

The Forest Hill Neighborhood
Association Newsletter

Fall 2016

Forest Hill Flyer

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.

Published by the Forest Hill Neighborhood Association

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

Mayoral Forum Bringing Candidates to Forest Hill

Mark your calendar for the Southside Mayoral Forum! All eight, candidates – Baliles, Berry, Junes, Morrissey, Mosby, Stoney, Tyler, and Williams – have agreed to participate.

The forum is on September 20, 2016 at the Forest Hill Presbyterian Church, 4401 Forest Hill Avenue. It will begin at 7 p.m. and end at 9 p.m. At this point, the Woodland Heights, Westover Hills, Willow Oaks/Clevedon Civic, Westlake Hills Civic, and Forest Hill Neighborhood associations are sponsors. Other organizations may join in.

In keeping with a previously successful forum in 2012, we expect excellent attendance and considerable press attention. We will again use the effective format we used four years ago:

- Questions for the candidates can be emailed to robleyj@aol.com prior to the forum, or passed in on question cards that will be provided at the forum.
- A panel of screeners will evaluate all questions for the purpose of eliminating questions that do not relate to the office of mayor.
- Questions will be posed to all candidates—no questions for individual candidates will be allowed.
- Candidates will field the questions in a rotating order.
- Candidates will be given an opportunity to make an opening statement not to exceed five minutes, and a closing statement not to exceed three minutes. The order of the opening statements will be determined by a draw, and the order of the closing statements will reverse the order of the draw.

If you have questions or suggestions regarding the forum, please contact Robley Jones at robleyj@aol.com.

Neighborhood Festival Celebrates 25 Years! The Art, Music, and Fun Returns To the Neighborhood September 17, 2016

See page 5 for more information.



What's Inside!

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The President's Message



By Whit Clements

In my opinion there is no better season than the fall. I know that all the seasons we are lucky enough to enjoy here in Richmond are great in their own rights, but there is just something about fall that makes it a little better than the rest. Living here each year we are treated with a daily view of the beauty that comes with change, since almost 80 percent of the trees in the city are on this side of the river. Every

day is a changing presentation of nature's color palette. Fall is also a time to start reflecting on what has occurred this year, while we prepare for the winter months looming on the horizon.

This year there have been several accomplishments of note by the FHNA, as well as other groups in the neighborhood. There are now two signs on Forest Hill Avenue letting folks know that they have entered the Forest Hill Historic District. This improvement to the neighborhood was brought about by the efforts of Carolyn Paulette and the other members of the FHNA sign committee. Thank you to all involved for your efforts in making this vision a reality. The Reedy Creek Coalition (RCC) was able to get a stay on the proposed restoration work that the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality was going to start on a section of Reedy Creek this summer. Now the plan will go back under review and face some potential changes based on feedback from the RCC and concerned neighbors.

Possibly the biggest change this fall will be political with races happening on a national, local, and super-local (FHNA) level. The FHNA is proud to bring another Mayoral Candidate Forum to the area on September 20, so come out and hear what the candidates will do for us. Then in November, the FHNA will be holding elections for all of the executive positions—president, vice president, treasurer, and secretary—as well as several board positions. If you are interested in running for one of the offices, email clements.whit@gmail.com by October 17, 2016.

This fall season brings with it more great neighborhood events; the 43rd Street Festival of the Arts on September 17, the last two Music in the Park performances for the year, and the FHNA Holiday Social in December. Make sure to get out and enjoy all the nature and fun this fall. And while you're out, don't forget to greet your neighbors!

Whit is eagerly anticipating tooling around the neighborhood on his bike with his daughter in tow, looking at the leaves with the crisp air in their faces

Forest Hill Neighborhood Association 2016-2017

foresthillneighborhood.com

P.O. Box 13201, Richmond, VA 23225-9998

OFFICERS

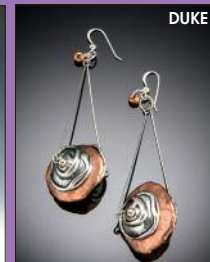
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Carolyn Paulette
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FLYER

Linda Mills, Editor
Bo Williams, Design and Production
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Saturday, September 17th
10:00am–5:00pm

— Art and Fine Crafts —
Music • Food

Rachel Leyco • Blue Line Highway
Janet Martin • Bluz Catz
Elana Lisa and the Hot Mess

Benefit for CARITAS

43rd Street Festival of the Arts

New Roadside Markers Announce the Neighborhood

Friends and neighbors came together early on the morning of July 30 at the edge of Forest Hill Park near Brookside Road to celebrate the long-awaited installation of the Forest Hill Historic District roadside signs. The Forest Hill Historic Designation Committee—Mary Godsey, Bill Luebke, Carolyn Paulette, Shannon Taylor, and Pat and Dwight Wood—were on hand to toast our newest neighborhood addition. The sign, located on the north side of Forest Hill Avenue, drew admiring looks from passersby. Visitors from Stratford Hills, Westover Hills, and Manchester stopped to offer compliments and congratulations to the sign committee and the FHNA for pursuing the long process of attaining the signs.

