make this neighborhood even better than it already is.

*Whit Clements is the newly-elected president of the FHNA and is eagerly awaiting the return of the spring farmers market.*

## Do you want the inside scoop?

The Forest Hill Neighborhood Association needs a secretary and a treasurer. Please help keep the neighborhood vibrant and thriving. Volunteer for a fabulous FHNA board position today. You'll love it. It's fun! And we can't do it without you.



## Forest Hill Neighborhood Association 2016-2017

[foresthillneighborhood.com](http://foresthillneighborhood.com)

### OFFICERS

Whit Clements, President  
Robley Jones, Vice President  
Secretary and Treasurer positions are vacant

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

Janet Bowers  
Dorna Braswell  
Winnie Canup  
Stacey Maples  
Linda Mills  
Carolyn Paulette  
Bo Williams

### FLYER

Linda Mills, Editor  
Bo Williams, Design and Production  
David Lynch, Advertising Manager

# 43<sup>rd</sup> Street

## GALLERY

1412 W. 43RD ST. • RICHMOND, VA 23225 • 233-1758

**Come See What's New!**  
*the gallery is blooming  
with visual treats.*



**Almost Spring!**  
Special Offer  
**25% Off**  
any one  
item before  
March 20, 2016

### GALLERY HOURS

Tues-Thur 10am-6pm; Fri and Sat 10am-4pm

**43rd Street Festival of the Arts**  
Saturday, September 17, 2016 • 10am-5pm

# A Message from Our Council Representative



Dear Forest Hill Neighbor,

I hope everyone survived the snow. Thank you for providing snow entertainment on the slopes at Forest Hill Park!

I understand there was frustration about the time it took to clear the snow in the neighborhood. There is an ongoing conversation with the CAO and DPW about improving it in the future. At the same time, it's difficult for the city to budget for a major snow event that happens every 15 years.

Thank goodness for the paving of Forest Hill Avenue from Westover Hills Boulevard west to the Powhite Parkway! Thank you for your patience!

Unfortunately, because of budget constraints, there will be only one leaf collection this season. We were expecting most neighborhoods to be cleared soon. While I realize it's an inconvenience to wait, I thought a later collection would insure all of the leaves would have fallen. If you prefer to bag them, the city will pick-up up to 25 bags at a time. I have leaf bags at my office, 6948 Forest Hill Avenue. Please call 804-320-2454 to make sure someone is here before you come.

While there will be some preliminary work done in the next couple of months, the Forest Hill Avenue Project is expected to

start spring/summer 2016. The city will be adding a median with left turn lanes, sidewalks, and a buffered bike path from the Powhite Parkway west to Hathaway. Another improvement will be a traffic signal at Melbourne and Forest Hill to make it easier for drivers to get out onto Forest Hill.

Real estate tax relief for the elderly and disabled is available for city residents who qualify. Applicants must be 65 years or older, or disabled at any age, a 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, 2016. Applications can be accessed through the Finance Department site at [richmondgov.com/Finance/index.aspx](http://richmondgov.com/Finance/index.aspx), or by calling 3-1-1- 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](mailto:kathy.graziano@richmondgov.com) or 804-320-2454.*

## What did your dog do today?

- Adventure Walks
- Midday Visits
- Pet Sitting

[www.canineadventure.net](http://www.canineadventure.net)

1-855-DOG-HIKE

(1-855-364-4453)



## CANINE ADVENTURE



# ***SELLER'S MARKET IS BACK PRICES ARE INCREASING!!***



## ***CALL JIM DONOHUE!***

- Forest Hill Expert
- Hills & Heights Resident for 30+ Years
- Integrity and Proven Track Record
- 20+ Years of Experience
- 23 Sales in 2015
- \$5.8 million in Sales 2015

**IF YOU'RE THINKING OF SELLING CALL JIM FOR  
A FREE MARKET ANALYSIS OF YOUR HOME.**



***Jim Donohue***

**233-4685 (home) 218-4685 (cell)**

**Jim.Donohue@LNF.com**

## ***Outpost Continued from page 1***

These good-as-new bikes will provide a means of transportation for former offenders who are returning to work.

