

The Forest Hill Neighborhood
Association Newsletter

Winter 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,
foresthillflyer@gmail.com.

Published by the Forest Hill
Neighborhood Association

For Ad Sales please contact David Lynch at
adsalesforesthillflyer@gmail.com

An Invitation from Dr. Ginny Loving



Dear neighbors,

For the last five years it has been my honor and my pleasure to serve as principal of Westover Hills Elementary School. Since arriving at WHES it has been a priority of mine to reach out to the surrounding community and it has been a real joy to see your neighborhood reinvest in our school. I have gotten to know many of you by attending neighborhood association functions, speaking with local groups (like MOPS and Rotary), and opening our doors for community events. I have seen how much your neighborhood's investment in our school can mean to all students in our larger community.

I'm excited to have more students from your neighborhood attending WHES now than at any time in recent memory. I'd like to invite you to come and see for yourself what WHES is all about. Please attend one of our open houses on December 4, February 4 or April 5 at 10 a.m. You are also welcome to join us for a PTA event, come see our Leader in Me program in action on Leadership Day on February 19, or give me a call and let me show you around on a day that works for you.

I'm so proud of our little school. We have a dynamic faculty, a great facility, a growing PTA, and an inspiring student body. Please come see if your neighborhood school is right for your children and your family. We'd love to have you join us!

*You can reach Principal Ginny Loving at
vloving@richmond.k12.va.us or 804-780-5002.*

What's Inside!

A Thank You from
43rd Street Gallery – page 7

Celebrity Pet Ziggy – page 9

Wishes for the New Year—page 13

One Leaf Pick-Up this Year But Many Ways to Deal with Leaves

By Judith Warrington

Depending on which street you live on in the neighborhood, you've probably already raked your leaves at least once in advance of the city's annual vacuum leaf collection. This year city crews will be picking up leaves in the Forest Hill neighborhood between January 4 and February 5, 2016. There's only one collection period this year and it's later than usual. If you haven't raked yet, here are some things you may want to consider, or reconsider for next year.

According to the National Wildlife Foundation, Americans send approximately 33 million tons of leaves and yard waste to the landfill every year. That's more than 13 percent of the nation's solid waste. So instead of bagging them for pick up on trash day or raking them to the curb (not the street) this year for vacuum pick up, why not learn to love your leaves. Here are some suggestions.

- Invest in a mulching mower. If you don't have a lot of trees in your yard, you can shred your leaves before they pile up just by cutting your grass. Leave the shredded leaves to feed your lawn or use as mulch in your vegetable garden or flower beds. Shredded leaves form a natural mulch that helps suppress weeds and adds nutrients to the soil.
- If you rake, use your leaves as dry "brown material" in your compost pile or start a leaf corral. No special equipment is needed for a compost pile, if you're only using leaves and yard waste. Just pile the leaves in a corner of your yard and give them a turn with a pitch fork now and then.
- Help your yard's wildlife. Leaf compost piles will provide you with nutrient-rich soil amendment material for use next spring and you'll be helping wildlife by providing a habitat in which toads, turtles, and moth and butterfly caterpillars can spend the winter. You'll benefit when you equalize the balance of nature in your yard, because one toad can eat a lot of insects over the summer!

Leaves Continued on page 4

The President's Column



By Shannon D. Taylor

It's hard to believe 2015 is nearing the end. This has been a wonderful year for the neighborhood. We sponsored another successful 5K race, awarded a deserving college bound senior with a scholarship, hired talented bands for Music in the Park, and for some of us, sold a few of our "treasures" at the annual yard sale. A lot of change was taking place behind the scenes as well. This year the

association has been working with a new vendor to update our website. The new website will soon have features that make renewing memberships and purchasing FHNA swag easier. We are also closer than ever to installing two beautiful neighborhood signs on Forest Hill Avenue. Thank you to all our volunteers and board members who work so hard to organize these events for everyone to enjoy. Without your enthusiasm and dedication to the neighborhood, Forest Hill wouldn't be as special.

This year has been a wonderful year for my family as well. We welcomed a daughter in August and have loved getting to know her. I've really enjoyed showing her the neighborhood on leisurely walks. I'm so excited that she and her brother are growing up in Forest Hill and have already started creating their own special memories. For instance, when we drove by the park, my son used to look for the farmers (now that he has learned the days of the week he understands they only come on Saturday.) He also loves going on adventures with Daddy (usually in the alleys) and most recently, counting pumpkins on neighbors' porches. One house had more than five!