The second sign is on the south side of Forest Hill Avenue across from Cedar Lane between West 45th and West 46th Streets. It greets visitors who are travelling east. The sign committee would like to thank everyone involved in this lengthy process. The signs look fabulous!

The FHNA sign committee—Dorna Braswell, Whit Clements, Carolyn Paulette, and Shannon Taylor—would like to thank Phil Grinter and Andrew Raipisarda at Custom Sign Shop for their

patience, advice, and speedy installation. Thanks also to Marvin Anderson, Michelle Dickson, and Andre Williams with the City of Richmond for leading us through the permit process.



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CANINE ADVENTURE

November 8 Should Be a High Turnout Election

Precinct 402 Update

By Robley Jones

The voter turnout for the November 8, 2016 election is predicted to be high. A recent Pew Research Center study points "toward a higher turnout in 2016 than in 2012, perhaps as high as in 2008" The election officials at your polling location do their best to keep things moving to try to prevent long lines. Knowing what is on the ballot before you come to the polls, however, will allow you to be more informed and vote more rapidly, reducing the likelihood of a protracted wait. So, what is on the ballot? It's a long one, and it will contain the following:

- President/Vice President (Clinton/Kaine v. Trump/Pence)
- 4th District Congressman (McEachin v. Wade)
- Richmond Mayor (Baliles, Berry, Junes, Morrissey, Mosby, Stoney, Tyler, Williams)
- 4th District City Council Person (Grimes, Larson, Olanrewaju, Thomas, Walker)
- 4th District School Board (Hardiman, Reaves, Smith)
- Two Constitutional Amendments
 1. Right to Work

2. Property tax exemptions for spouses of certain emergency service providers

For more information on the amendments, go to elections.virginia.gov/election-law/proposed-constitutional-amendment-2016/index.html.

Here are some key dates for the November 2016 election:

October 17—The last day to register to vote in the November 8, 2016 election

October 29-November 5—In-Person Absentee voting at the general registrar's office at City Hall

November 1—Last day to receive a request for an absentee ballot

For more information about voting go to ci.richmond.va.us/Registrar/UpcomingElections.aspx.

If you have questions regarding the upcoming elections, or if you wish to volunteer to work the polls, please contact Robley Jones at robleyj@aol.com.



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Neighborhood Festival Celebrates 25 Years

The Art, Music, and Fun Returns To the Neighborhood

By Robin Cage

The 43rd Street Festival of the Arts is returning to the Forest Hill neighborhood in September for its annual event. Who would have guessed 25 years ago that 70 juried artists, local musicians, food vendors, and thousands of RVA festival goers would be joining us? The show that began in the parking lot of Good Shepherd Episcopal Church with 40 local artists and one overworked band (Radar Rose) has survived and thrived. This year as we celebrate 25 years of fine art and crafts, there will be live music, local food, and special activities for children. The festival is also a fundraiser for CARITAS, our local homeless provider.

Many of the artisans in this year's show have been with the event since the beginning. Some of our locals like Angie Wiggins, Lee Hazelgrove, Cris Pool, Foust, and Kim Young are perennial favorites. I asked what they remembered about the early shows. Foust said, "I remember that we were all inside the fenced area where the food and music are now. The neighbors were welcoming from the very beginning, even though they were a bit curious about what the whole day was going to be like. I know I have the first T-shirt in a box in our attic. One year, the artists gave each other awards—I got 'Most Helpful Mom' and Andrew Hersey got 'Most Verbose.'"

Times have changed a bit. We have awards now for Best in Show in both Fine Art and Fine Craft, as well as Jurors' Choice.

This year Foust has designed our limited edition 25th Anniversary T-shirt. All proceeds from the sale of the T-shirts, as well as the artists' contributions to the raffle, will raise money for CARITAS. The juried outdoor show will include paintings, prints, pottery, sculpture, jewelry, glasswork, and more. Original works of art will be available for purchase, and exhibitors will be on hand to discuss and sell their work.