This is the place that just might inspire you to get out and ride, whether you need a bicycle or simply need to repair the one you have. Outpost's staff is knowledgeable and enthusiastic about getting you on two wheels. Pending plans for this spring include some special rides, like a "coffee and donut ride" that tours the city's top spots for calories and caffeine, and "bike packing trips" on the Cap Trail or to Bear Creek Lake State Park in Cumberland County. Follow Outpost on Facebook (Outpost Richmond) to learn about upcoming events. And whether you need a bicycle or an onion, it's right up the street.

*Judith Warrington is a long-time Forest Hill resident whose 10-speed currently has two flat tires.*



*Kurt Stolte, one of Outpost's bike mechanics, is the stalwart soul who braved Snowmageddon so that Forest Hill residents could get their organic milk, artisanal bread, and crimini mushrooms.*

# Clean Up After Race a Team Effort

By Susan Price

Many people love that the Anthem Richmond Marathon brings athletes coursing down Forest Hill Avenue and through our neighborhood. The excitement and the cheering crowds make for a great event. In recent years, however, when the event was over, residents were left with an unsightly and unfortunate problem.

One of the junk food stations for the annual Anthem Richmond Marathon is erected each year at W. 44th Street and Forest Hill Avenue. In years past, trash in the form of candy wrappers, energy gel packs, and paper cups remained strewn about for days after the event that brings hundreds of spectators and 19,000 runners into our neighborhood. The November weather elements impact this trash—winds scatter it from the street into personal properties and down the sidewalks of Forest Hill Avenue. Even worse, rain runoff carries the trash into the storm drain (also located at W. 44th Street and Forest Hill Avenue) that empties into the Reedy Creek Watershed where it impacts the James River and the Chesapeake Bay. Time compounds the problem—the more time trash has to mix with leaf litter and become concealed, the more ineffectual cleanup efforts are.

After talking with the marathon organizer (Sports Backers), I learned they use street sweepers for post-race cleanup. Beyond that, they did not have a good plan for promptly cleaning trash not captured by street sweepers. So in the spring of 2015, I reached out to Anna Mathis of the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay and asked for help. She put me in touch with her colleague and RVA Clean Sweep's Amy Robins who sits on Richmond's Clean City Commission (CCC) for the 5th District. After the CCC discussed the issue at their monthly meeting, the CCC Coordinator Darlene Mallory personally met with the marathon organizers the week before this year's event to discuss the need for same-day, comprehensive cleanup efforts.

As a result, no trash remained on Forest Hill Avenue (or surrounding areas) the day after Anthem Richmond Marathon came through our neighborhood this past November. Thank you, Clean City Commission and Sports Backers! I know I speak for the neighborhood when I say we all appreciate that you came together to solve a community concern—keeping Forest Hill trash-free and preserving the Reedy Creek Watershed.

*Susan Price has lived in Forest Hill for six years.*

# Babies and Boxes

## House Buying and Selling with Wee Ones

By Alexis Thompson

Many growing families find themselves hunting for their first house, or a bigger house, in between diaper changes and toddler tantrums. I know what it's like from personal experience—we moved during two of my three pregnancies, which is a great excuse not to lift boxes! Moving is stressful enough, but add in kids or the ticking clock of a pregnancy, and things can get even harder. If you find yourself in this situation, here are my tips to keep your sanity and find the perfect home for your family—other than, obviously, buy a home in Forest Hill!

**1. Avoid wishful thinking.** How you live now is a good indicator of how you will live as the kids grow up. If you are an outdoorsy person, you'll likely continue to explore trails and river spots as a family. If you can't get enough of the arts, music, and restaurants, then you'll find a way to cart the wee ones into a culture-rich lifestyle. Are you a social butterfly? Then you and your kids will enjoy neighborhoods with an active association, gathering places, or friendly street activity. Don't fool yourself into thinking, "When my kids get older, we'll definitely spend time hiking and biking," while you spend your weekends now hanging around the house. Or, "We need a spacious yard," when the thought of mowing makes you queasy.

**2. Plan B.** Take some time to develop a contingency plan. For many families there is a looming deadline—the birth of a child, school enrollment, expiring lease. Create an ideal timeline with your Realtor® and also a "what if it doesn't work out" plan. In the event you have trouble selling or buying, a Plan B will keep you from feeling hopelessly trapped.