So as 2015 winds up, I hope you and your families are also creating special memories that are connected to our wonderful neighborhood.

Editor's note: Shannon has been president of the FHNA for the past two years. Her leadership and hard work have inspired others and created many improvements in Forest Hill. Please thank her and wish her well when you see her and her family out enjoying the neighborhood!

**Pet Sitting
Nature Hikes
Mid-Day Walks**



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Forest Hill Neighborhood Association 2015-2016

www.foresthillneighborhood.com

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Linda Mills, Editor
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FHNA Officers and Board Elected

At the November 17, 2015 Forest Hill Neighborhood Association membership meeting, the following residents were elected for the 2016-2017 term:

Officers

Whit Clements, President
Robley Jones, Vice President
Ramon Puzon, Treasurer
Vacant, Secretary

Executive Board

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

Congratulations and thank you to our neighborhood leaders! If you are interested in filling the prestigious Secretary's office with the FHNA, please contact Whit Clements at clements.whit@gmail.com.

A Message from Our Council Representative



Dear Forest Hill Neighbor,
I hope all is well! As I write this, we are well into fall. You've got to love Richmond in the fall. On December 1, 2015, the South of the James Winter Market starts their winter hours from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. The new Aldi's location off Forest Hill Avenue and Sheila Lane is opening soon.

Here's the latest update on the Forest Hill Avenue paving. The latest target from the CAO is to pave Forest Hill Avenue from Westover Hills Boulevard west to the Powhite Parkway by November 30, 2015. I realize this has been a long time coming and I share your frustration. I will keep after DPW to get it done.

Due to budget constraints, there will be just one leaf collection this year. The Forest Hill neighborhood is scheduled between January 4, and February 5, 2016. If you choose to bag your leaves, the city will collect up to 25 bags at a time. Because of the late date of the pick-up, I am offering free bio-degradable

bags at my 4th District office. Feel free to stop by. They are also available at Lowe's, if you choose.

It looks like The 2015 UCI Road World Championships exceeded expectations for spectators by a wide margin! Richmond looked great on TV! It was so exciting to be there watching the professionals and taking in the atmosphere. For nine days Richmond was an international city. I loved hearing all the different languages.


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. 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.

43rd Street Gallery

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Leaves Continued from page 1

• Leaf blowers are a touchy subject. It is true, however, that gas-powered leaf blowers contribute to air—and noise—pollution. Give yourself some exercise on a sunny day in late fall and rake if you're physically up to it, or better yet, hire a teenage neighbor to do it for you.

Even though the city's leave pick-up is late in the season, keep in mind that the city will collect up to 25 bags of leaves on your trash collection day year around. During the neighborhood's vacuum cycle they will also collect an unlimited number of bagged leaves.

• If you bag your leaves, consider using biodegradable paper bags. Kathy Graziano is offering free biodegradable bags at her office.

• When you rake leaves for vacuum pick up, rake them to the curb. Remove any litter or sticks that can damage the vacuum equipment. The city won't take limbs or other debris in the pile -- **only leaves.**

• Be a good neighbor and **don't put your leaves in the street.** Not only does it take up parking spaces, but leaves that go down the storm drain ultimately end up in the James River.

They can also clog storm drains. One good freeze and your leaf pile becomes a frozen dike that blocks the drain and floods the curb. Leaf-clogged storm drains require extra manpower and money to clean.

If you haven't raked your leaves yet, consider the numerous benefits of not raking...for wildlife, for the environment, and for you. And if you must rake, mark your calendar: Leaf vacuum collection is finally coming to the neighborhood on January 4 through February 5, 2016!

Judith Warrington is a long-time Forest Hill resident who is dedicated to protecting the environment through simple everyday practices.



Precinct 402 Update

Mark Your Calendars for Multiple Elections in 2016

By Robley Jones

Many states only have elections on even years, but the joke in our state is, "Virginia only has elections in years that end in a number." In 2016 we'll probably have three, but there is a good chance we'll be having four:

March 1, 2016 – Democratic and Republican Presidential Primaries

June 14, 2016 – Democratic and Republican Congressional Primaries

November 8, 2016 – Presidential, Congressional, Mayoral, City Council, School Board, Possible Constitutional Amendments

December 20, 2016 – Mayoral Run-Off if needed. To be elected mayor of Richmond, one must receive a majority of votes cast in five of the nine voter districts, so a run-off appears likely.