The musical line up this year includes

Rachel Leyco from 10—11 a.m.
Blue Line Highway from 11:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.
Elana Lisa and the Hot Mess from 1—2 p.m.
Bluz Catz from 2:30—3:30 p.m.
Janet Martin from 4—5 p.m.

We are appreciative of the use of the facilities of Good Shepherd Episcopal Church and School. We also are grateful for the continued support of our neighbors who help bring about this uniquely Forest Hill neighborhood event. Join us for a fun day of music, food, and art right outside your door!


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

Music in the Park Continues in September and October

Load up your picnic baskets and grab your chairs! Join your friends and neighbors in Forest Hill Park at the two remaining Music in the Park events for the 2016 season! Cool weather, hot music! (Please note, these last two events begin earlier, at 5 p.m.)

September 11, 5-7 p.m. Big Pay Back—James Brown music
October 2, 5-7 p.m. Skydog—Allman Brothers music

Special thanks to Grow RVA; Sweet Frog; Forest Hill, Westover Hills, and Woodland Heights Neighborhood Associations; Richmond's Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities; and Kathy Graziano. As a reminder, the City of Richmond Park System prohibits alcohol and glass containers.




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Johnny Walker for Richmond City Council, 4th District



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Johnny Walker

BACKGROUND

I retired as a Director at AT&T and while working at AT&T, I gained more than 35 years of corporate experience with lobbying and negotiating contracts. I am a proud graduate of Richmond Public Schools and earned an undergraduate degree and MBA from the University of Richmond (Go Spiders!). I have lived in the Westover Hills neighborhood for 26 years.

PUBLIC/COMMUNITY SERVICE

I currently serve our community on the following Boards that impact the City of Richmond: The Dream Academy - assists adults (18 years of age and older) who have dropped out of school, with obtaining their High School Diploma; Neighborhood Housing Services of Richmond – assists veterans and other minorities with obtaining affordable housing; Richmonders Involved to Strengthen our Community (RISC) – empowers congregations and individuals to identify and develop solutions to serious community problems; Citizens Against Crime Incorporated – founded by my sister-in-law, the late Alicia Rasin, assists families of homicide victims; Richmond Kiwanis Club – assists youth by mentoring and tutoring students in Richmond Public Schools. I have also served with the organization, Support Group for Autistic Children – a support group for parents of autistic children, which I was involved with because I have a son who is autistic.

FOCUS FOR THE FOURTH DISTRICT

These past few months, I have knocked on hundreds of doors and heard your concerns! My focus areas are YOUR focus areas:

- ✓ Reduce waste in city government
- ✓ Fund public schools with accountability
- ✓ Obtain additional funding for Police and Fire
- ✓ Delivery of basic services such as timely leaf collection, road maintenance and poor drainage.

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Know Your Neighbor

Mary Delano McNeil: Artist, Teacher, and Community Hero

By Judith C. Warrington

Some people are born to teach and share the things they love. Forest Hill resident Mary Delano McNeil is one of those natural-born teachers, and has had the opportunity to have two rewarding teaching careers in two very different subjects: gymnastics and stained glass.

Like many people who find their passion in art, Mary started out in an unrelated field—banking. But that didn't last long when she was asked to become a gymnastics teacher—her first foray into teaching. She had a passion for gymnastics that went back to her school days at George Wythe High School where she was on the gymnastics team. When her coaches opened Richmond Olympiad, they asked her to join them as a teacher and Mary said goodbye to banking! For almost 20 years she taught gymnastics. A back injury sidelined that teaching career.

"I got started in stained glass when I was looking for something to do to relax. I didn't take art classes in school. I can't draw," says Mary. But she clearly had an aptitude for glass. After taking numerous glass classes, her teacher recognized her talent and asked her to help out with a major church window restoration. After what Mary called a two-year apprenticeship, she was on her way to her second teaching career as a stained glass instructor.

It was while teaching an adult class that Mary had an experience she calls, "40 Shades of Green." It happened this way: an adult student was working on a pattern and trying to find a shade of that exactly matched the green of her lawn. Nothing satisfied her! Then later, while teaching a children's class at Binford Middle School's Arts After School program, a student who was using the very same pattern, picked up a piece of multicolored glass. He thought it looked like a field of flowers, and was delighted with it. He allowed the glass to speak to him. That was an epiphany for Mary. She realized that teaching kids was her calling.

That led her to the Hand Workshop, now the Visual Arts Center of Richmond, located on West Main Street, to teach children's classes. "It's rewarding to introduce children to something new, to see them get excited about being creative," she said.