**3. Neighborhood Loyalty.** Many urban dwellers find that space suddenly disappears with toys, changing tables, and high chairs, yet they don't want to leave the city life. If you need to move, but you're determined to stay in the same neighborhood or area, set your sights on a longer house hunt and start early. The smaller the geographic area you're willing to search, the fewer options there will be. Then, when you do find a house that checks most of your boxes, don't wait too long to make a decision. The 2016 market is shaping up to be a fast one!

**4. Examine your sales horizon.** Buying a house you'll keep for 20 years vs. five years calls for completely different purchase strategies. Interest rates, cash down, equity potential, and repair costs will each hold different levels of importance in these transactions. Evaluating all those with your Realtor will help you and your family find a place for the early years or the forever home of your dreams.

*Alexis is a licensed Realtor® with One South Realty Group. She and her husband Willy juggle toddlers, real estate and renovations here in Forest Hill. When not running that three ring circus, the couple enjoys.....sleep. You can reach Alexis at [AlexisThompson.Realtor@gmail.com](mailto:AlexisThompson.Realtor@gmail.com), 804-627-3803 or [RichmondVAProperty.com](http://RichmondVAProperty.com).*



... NOW SERVING ...

**30 COUNT  
CHICK-FIL-A®  
NUGGET TRAY**

(includes 5 individual sauces)

\$10.98



**7125 Forest Hill Ave., Richmond, VA 23225 (804)272-5050**  
**[www.cfarestaurant.com/stratfordhills](http://www.cfarestaurant.com/stratfordhills)**  
**[facebook.com/cfastratfordhills](https://facebook.com/cfastratfordhills)**



# Letting It Grow

Did you ever wonder about those signs in Forest Hill Park that read: No mowing? The story about them starts almost six years ago when Reedy Creek Coalition and the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay decided to do something about a bare slope in Forest Hill Park. Their aim was to improve water quality in the Reedy Creek watershed. There are no “before” pictures so you will need to use your imagination about what the slope looked like:

- Hard, compacted, bare soil—if you want to call it soil. This stuff was dead. Real soil is alive, moisture retentive, and complex.
- What little growth there was got mowed down.
- There were no plants to hold the leaves that fell from nearby trees. The leaves either blew away or were removed.
- When it rained, water ran off the slope into the road and down the hill. Actually, by the time it got to the road, the runoff was a muddy stream carrying sediment down to the lake.

Got the picture?

The group planted about 30 small trees in February 2010. The following summer, however, was not kind. It was hot and dry with July temperatures of 105 degrees and only about an inch of rain all month. Attempts to water the trees were not successful—the water ran off the slope instead of soaking into the ground. Rain did the same and most of the trees died. The good thing was the sign that instructed “No Mowing.” That made all the difference. Mowing stopped. Finally nature took over!

Loblolly pines, a Virginia native, were the first to sprout, and it wasn't long before there were enough of them to hold some autumn leaves on the slope. Other plants began to grow. The loblolly pines have now been joined by several eastern red cedar, Virginia pines, a few American holly seedlings, and the occasional little blueberry. Grasses help hold the soil. Acorns, hickory nuts, and the seeds of tulip poplar in the leaf litter offer hope for further growth. There are even a few clumps of moss and some tiny mushrooms at work when it's damp.

This slope, once bare and ugly, now holds much more of the rain that falls there and is coming to life. Benefits include cleaner water, food and habitat for native wildlife, beauty, and lessons learned. Simply not mowing made all the difference—nature did the rest. Thanks to Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities for letting the slope grow!

*Does winter have you thinking about plants for your garden? Consider some of the native species featured on the Reedy Creek Coalition website, [reedy creekcoalition.org](http://reedy creekcoalition.org). Scroll down through the posts to find "Native Plant of the Week" to get information about beautyberry, river oats, beebalm, and others. Thanks to Reedy Creek Coalition for providing this article.*



The current website for information is [friendsofforesthillpark.8m.com](http://friendsofforesthillpark.8m.com) or [reedy creekcoalition.org](http://reedy creekcoalition.org).



## We only use cookie cutters in the kitchen.

### Personalized Journeys in Learning

At Good Shepherd we understand each child learns uniquely. Tailoring their education ensures success in learning and life.



4207 Forest Hill Avenue, Richmond, VA 23225  
804.231.1452 | [www.gses.org](http://www.gses.org)



## VOTED #1 TREE SERVICE BY READERS OF RICHMOND MAGAZINE!

Call us and find out why!