If you are not registered to vote, Virginia allows online registration. The URL for the registration site is vote.elections.virginia.gov/Registration/Eligibility. We are fortunate that our voting precinct, Precinct 402 at Forest Hill Presbyterian Church, 4401 Forest Hill Avenue, is within walking distance of our homes.

A very heavy turnout is expected on both March 1 and November 8. Please consider volunteering to work the polls. The monetary reward is small, but the real reward is in knowing that you are a part of making our democracy work. Election workers report at 5 a.m. and cannot leave the polls until all work is complete—usually soon after 8 p.m. Please email Robley Jones, Precinct Chief, at robleyj@aol.com if you can help.

If you are curious regarding how our precinct voted on November 3, 2015, here are the results.

Senate District 10

Gecker 869/66.85%
Sturtevant 414/31.85%
Loser 10/.77%
Durfee 7/.54%
Total Votes 1301

House District 69

Carr 1056/92.88%
Write-in 81/3.73%

Halloween Howl 2015

It started out as a dreary day, but the sun peeked out just for Halloween Howl! Twenty dogs and their owners came together in Forest Hill Park to join the fun. The costumes were extremely creative, making it hard for the judges to choose the winner of each category!

The Friends of Forest Hill Park Junior, along with support from the Friends of Forest Hill Park board, ran the events which included an egg spoon dog/owner race, a farthest fetch competition, a best pet trick competition, and the dog parade itself! The event benefitted Ring Dog Rescue (ringdogrescue.org) which received about \$200 in donations! Ring Dog Rescue also brought a sweet adoptable dog.

Please thank and support Critter Town Bath House in Stratford Hills, and Holiday Pet Barn for the generous prizes they provided. We hope to see familiar faces and new faces (and snouts and tails) back next year!

Competition winners were:

Best Pet Trick: Remington

Egg/Spoon Race: Remington again!

Farthest Fetch: Thomas

Completed most competitions: Sadie

Costume Parade winners were:

Best Pet/Owner Duo: Puk and Neeve Kelly (lawn ornaments!)

Scariest: Brutus

Cutest: Grant

Dog Who Struts Their Stuff the Best: Addy

Best Costume Overall: Daisy and Woola (Wonder Woman and the Incredible Hulk)

Janice Akers brought her frightening shark-dog Weston.



Dayne Drake and her hound dog Winslow make a stunning pair.

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A Thank You from 43rd Street Gallery

Dear Neighbors,

Thanks so much for your continued support for the 43rd Street Festival of the Arts. Celebrating its 24th year, this year's festival was a success (despite a little rain), and your cooperation played an important role in that. We could not put on the event without the help of our neighbors and sponsors who make the show possible. Artists, musicians, the neighborhood, and friends work together to put on a fine art and craft show. CARITAS is grateful to be the beneficiary of this event and to have the opportunity to raise awareness about the important work being done to create stability for our most vulnerable neighbors.

The date set for next year's festival is September 17, 2016. We look forward to seeing you there! Your kind support helps to keep the vibrant artist community thriving and creates a safer, stronger community for more of us. Thank you. We are grateful.



Robin Cage is the owner of 43rd Street Gallery. Check out the gallery's Facebook page for up-to-date information and photos of new art at the gallery. You can find more information about CARITAS at caritasshelter.org.

Little Free Library Update

The Little Free Library remains a well-used and well-loved asset in Forest Hill Park adjacent to the playground. Friends of Forest Hill Park and Friends of Forest Hill Park Junior are always looking for donations of children's books. Feel free to place appropriate books in the box, or contact Laura Dysart at lauradysart@verizon.net.

Westover Hills United Methodist Preschool Enrolling

By Michele Zipperer

It's hard to believe that the young students and enthusiastic staff at Westover Hills Preschool are already entering their ninth week of growing, learning, and playing together! We have enjoyed welcoming so many of our neighborhood families into our new preschool program and love how convenient it is for many of them to walk and stroll to school each day.