Mary teaches classes for children age 10 to 16, as well as for seniors age 61 and older. Two of her current students are 94 years young! Also at Vis Arts she teaches a class for veterans through a program requested by the Hunter Holmes McGuire VA Medical Center. In her characteristic enthusiasm, Mary says that sometimes she can't believe how fortunate she is to be able to teach

something she loves.

It's that enthusiasm that she brings to every class. During one Friday morning class she is surrounded by kids anxiously watching as she shows them how to make a repair that can save one student's stained glass project from disaster. Worried faces break into relieved smiles and it's obvious how much these children love their teacher, and how much they have learned. While some people might cringe at the thought of putting shards of glass, molten metal, and a soldering iron that heats to 1,200 degrees Fahrenheit in the hands of a child, Mary has taught the students that safety comes first.

Even students who have "aged out" of her children's level classes are on hand as helpers because they want to be around Mary's creativity and enthusiasm. Mostly these older students enforce the safety rules in the classroom (eye protection!), as well as provide tips to the younger kids that they learned from Mary.

There is also lots of smiling and joking.

"I'm always amazed," she said, laughing. "I still keep in touch with some of my students through social media. Some of them are in college now."

Mary is as passionate about her neighborhood as she is about teaching. Mary and her husband Ron have lived in Forest Hill for 14 years, but their ties to the community go back much further. Mary grew up in Westover Hills and Ron lived on Bland Street in Forest Hill. Plus they were high school sweethearts. As newlyweds, their first home was in Westover Hills. They then moved to Stratford Hills before moving to Forest Hills.

"I love the diversity of the homes and the people," said Mary, "People do things together. It's the best place in the city."

Many residents will remember when the area around James River Park was a magnet for questionable behaviors. When residents tried to call attention to the scope of the problem on Riverside Drive, officials were slow to act. As a teacher, Mary knew that visual demonstrations can speak louder than words, so she organized a neighborhood meeting at her home and invited city and park officials. There she showed them a small artificial Christmas tree she had decorated with "items" picked up along the street. It wasn't pretty. That got their attention and action was finally taken.

Many people will also remember the gourmet food at the 2013 FHNA Fall Fest on West 42nd Street. Committee head Bo Williams, turned to Mary and his neighbors Ron McNeil, Penny Anderson, John Butcher, and David Lynch. They worked all night the day before the Fest to make sure everyone had good food and a good time.

Mary is one of the people who make Forest Hill such a great place to live. Not only that, when this issue of The Forest Hill Flyer shows up on your doorstep, it could have been delivered by Mary!

Judith C. Warrington is a long-time Forest Hill resident who shares Mary's love of stained glass.





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The History of My Affection for Westover Hills Elementary School

By Shannon D. Taylor

2010 – 2013

My Hubbie Mat and I welcome an adorable baby boy and begin thinking about schools. We love the city and have lived in RVA since at least 1998 and in Forest Hill since 2004. We attended public schools growing up—Mat in the small town of Tappahannock and me in the suburbs of Fairfax. We reflect on every reason not to move out to the counties, not vice versa.

2014

We meet a bunch of other parents curious about WHES, including parents with children already enrolled or soon to be enrolled. I educate myself about school facts and myths and am pleasantly impressed. I look forward to enrolling Jackson.

Pre-K, Month 1

Jackson begins the pre-K program at WHES. He is shy and cries at drop-off for the first two days. Ms. Thompson and Ms. Mickens take great care of him. He doesn't know any other children in his class. About a week later, Jackson knows every single name of his classmates. He tells me who is fun to play with, and who else likes Star Wars, Transformers, and Legos.

While on maternity leave with our second child, I do daily drop-offs and pick-ups and begin meeting other parents and grandparents of Jackson's classmates. Everyone is nice and engaged. We easily talk about our kids. I love how diverse and friendly this school is.

Pre-K, Month 2

Hubbie chaperones a pumpkin-picking fieldtrip to a local berry farm. He is one of at least a dozen other parents (just from Jackson's class!) spending a pleasant fall morning trying to keep up with children running, giggling, and picking out pumpkins. He befriends some of Jackson's classmates by being silly on the bus and enjoys brief celebrity status.

We attend our first school Halloween Party. Jackson impresses folks with his homemade Transformer costume (Optimus Prime). I see Jackson dance like a crazy man for the first time to current pop songs in the school gymnasium. He plays games and contests, collecting a ton of candy from the teachers. I can't keep up with the boy as he runs around school with his friends.

Pre-K, Month 3

I read to Jackson's class. The kids are inquisitive, engaged, and ask a ton of questions about the book! They are respectful and smile...A LOT. I enjoy the brief celebrity status!