***Free Estimates  
and Property  
Inspections***



***8 Certified  
Arborists on  
Staff***



- Tree Pruning
- Tree Removal
- Stump Removal
- Plant Health Care
- Cabling/Bracing
- Lightning Protection



**804-218-8733 (TREE)**

**[www.truetimber.net](http://www.truetimber.net)**



### ***Who I am...***

Forest Hill resident  
Renovation addict  
Dog saver, kid raiser

### ***What I do...***

Budget impossible  
Sell the first house  
Find the dream house

**[AlexisThompson.Realtor@gmail.com](mailto:AlexisThompson.Realtor@gmail.com)  
[www.RichmondVAProperty.com](http://www.RichmondVAProperty.com) | 804.627.3803**

One South Realty Group | 2314 W. Main St | Richmond VA



# Celebrity Pet

## The Buck Stops Here....

By Bucky Bandit Zipperer

"The Buck Stops Here." At least that's what my human mama said when I came home to live with my forever family on Thanksgiving weekend, 2012. On that day, I officially became Bucky Bandit Zipperer—and the next chapter, a much better one, of my life began.

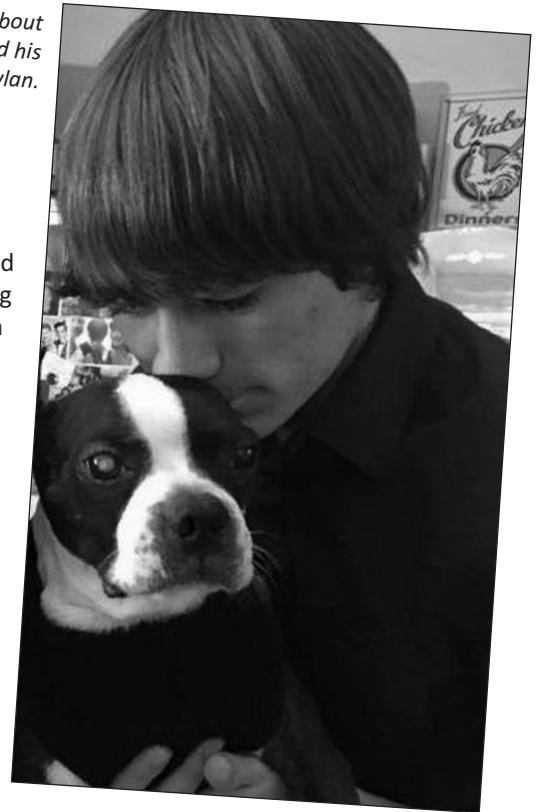
I don't want to dwell on the past, but a brief overview helps to explain some of my personality quirks now. I spent the first six years of my life living and "working" in a puppy mill in Tazewell County, Virginia. I was kept in a small cage which caused my back to grow bent into what my human brother Dylan calls my "hump." When I turned "middle-aged," the owners of the puppy prison were done with me and let me loose in the forest nearby. I survived, just barely, for nearly a month before Animal Control found me eaten up with bites and skinny-starving. From there, I traveled on an underground railroad to freedom from Tazewell to Newport News to live with a foster mother through Old Dominion Boston Terrier Rescue.

Mama found me on the computer and decided I would have to be her own forever and ever. She and Daddy "rescued" me just like I rescued them. I also live with my human siblings Grace and Dylan, and my cats Lu and Du. My older Boston terrier

sister, Piggy, died two weeks ago and that has been a big change. She was a bossy big sister who taught me a lot about tug-of-war fun and just being a dog.

My most favorite activity is to follow Mama all over the house, every single place she goes. I also love, LOVE, to take walks with Daddy. We go all around this neighborhood every day, rain or shine. Walks, after six years in a cage, are the BEST THING EVER! I don't really know much about toys or tricks, but when I get excited I do a really good spin around and around. I am a deep thinker with a very big heart, Mama tells me. I sometimes can't believe how much better my life is now compared to what it was. I am a puppy mill survivor and the luckiest dog in the world.