Westover Hills Preschool is a half-day (9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.) play-based early childhood program located in the newly renovated lower level of Westover Hills United Methodist Church. We share the beloved WHUMC "Tot Lot" each day with our community and are excited to provide a unique, developmentally-appropriate preschool option to our surrounding Forest Hill, Woodland Heights, and Westover Hills neighbors. We currently offer a Monday/Wednesday/Friday class for two and 1/2 year olds, as well as three- and four-day options for three- and four-year-old children.

Several parents whose two-year-old children just missed our two and 1/2 year-old cut-off for September 2015 enrollment

have requested a "mid-year class" as an option. In other words, children who will turn two and 1/2 years old in December, January, February, or March would be eligible to join this Tuesday/Thursday class which would begin February 2, 2016. We can accommodate up to 10 children in this class of young "blue birds."

We also are currently accepting applications for next school year (2016-2017) for all children who will be two and 1/2 to five years old by September 2016. Applications will be ranked in the order they are received this fall and winter, followed by registration for new families beginning Monday, January 18, 2016.

We invite you to visit our website at westoverhillspreschool.org as well as our Facebook page for more information. Preschool tours are encouraged and can be arranged by contacting Michele Zipperer, WHP Director, at mazipp@verizon.net or 804-232-7400. Have a wonderful winter and we'll see you at the Tot Lot!



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SATURDAY: 9AM

March 19

Meet Ziggy, a Celebrity Pet

What is your name and the name of your humans?

My name is Ziggy. My humans' names are Erin and Geo.

Where and when did you find your home?

I had a tough time in the beginning. I ended up at the shelter. I was about five months old I think, but I don't really remember. I just remember being there. The shelter workers must have realized that I hated being there, so they placed me in foster care. Unfortunately, I didn't fit in there, so I had to go back to the shelter again.

My mom and dad first met me on February 13, 2015. It was Friday the 13th, but it was a lucky day for me! Mom said she had already fallen in love with me before she met me. To win over Dad, all I had to do was give him a big slurp on the face and he was hooked! So they took me home! I remember riding home and my dad saying he wanted to name me "Casanova" or something because when we got in the car, I was sitting on his lap and the first thing I did was slurp his face really big again!

What's your heritage?

I'm a border collie. I might be mixed with something else, but my parents don't really know. They tell me I act all border collie.



What is your favorite toy and/or activity?

I LOVE EVERYTHING. I love plush toys I can shake like crazy and tear apart and make a mess. I love to eat. I love playing fetch and was doing agility for a while until I had surgery, but I enjoyed that too. I love pretty much anything that my mom and dad do with me.

What is your best trick?

All my tricks are the best! I think my mom likes it when we play hide and seek the best. She's easy to find though because she always starts laughing.

What are your best traits?

I love everyone, I'm a happy guy, I'm very smart (or so my mom and dad say), I have lots of energy, and I'm incredibly loyal.

What else would you like your admirers to know?

I had a rough time getting settled in my new home with Mom and Dad in the beginning. I was incredibly anxious all the time. We worked with the V-E-T and finally got me to a happy place and now I love everything! My mom and I started visiting a couple of assisted living facilities in the neighborhood where we live and I REALLY enjoy that. I got lots of love from all the residents I went to see and I was a really good boy and didn't jump on anyone or bark. I did tricks for them too, which made them all smile. My mom is super proud of me – she even sometimes will take me for ice cream after our visits! I just like making people smile.

On September 3, 2015, I had to have some surgery. That wasn't fun at all. I still don't really understand why I had to have it done, but I am finally feeling better. We can't go back to see our friends at the assisted living facilities, however, until after I get the all clear from the V-E-T. My mom says that my knee cap wasn't fitting right in my leg and that now I'm bionic because I have a plate and some screws in my knee, whatever that means. I just know that I still get sore sometimes, but I feel SO much better now than I did before the surgery. Mom said I have to go have this surgery done on my other leg too, but that we can hopefully wait until next year. Which is good because I miss my friends, human and dog alike!

Geo and Erin Jacopec have lived in Forest Hill for almost two years and enjoy music, antique shopping, and, of course, their dog Ziggy.

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At the Westover Hills Library

Mark Your Calendar for These Events!

Polar Express Party, Wednesday, December 2, 6 p.m.

Join us for a very special viewing of "The Polar Express"! Get your magic ticket, enjoy some holiday refreshments, and leave with a special remembrance of your visit. Pajamas welcome! Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Hour of Code, Tuesday, December 8, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

The Hour of Code is a global movement reaching tens of millions of students in 180+ countries to learn the joys of computer coding. Richmond Public Library will be participating in the event. Children younger than 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration is required. Call 804-646-8833 to hold your place.