Pre-K, Month 4

I attend my first PTA meeting of the year—gulp! (Guilty

thought—how could I have missed the previous meetings?!) There is a HUGE turnout by other parents and families for the Holiday Pageant! We fill the gymnasium supporting the classes for their performances. I secretly cry at seeing Jackson sing Jingle Bells with his classmates and shake his homemade bell. Students of every grade are confident, skilled, and amazing! Not only are all the faculty present, but so are the administrative and facilities folks. This is one big happy family.

Pre-K, Spring 2016

Jackson keeps me informed about which of his classmates have lost a baby tooth, as if this imparts some sort of cool status. He also tells me who likes certain snacks, who is shy, and who is silly. He sighs out loud when I can't keep his friends' names straight. I finally order the class picture that I'VE been coveting so that in 30 years Jackson can relive his pre-K class with all its glory.

Pre-K, Months 7-9

A few more big events happen at school. At a Friday movie night, I catch up with all the parents and grandparents I've gotten to know better in the past year (there are dozens of us out watching the "Peanuts" movie right along with the kids!) A few girls who know that I'm Jackson's mom say, "Hi." Then at Pre-K Water Day, Jackson's "girlfriend" squirts me in the face with a water gun. (According to him, a girlfriend is someone you like but have never actually spoken to. I can live with that!) I whisper to him to get her back and then watch them play with hoses, water balloons, and sprinklers while chasing each other around the front yard of the school.

May 26, 2016

A day I will never forget—during Jackson's daily debriefing of what happened at school he informs me that he had the opportunity to push his "girlfriend" on a swing during recess (the good kind of pushing!) They still, however, do not speak to each other. And then, another girl actually asks him if his name is "Handsome." Gah!

Pre-K, June 2016

As Jackson's class begins prepping for Pre-K "graduation," I begin reflecting on the past year at WHES. Our experiences have exceeded my expectations. I love our little neighborhood school and all that it offers: caring faculty and staff, cute and curious students, a proactive PTA, and engaging parents. I can't wait to see what kindergarten through fifth grade brings!

Shannon is wondering where the summer went, as school supply lists are now available in local stores.

At the Westover Hills Library

Mark Your Calendar for these Fun Autumn Events!

Journaling—Just the Basics

Wednesday, September 21, 6:30-8 p.m.

Why write in a journal? Lynn Lewis guides us through the process. Plan, organize thoughts, or simply relieve stress. There are many benefits of journaling. Workshop is free and open to adults. Call 804-646-8833 for more information.

Spooky Story Spectacular with the Haunted House Writers,

Wednesday, October 26, 6-8 p.m.

Thrill and chill to stories read aloud by members of the Haunted House Writers! Featuring spooky stories for kids from 6-7 p.m. Children should be accompanied by an adult. After 7 p.m., get ready for some seriously scary fare for teens and adults only!

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. All ages welcome. The Chess Club meets on Mondays from 6-7:45 pm.

Tech Questions and Answers

Bring computer, smart phone, e-reader, or tablet and your questions. Call 804-646-8833 to reserve a 30-minute session with our tech expert. Thursdays, 2-4 p.m.

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! For grades kindergarten through sixth with a parent. Lego Club meets Tuesdays, September 20, October 18, and November 15 from 4-5:30 p.m.

Richmond Story League

Part workshop, part listening, and part learning from other tellers. All are welcome. No previous storytelling experience is needed! For more information, call Deborah Alsko at 804-232-3542. Saturdays, October 1 and November 5, 11 a.m. to 1 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. Books and discussion questions are provided. 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! September 16 and October 21 from 10 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

English as a Second Language (ESOL)

For speakers of other languages who wish to learn English in an American cultural context. Contact the Department of Adult and Continuing Education office at 804-780-8311 for information on registration and class fees. Mondays and Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Westover Hills Library Advisory Group

Interested in libraries, reading, and your community? We welcome your input! Join us to help make a difference at Westover Hills Library. Join us on Tuesday, September 13, October 11, and November 8, 7-8 p.m.

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.

Family

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

There will be no Storytimes during the weeks of September 5 and 12; or November 1 and 7.

For an extra special Halloween Storytime the week of October 24, wear a costume! (No masks, please.)

All public libraries will be closed September 5, October 10, and November 11, 24 and 25. Branches will close at 5 p.m. on November 23.