*Bucky's humans have lived in Forest Hill for 23 years and enjoy friendships with many of their neighbors and their pets.*



*Bucky, age about nine, and his brother Dylan.*

### CritterTown BathHouse Self-Service Pet Wash & Market

**Everything you need to wash & dry your pet**

Over 25 brands of quality dog and cat foods

Plus toys, treats, collars, leashes and more



Orijen, Blue Buffalo, Canidae  
Holistic Select, Merrick, Acana  
Taste of the Wild, Wellness  
Verus, Chicken Soup...+ more

- Most bathers are in & out in 30 minutes leaving the dirt & hair behind
- Cost effective alternative to grooming/washing services
- Excellent for bonding with your pet

Stratford Hills Shopping Center  
Forest Hill Ave at Hathaway Rd

**www.crittertown.com**

(804) 320-1096



**"You clean your pet and we'll clean the mess"**

Save the date!

**8th Annual 5K**

Sign up early and get a cool shirt!

**Forest Hill**

**SATURDAY: 9AM**

**MARCH 19**

**Run for the Hills!**

For more information visit  
[www.foresthillneighborhood.com](http://www.foresthillneighborhood.com)

# *At the Westover Hills Library*

## Mark Your Calendar for These Events!

*Wonder Women—Stories of Innovative Women,*  
Wednesday, March 2, 7 p.m.

Celebrate Women's History Month! The Backpack Storyteller Deborah Alsko presents inspiring stories about women who dared to make a difference. For ages 10 and older.

*Teen Tech Week,* March 11, 4-5:30 p.m.

Come learn cool and simple basic coding. Space is limited, so please call 804-646-8833 to register. For ages 11-16.

*St. Patrick's Day Movie, "The Secret of the Kells,"*  
Wednesday, March 16, 6:30 p.m.

When a celebrated master illuminator arrives at Brendan's medieval outpost carrying a magical but unfinished book, Brendan begs to help with it. But to do so, he must venture into the enchanted forest and confront his deepest fears. Will Brendan be able to finish the book and save his people? Recommended for older children accompanied by an adult.

*Yuri's Night!* Saturday, April 9, 7-9 p.m.

Join us for a fun-filled evening as we celebrate Yuri Gagarin's achievement as the first human to orbit Earth in 1961. Enjoy crafts, activities, refreshments, and a peek at the stars, weather permitting. Families welcome.

*Richmond Story League*

This year's theme is "*Storytelling Gems: The Many Facets of Storytelling*." Part workshop, part listening and learning from other tellers. All are welcome, no experience necessary. Call Deborah Alsko at 804-232-3542 for more information. Saturdays March 5, April 2, and May 7 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

*Chess Club*

Learn, practice, and compete under the guidance of Richmond Chess Initiative. Find out more about tournaments and how to become a rated player. The Chess Club meets on Mondays from 6-7:30 pm.

*LEGO Club*

What could you build if you just had the right Legos? Come build with ours and see! We provide the Legos, you provide the imagination! Lego Club meets Tuesdays, March 15, April 19, and May 17 from 4-5:30 p.m.

*Fiction Focus Book Club*

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're always looking for a fresh opinion, so join us! Fridays March 18, April 15, and May 20 from 10 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

*Crafty Afternoons!*

Learn a new craft and take home your creation. Tuesdays April 12 and May 10, 4-5:30 p.m. Ages 11-16.

*Westover Hills Library Advisory Group*

Interested in supporting your library? We want your input! Join us to help make a difference at Westover Hills Library. Join us on March 8, April 12, and May 10 from 7-8 p.m.

*English as a Second Language (ESOL)*

Designed for speakers of other languages who wish 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 at 10 a.m.-1p.m. Classes end May 18 and start up again in September.

*Book Babies*

Interactive story, music, and play time for babies up to 18 months and their parents/caregivers. Thursdays 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 at 11 a.m.

*Preschoolers Story Time*

Early literacy story time with music, books and rhymes for children ages three to six years old accompanied by an adult. Thursdays at 11 a.m.

*(There will be no story times the weeks of March 28, April 4, or May 16 and 23.)*

***All Richmond Public Libraries will be closed March 25 and May 30.***

# Westover Hills Library Celebrates the Bard!

William Shakespeare died April 23, 1616, leaving an immense literary legacy that has been performed, studied, and treasured for 400 years. To commemorate his gift of genius, we are offering several special Shakespeare events.