Winterfest! Saturday, January 16, 1-3 p.m.

Join us for a blizzard of warm snacks, wintry crafts and snowy fun for all ages. Children should be accompanied by an adult.

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 and no experience is necessary. December and January meetings may have special locations and times. Call Deborah Alsko at 804-232-3542 for more information. The February meeting will at the library on February 6 from 9-11 a.m.

Chess Club

Learn, practice, and compete under the guidance of Richmond Chess Initiative. Find out more about the tournaments and how to become a rated player. The Chess Club meets on Mondays from 6 to 7:30 pm. (No meetings December 28, January 18, or February 15.) Tournaments are held Saturdays, December 19 and January 23 from 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

No Homework Zone!

Take a break before you start your homework, or finish it first, and come to the library for a fun craft experience. Designed for ages 11 -16. 4-5:30 p.m.

December 11—Make holiday gifts

January 8—Make paper beads

February 12—Make Valentines

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, December 15, January 19, and February 16 from 4-5:30 p.m.

Fiction Focus. February 19, 10 a.m.-12:15 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're always looking for a fresh opinion, so join us!

Book Babies

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

Thursdays, December 3, 10 and 17; January 7, 14, 21, and 28; February 4 and 25 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, December 1, 8 and 15; January 5, 12, 19, and 26; February 2 and 23 at 11 a.m.

Preschoolers

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

Thursdays, December 3, 10 and 17; January 7, 14, 21, and 28; February 4 and 25 at 11 a.m.

Westover Hills Library Advisory Group

Interested in supporting your library? We want your input! Let's help make a difference at Westover Hills Library. Join us on December 1, 7-8 p.m.; and January 9 and February 6, 9-10 a.m.

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 Tuesdays between 2 and 4 p.m. Call 804-646-8833 to make an appointment or for more information.

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.-1 p.m. (No classes December 28 and 30; January 20, 25, and 27; and February 1, 3, and 15.)

All Richmond Public Libraries will be closed December 24 and 25, 2015 and February 15, 2016.

Ready to Sell?

By Alexis Thompson

It's no secret that 2015 has been a great year for real estate, especially here in Forest Hill. Homes in our neighborhood sold for an average of 98 percent of asking price! Predictions for 2016 continue to forecast another strong market, and most real estate professionals are already preparing for the spring. It is important, however, that homeowners planning to sell next year start preparing their homes now. Here are my top tips to prep your home during the winter.

1. Start to declutter. Unload your hand-me-downs to a favorite charity, pass on the gym equipment (read: laundry rack) to someone with a New Year's resolution, or re-gift that untouched crockpot to Aunt Gertrude. Our little secret!

2. Bring on the beige. Yes, beige can be boring, but boring is better than offensive. If your son painted his room the colors of his favorite football team, or if your bathroom is a queasy shade of green, get some paint on those walls! You can always add color with accessories and décor.

3. Light it up. If a room feels dark, add some lighting at various levels—ceiling, floor, table, or wall. Buyers love a home that


feels "light and bright." In addition, consider swapping out heavy draperies with sheer curtains or light-colored blinds.

4. Fragrance focus group. Ask friends, family, and visitors to give your home the sniff test. As the commercial goes, we become "nose-blind" to our own home smells—pet eau du parfum, an overpowering air freshener, the lingering game day chili (did some fall behind the stove?) Those odors can greet buyers with gusto. Clean and neutralize!

5. Kick-up the curb appeal. Not everything outside has to wait until spring! Add some bold address numbers and an eye-catching front door color, install a new mailbox, power wash the sidewalk and clean those front windows (or all of them if you're on a roll!)

6. Finally, contact your real estate agent. He or she can give you guidance on price projections, crowd-pleasing paint colors, and how much to spend (or not spend) on any updates. Let's have another banner year of Forest Hill home sales!


Alexis Thompson is a licensed Realtor® with One South Realty Group here in Richmond. She's a native Southsider and old-house renovator here in Forest Hill. You can contact her at AlexisThompson.Realtor@gmail.com or 804-627-3803.