Forest Hill Walking History Tours



SATURDAY MORNINGS

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Kenneth Stevens Awarded Fourth Annual FHNA Community Service Scholarship

By Linda Mills

If you were to ask Kenneth Stevens what one of his favorite things is about living in Forest Hill, the answer might surprise you. He may mention that he enjoys attending Music in the Park, that he loves chilling on Belle Isle with his friends, and that he feels like Forest Hill Park is his second home. He may tell you those things, but only after he tells you what he really loves about the neighborhood—the food!

“Hands down, my favorite thing on the planet is food. Nothing makes me happier than sitting down and sinking my teeth into humongous icing-covered Yoder’s doughnut or an American fusion tako from Boka Truck Takos,” Kenneth says. “I have spent too many Saturdays to count down in that tent-filled parking lot. It has become a sort of ritual for my brother and me. So when I go off to college, I will not just be leaving my family and my friends—I will be letting go of one of my favorite parts of every Saturday.”

Luckily, Kenneth is not jetting across country to attend college—he’s driving to Charlottesville to attend University of Virginia. He feels that UVA is not only an excellent learning institution, but that the energy and spirit of the school is perfect for him. Not to mention that UVA has what he’s looking for in a course of study.

“I plan on studying chemistry or biochemistry with a pre-med focus,” Kenneth says. “I’ve had an immense love of chemistry for the past three years. I want to study medicine as well, particularly because I am extremely interested in the human body and how it works. I would love to be a pediatrician someday. I love helping other people.”

That love of helping others shows clearly in Kenneth’s resume of volunteer activities around the neighborhood and the community. For example, spurred by his own volition, he has spent hours cleaning the trash from Forest Hill Park. As a matter of fact, he feels the trash issue is one of our community’s most difficult problems.

“If I decide to take a stroll or bike down into Forest Hill Park, it isn’t the sight of the gorgeous scenery that greets me, but rather the abundance of trash—floating in slime around the lake or at the surface of a small eddy by a rock. If there were a way to instill a greater feeling of respect for not only the park, but also the community that constantly uses the park, then maybe this dilemma could be solved.”

And he has worked hard to solve it. As a member of Friends of Forest Hill Park Junior since its inception nearly 10 years ago, Kenneth has dedicated many hours to the group.

“Ken has played a leadership role for this youth group for many years,” says Laura Dysart, coordinator of FFHP Junior for the last six years. “He has continued to volunteer with group



through high school, a point when some youth lose interest. He is a true role model for the younger members of the group.”

He was also a role model at Trinity Episcopal School where he earned an International Baccalaureate diploma. Among other activities, he was co-president of the school’s Key Club, organized a basketball clinic at Swansboro Elementary School, and volunteered as a page at the Richmond Forum.

Once Kenneth goes to UVA, we doubt his volunteerism will end. There are certain to be needs there that he can address with his enthusiasm and proactive attitude. And maybe he’ll even find good doughnuts. If not, he’s not too far away to come back to Richmond.

The Forest Hill Neighborhood Association congratulates Kenneth and wishes him well in all his future endeavors.



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 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 September 15, 2016. Get your order in today!**

Little Free Library Still Serving the Community

The Little Free Library by the playground in Forest Hill Park was hit by vandals earlier in the summer. Since then, it has been repaired. The damaged Plexiglas door was replaced with plywood, and the Friends of Forest Hill Park Junior have begun to decorate the door.

This library has been a huge success thanks to neighbors who have donated books! Feel free at any time to place children's books in the Little Free Library, or contact Laura Dysart at lauradysart@verizon.net to have donations picked up. The library is restocked at least once a week and is well used. The idea is to take a book and return it, or donate another book. We are thrilled so many books are getting into children's hands!

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
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Verus, Chicken Soup...+ more

- Most bathers are in & out in 30 minutes leaving the dirt & hair behind
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- 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"

Join the Halloween Howl Parade and Costume Competition Sunday, October 30, 1-3 p.m.

Start designing your pooch's costume now and get a leg up on the competition! Bring your dog decked out in costume to socialize with neighbors and participate in activities including Best Pet Trick, Dog/Owner Egg Spoon Race, and Farthest Fetch. Of course, the winners will receive fabulous prizes! The event will culminate with a pet/owner dog parade. Parade prizes will be awarded for the fun categories such as Best Dog/Owner Duo, Scariest Dog Costume, Cutest Dog Costume, and Best Dog Costume Overall.

Even if you don't have a dog, come out and cheer our neighborhood pups on! Halloween snacks for people and pups will be available. Admission is free, but donations will benefit Ring Dog Rescue (ringdogrescue.org). They are a nonprofit organization and are currently listing adoptable "bullies." You may also donate to FFHP at this event.