## *Thursdays with Shakespeare!*

Inspired by the Virginia Shakespeare Initiative, **vashakespeare.org**, we are showing four film versions of or inspired by his works Thursdays in April from 6:30-9 p.m. Period-inspired refreshments will be available.

April 7, "Merchant of Venice" starring Al Pacino, Joseph Fiennes, and Jeremy Irons, 2005, R, brief nudity

April 14, "A Midsummer Night's Dream" starring Kevin Kline and Michelle Pfeiffer, 1999, PG-13

April 21, "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern" starring Tim Roth and Gary Oldman, 1990, PG

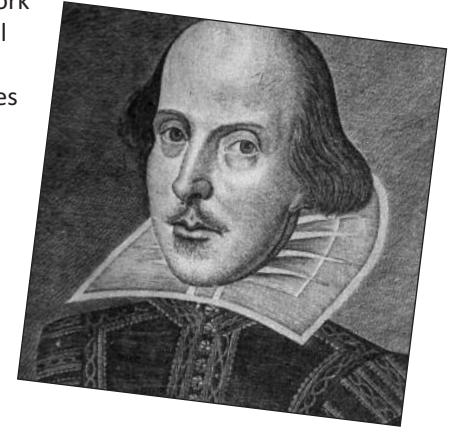
April 28, "Romeo and Juliet" starring Hailee Steinfeld and Douglas Booth, 2013, PG-13

## *Also to celebrate the bard's legacy....*

### *Nice to Know You, Mr. Shakespeare!*

Wednesday, April 6, 6:30-8 p.m.

Actor/writer/director/producer/teacher Vernon Morris, with more than 30 years stage experience both in New York and London with the Royal Shakespeare Company, shares favorite monologues and describes Elizabethan theater. This is a partnership of West End and Westover Hills Libraries.



### *"...Knock, Knock! Who's There?"\* Shakespeare!*

Wednesday, April 20, 6:30-8 p.m.

To celebrate Shakespeare and National Library Week, RPL staff member Robert Hickman will share some of his favorite Shakespearean phrases, first penned by the Bard, as well as stage stories from his acting days!

\*from Macbeth, Act 2, Scene 3

---

# GSES Student Wins First Prize in Art Competition



Dayne Drake (left) exhibits her award-winning work with the help of Christina Woodson, RVA coordinator of the bluebird trails. Christina is the supervisor of the Forest Hill Park blue bird trail.

Last year, students in the schools that worked with the blue bird trails were given the opportunity to enter an art competition. The assignment was to draw a picture related to bluebirds. Dayne Drake, a third grader at Good Shepherd Episcopal School, earned first place in the art competition. Her drawing will decorate the cover of the Richmond-area bluebird monitoring binders. These binders are used to record bluebird data in the Richmond area.

Dayne loves both art and bluebirds. She has developed an appreciation for the blue birds in Forest Hill Park. Dayne used a lot of detail in her drawing, including all the predator guards that are necessary to help our bluebird population thrive in Forest Hill Park. In addition to the honor of having her artwork displayed on the monitoring binders, Dayne also received a basket of art supplies and bluebird information for her first place artistic contribution.

Thank you Dayne for making a difference in promoting and caring about our bluebird population! Congratulations!



# Order Your Plaque Today!

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.



## FOREST HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT PLAQUE ORDER FORM

PLEASE PRINT

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

BRONZE PLAQUES: \_\_\_\_\_ cost is \$200.00 including delivery and the construction date for the individual house.

MOUNTING TYPE: \_\_\_\_\_

(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](mailto: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.
- **The next order for plaques will be sent in on April 15, 2016. Get your order in today!**

# Be Part of a Great Day in the Neighborhood!

The first Saturday in June is always a crowded day in the neighborhood. It's the annual Forest Hill Neighborhood Association's Turn Your Trash Into Cash yard sale. Last year, more than 25 families participated on sunny, breezy June day that brought out crowds of bargain seekers and neighbors.

As neighbors began setting up well before 8 a.m., early birds were already cruising the area trying to spot that elusive perfect find. They checked the complimentary maps pinpointing the address of each sale as they went. If you were looking for something, you could probably have found it in this eclectic neighborhood. Sewing machines, leather coats, dog beds, skis, books, CDs, tools, Star Wars collectibles, vintage fabrics, lawn mowers....the list goes on. You could also find neighbors chatting and laughing at each sale as they shared news and admired the goods for sale.