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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: _____

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PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

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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 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 December 15, 2015. Get your order in today!**

On the Blue Bird Trail

By Laura Dysart

The Blue Bird Trail in Forest Hill Park had an extremely successful season! While numbers were down in much of Virginia, our blue bird numbers went up! Twenty-eight blue birds and seven native chickadees fledged into Forest Hill Park this season between May and August. Trail monitors, with the support of Christina Woodson of the Virginia Blue Bird Society, inspect the boxes weekly during the season to prevent predation and increase the chances for our birds to fledge. Vivienne Bruzzese and I monitor the trails with the help of Friends of Forest Hill Park Junior.

In fact, the Friends of Forest Hill Pak Junior, as well as Good Shepherd Episcopal School students, were recognized in October for three years of participation in the Forest Hill Park Blue Bird Trail by the Virginia Blue Bird Society. They are making such a difference in many ways.

If you have an interest in monitoring trails next season, please contact me at lauradysart@verizon.net. Christina Woodson has obtained new, sturdier blue bird boxes to replace the ten currently in our park, so we'll need volunteers to help install them.



Holiday Fun at the Stone House

Join your neighbors at the annual "Victorian Era Christmas Open House" Saturday, December 5, 2015 from 1-4 p.m. Enjoy tours of the Stone House, holiday snacks, crafts for the kids, and even a visit from Jolly Old Saint Nick himself! All the festivities are free and for all ages. Come out for some local neighborhood holiday fun sponsored by the Friends of Forest Hill Park.

Wishes for the Neighborhood

We asked folks to share their dearest wish for our neighborhood in 2016. One common wish was for a local bakery. That one looks like it's going to come true! Here are some other responses.

Restoration of the Stone House including bathroom renovation and better electrical.

Dorna B.

A grocery store and a gym!

Kate S.

Fewer break-ins and reports of gunshots.

Cynthia B.

I want a safe bike lane for those of us who aren't so steady on the bike. I want to bike to TaZa... not so ambitions, but the bike lanes just end.

Christie B.

A grocery store, pretty please.

Maggie W.

Trash weir(s) in Reedy Creek culvert(s) monitored and cleaned up by city workers.

Trevor S.

I'll wish big and say I would love to see the whole Westover Hills/Forest Hill merchant area thriving and full of neighborhood/family-friendly spots.

Alison M.

A diner-type restaurant. Affordable and consistently good. Bacon and eggs, throw in whole grain or even gluten-free pancakes.

Johanna B.

I'd like to be able to cross the street at the intersections of 41st and 43rd streets and Forest Hill Avenue where the flashing lights are ignored. Could we please have one of those cones that says Virginia law requires people to STOP at crosswalks at each of those locations?

Diane P.

A Vietnamese restaurant!

Mia F.

I wish that the two roadside signs for Forest Hill would finally be installed, one at the east end of Forest Hill Avenue, and one at the west end of Forest Hill Avenue as it passes through the Forest Hill neighborhood. The Urban Design Committee has approved the signs. Just a few more steps of red tape with the city, and we should be able to install the signs. Please Fairy Godmother, sprinkle your magic dust, and let this be done!

Carolyn P.

Keep the new people coming in. I've been here for quite a while and it is great to see the next generation taking over.

George J.

A grocery store or UK-style cash and carry, which is like a New York City style deli (bodega) store.

Keith A.

A gift shop.

Trisha W.

My wish is that the energetic volunteerism in our neighborhood continues to grow, and as young families move in they continue to recognize the importance of working to make the neighborhood better.

Linda M.

Editor's note: At least eight more people wished for a grocery store where we can pick up the basics! Thanks to all who participated. Happy New Year!



Write for the Flyer!

Imagine the prestige and glory of becoming a published author! It can happen to you simply by writing for the Forest Hill Flyer! Think of it....fame without the hassle of fortune!

Do you have a hobby or know a neighbor who has one? Tell us about it! A passion? Let us all know! A tidbit of history about the neighborhood? We would love to hear!

Our neighborhood is blessed with talented, creative, and interesting folks. Let us hear from you! If you have an idea for an article you would like to write, please contact foresthillflyer@gmail.com.

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Party in the Forest?**

Forest Hill Holiday Social

at 43rd Street Gallery
Tuesday, December 8th
5:30-7:30 pm

**43rd Street
GALLERY**

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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

Date: _____

Membership Form

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
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Forest Hill

For more information visit www.foresthillneighborhood.com