Please plan to register your canine companion between 1-1:20 p.m. The activities will begin shortly after. If you are interested in volunteering for this event please contact Laura Dysart at lauradysart@verizon.net. The Halloween Howl is planned and implemented by Friends of Forest Hill Park Junior.

Thefts from Motor Vehicles an Area Issue

According to our Third Precinct - Sector 312 Lieutenant, Harold L. Giles, thefts from cars have increased in our neighborhood and surrounding neighborhoods. Lieutenant Giles' newsletter states that the majority of the vehicles that were hit were unlocked, and valuable items were left in plain view. Lieutenant Giles observes, "It would appear from social media reports and conversations with neighbors that these crimes are being grossly under reported. Police officers are deployed by crime statistics and calls for service. In addition to making your property a difficult target, the most effective deterrent to these crimes is an active community."

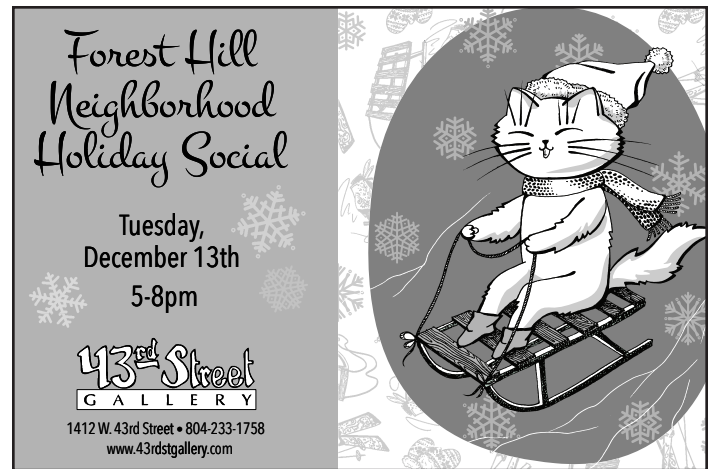
Lieutenant Giles recommends calling 911 if you see anything the least bit suspicious. Also, he suggests you enter the police non-emergency number, 804-646-5100, into your mobile phone. If you have questions, Lieutenant Giles can be reached at Harold.Giles@richmondgov.com or 804-646-1944. Lieutenant Giles posts his newsletter and other information on the city website at richmondgov.com/Police/Precinct3Sector312.aspx.

FFHP Junior Announce Fall Kick Off Meeting All Students in Middle School and High School Welcome!

Are you a middle school or high school student who loves Forest Hill Park and loves to be outside? Maybe you need some community service hours for school as well? Friends of Forest Hill Park Junior works on park beautification and providing activities that promote greater use of this wonderful neighborhood resource, our park. Come find out if this is the group for you! We will meet at the Stone House for 30 minutes on **Saturday, September 10, 10 a.m. to noon**, and then embark on a park clean up as a group.

FFHP Junior leads many park clean ups, but that's not all we do for the park! FFHP Junior maintains the Little Free Library next to the playground; helps maintain the Bluebird Trail in the park; plans and runs the beloved Halloween Howl event for dogs and their humans; and supports the children's activities at both the Victorian Christmas and Sunday in the Park with Friends.

If you can't make the meeting but are interested in participating, please contact Laura Dysart at lauradysart@verizon.net. Our current schedule of meetings is September 10, October 8, and November 12 at 10 a.m. at the Stone House. The Halloween Howl is October 30, and the Victorian Christmas is December 10. Hope to see you at a meeting!



Less Trash, More Recycling You Can Now Put More in Your Recycling Bins!

Since of July 1, 2016, you have been able to add additional recycling items to your blue-topped bins. The CVWMA will now accept plastics with numbers 1-7. Still not accepted for recycling are plastics bags, Styrofoam, or food-contaminated containers, including pizza boxes. Here is a list of **acceptable** items.

- Corrugated cardboard. Please break down large boxes.
- Steel and aluminum cans including beverage cans and metal cans with no food or other residue.
- Mixed Paper items such as newspaper, magazines, catalogs, computer paper, junk mail, cereal and other paperboard boxes, and paper bags.
- Plastic Bottles 1-7. These include narrow-neck bottles with a PETE (or PET) on the bottom; milk and juice jugs; soda and water bottles, shampoo bottles and detergent bottles with caps replaced; waxy cartons such as milk, juice, and juice boxes; and egg substitutes containers.
- Glass bottles and jars.

They can be clear, blue, brown or green.
• ALL ITEMS MUST BE FREE OF FOOD OR OTHER RESIDUE.