**This year's yard sale will be June 4, 2016.** Start clearing out those basements, attics, and kids' closets now! In addition to making some money, you can pass along something you don't need to someone who does. Now that's good karma in the making!

For more information, contact [foresthillassoc@gmail.com](mailto:foresthillassoc@gmail.com).

## Save the Date!

It's almost that time of the year again for the annual Friends of Forest Hill Park's Sunday in the Park with Friends event. This year's event is April 24, 2016 from noon until 5 p.m. Come enjoy live music, children's activities, local attractions, and plenty of tasty foods from local vendors. Browse through wares offered by local artists and shop owners—many of whom may be your neighbors.

We always like to celebrate the talent in our neighborhood, and the great RVA vibes in general, so please join us for a nice family fun day this year. We shall announce the bands and attractions closer to the date. For the latest news and updates on the event, check out our Facebook page, Friends of Forest Hill Park.

If you or your company would like to join the fun as a sponsor or you would like donation information, please contact Keith at [Kashley78@comcast.net](mailto:Kashley78@comcast.net).



# Neighborhood Preschool Building a Community

By Michele Zipperer

Happiness is.....a play-based, developmentally appropriate preschool within walking distance of your house. At least, that is what so many of our young families describe to me when they talk about how pleased they are to have a neighborhood preschool of their very own. I can easily recall raising my young children, living in this neighborhood, and packing up in the mornings to get off to our preschool program in Bon Air. The commute convinced me it wasn't worth the trouble to return home, so I eventually began to teach there. In retrospect, that clearly had its advantages.

Just recently, our oldest class, the Owls, participated in a walking field trip to Maldini's Italian Restaurant. The reality that our young students could walk to the restaurant and make their own personal pizzas with owner (and WHP parent) Marcello Armetta, was sensational. We are an urban preschool truly participating in the life of our community. Early next month, the Owls will be at it again; walking two blocks south to the Westover Hills Library to participate in a special story time just for them with Kim Smith, the children's librarian.

Several of our preschool students have older brothers and sisters who attend either Westover Hills Elementary School or Patrick Henry Charter School. I feel encouraged when I consider that from early preschool up through the full six years of elementary school, there are convenient, high-quality options for neighborhood parents to consider. After 23 years as a Forest Hill resident, and as someone who educated two children all the way through the Richmond Public Schools, being part of that continuity and growth is exciting and inspiring.

With our first year now well underway, we are hitting our stride as a preschool. A year ago, I couldn't have imagined that each of our teachers would be such competent, hard-working, and compassionate individuals. I couldn't have guessed that our neighborhood would embrace us through word of mouth, comments of support, and kind donations (i.e. our new fish tank!) the way that they have. I couldn't have known that the collaborative initiative that it took to start Westover Hills Preschool would reflect a similar spirit of pride and a renewed community involvement in each of our surrounding neighborhoods.

Westover Hills Preschool is presently accepting applications for the 2016-17 school year for children who will be two and one half, three, four, and five years old by next fall. Most of our current students are staying and aging-up to the next class level, so space is becoming more limited. I invite you to visit our website at [westoverhillspreschool.org](http://westoverhillspreschool.org) as well as our Facebook page for more information regarding our unique half-day preschool program. To chat or arrange a personal tour, contact Michele Zipperer, preschool director at [mazipp@verizon.net](mailto:mazipp@verizon.net) or 804-232-7400.

## Fourth Annual Forest Hill Neighborhood Association Community Service Scholarship Deadline July 1, 2016

Are you a graduating high school senior who has put love and effort into your neighborhood? 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 raking leaves or shoveling snow.

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

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.

Last year's winner, Ian Mills, used his scholarship money for books. "I had no idea how expensive textbooks are," he said. "Thanks to the neighborhood association, I was able to cover all of my book costs—even the \$250 psychology textbook!" Other previous winners have used their money for such things as computer upgrades, university fees, and supplies.

The scholarship deadline this year is July 1, 2016. All materials must be postmarked by that date. The money will be awarded to the scholarship recipient by the FHNA during the August 2016 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](http://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](mailto:foresthillflyer@gmail.com).

**Ask Jim** - Do you have a question for a real estate agent with more than 20 years of experience in our neighborhood? Would you like to know how agents price houses or if you should sell your house "as is?" Then contact Jim Donahue, a resident of Forest Hill for more than 33 years, and a knowledgeable resource for questions about real estate. Send questions to Jim at [jim.donohue@longandfoster.com](mailto:jim.donohue@longandfoster.com). He'll choose the best questions to answer in the next issue of the Forest Hill Flyer.

# Forest Hill Flashback



*A familiar corner. What date would you guess, the 1940s? 1930s? Do you recognize the "corner?" Thanks to Frank Arrigo for the photo.*

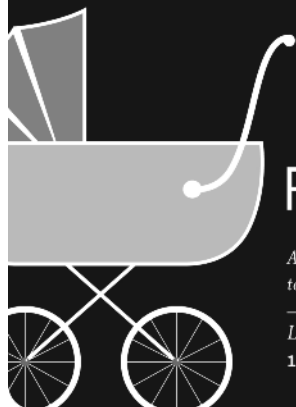


*The same "corner" today.*

*Pauline Hillsman is pleased to announce the arrival of:*  
**paulineschildcare.com**



*Born August 2011 and now accepting visits.*



**Pauline's**

*At home childcare for infants and toddlers, ages 3 months-3 years.*

*Located just off Forest Hill Avenue  
1731 Leicester Rd., 23225*

## In the Nation, we make you whole again.

When you add **Brand New Belongings®** to your homeowners, renters and condo insurance, we don't just give you the partial value of things that have been stolen or destroyed, we help you replace them with the latest versions. We put our members first, because we don't have shareholders<sup>SM</sup>.

**Join the Nation® that doesn't do things halfway**

Join me in Richmond.

**Ralph E Sweeney**  
RALPH E SWEENEY III INC  
(804)232-7790  
sweener@nationwide.com



**Nationwide®**  
is on your side

Optional feature. Exclusions and limits apply. Damaged items may be repaired in some cases. Details vary by state and policy language. Please consult your policy for the specifics of your selected coverages. Subject to underwriting guidelines, review, and approval. Nationwide and the Nationwide N and Eagle, Brand New Belongings, Join the Nation and We put members first, because we don't have shareholders are service marks of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company. © 2014 Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company. NPR-0599A0 (08/14)



PRECISION HAIRCUT • LEGENDARY HOT STEAMED TOWEL  
MASSAGING SHAMPOO • NECK & SHOULDER MASSAGE  
**WE CALL IT THE MVP EXPERIENCE.**



**SportClips®**  
**HAIRCUTS**

**IT'S GOOD TO BE A GUY**

**The Shops at Stratford Hills**

7101-M Forest Hill Ave

Near Target and Martin's, between Subway and GameStop

804-447-1463

SportClips.com/VA212



**SportClips**  
HAIRCUTS

**FREE**  
**HAIRCUT**  
for New Clients

Reg. Varsity: \$18, Reg. JV (10 & Under): \$15. Not valid with any other offer. Void if bartered, copied, traded or sold. Valid only at 7101-M Forest Hill Ave, Richmond, VA 23225.  
EXPIRES 7/30/2016 • CODE 2704

**SportClips**  
HAIRCUTS

**\$5 Off**  
**Any Haircut**  
**Service**  
for Returning Clients

Reg. Varsity: \$18, Reg. JV (10 & Under): \$15. Not valid with any other offer. Void if bartered, copied, traded or sold. Valid only at 7101-M Forest Hill Ave, Richmond, VA 23225.  
EXPIRES 07/30/2016 • CODE 2703

**SPORTS ON TV**

**GUY-SMART**  
STYLISTS

**Open EVERY DAY**

**NO APPOINTMENTS**

**S** **SPORTCLIPS.COM**

**f** **FACEBOOK.COM/SPORTCLIPSHAIRCUTS**

# Mark your calendars!

May 8th • 6-8 pm

June 12th • 6-8 pm

July 10th • 6-8 pm

Aug. 7th • 6-8 pm

Sept. 11th • 5-7 pm

Oct. 2th • 5-7 pm

July 17th & Oct. 16th Rain Dates

Grab the entire family and  
enjoy some tunes on the hill.

## Music In The Park

Forest Hill Park

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

## 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](http://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](http://www.foresthillneighborhood.com)