A Walk Back in Time in Forest Hill

By Patricia Wood

It's about 1905 in the Forest Hill neighborhood, a part of Chesterfield County. On a warm June morning, few places are as entertaining as Forest Hill Park where carnival rides, games of chance, a fun house, and various other diversions entertain local residents, as well as those who travel from the city. The trolley from Richmond pulls right into the park at the Stone House. It's hard to imagine that the park was once a farm and the Stone House was the farmer's residence.

Across from Forest Hill Park, on the avenue, stands a row of palatial homes. Some of them have stables, tennis courts, and stunning flower gardens. At least one has a pond in the rear. The owners of the large homes are successful businessmen, and they are known not only in Chesterfield, but throughout Richmond and Manchester.



The school house at 41st Street and Boscobel Ave., circa 1900, is now a Church of Christ.

There is the little school building on the corner of 41st Street and Boscobel Avenue that serves children in all grades. Along 41st Street are also beautiful residences of varying styles. At one corner, there is a grand residence owned by Mr. John Sherrod. His chauffeur is driving around the impressive house to pick up the owner of the residence while well-dressed ladies enjoy tea on the large Sherrod porch.

The well-known Forest Hill Inn is open for business on Dunston Avenue. The owner and proprietor is an English lady

who resides in part of the Inn. The inn provides a good view of Reedy Creek and is away from traffic because Dunston Avenue ends in front of the

establishment!

The McRae home on 42nd Street and Boscobel Avenue is quite large, actually two houses connected as one. Widow McRae and both of her daughters still live there. Interior doors and woodwork in their home

are from their former home, the Burwell-Vaden-McRae mansion in Manchester.

A talented sculptor who lives on 43rd Street might be working in his studio, which is behind his lovely home. He has been commissioned to sculpt the Virginia Monument for the Gettysburg Battlefield! He has also been hired to sculpt a monument of Matthew Fontaine Maury, as well as one of Thomas (Stonewall) Jackson to place on Monument Avenue in Richmond. A few of his neighbors, including children, pose for him as he sculpts various parts of the Jackson monument.

Albin Netherwood's impressive residence at the corner of 43rd Street and Forest Hill Avenue includes more granite than other homes nearby. That might be because he owns the granite

quarry between the end of 42nd Street and the James River. His quarry provides granite to the District of Columbia and other large cities for their building needs. Richmond's City Hall is constructed with granite from his quarry.

Walking along a lane on the north side of Forest Hill

Avenue, one can visit Maplecree Plantation at New Kent Avenue and Cedar Lane. It is cooler on this lane than it is on Forest Hill Avenue because large old cedar trees line both sides of the lane. It's just as dusty, however, as it is on the avenue. Maybe the dirt roads will be paved over one day.

Now we step back to June 11, 2016 as we stand to admire Maplecree's smokehouse. A group of history buffs and Forest Hill enthusiasts is thanking Matt Zipperer for guiding them back in time to appreciate the Forest Hill Historic District during a two-hour tour that included intriguing facts and fascinating stories about our neighborhood.

The next walking tour of our historic neighborhood is September 24, 2016. Join Friends of Forest Hill Park at 10 a.m. at the Stone House for a fascinating extraordinary tour. Another tour is scheduled for October 22, 2016. The cost is \$15, but if you're a member of Friends of Forest Hill Park (annual dues are \$15) there is no charge. Contact Carolyn Paulette at cmp4312@yahoo.com for reservations.

Patricia Wood is a member of the Forest Hill Historic Designation Committee and a member of Friends of Forest Hill Park. She has lived in Forest Hill since 1972 and retired from Wachovia Bank as Vice President of Bank Operations.



The Netherwood House boasts granite from a quarry at the bottom of West 42nd Street, both owned by the home's original builders.



The McRae home was built around 1890.



The smokehouse at Maplecree Plantation, circa 1785, still stands at New Kent Avenue and Cedar Lane.

BECOME A FRIEND OF FOREST HILL PARK



HELP MAKE FOREST HILL PARK ONE OF RICHMOND'S MOST BEAUTIFUL HISTORIC PARKS

ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION

- ☐ INDIVIDUAL \$15. (Receive a FFHP Window Sticker) ☐ HOUSEHOLD \$20. (Receive a FFHP Window Sticker & T-Shirt) (Shirt Size: S M L XL)
☐ CORPORATE \$50. (Receive a FFHP Window Sticker, T-Shirt and Booklet) (Shirt Size: S M L XL)

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY & STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____
PHONE: _____ email: _____

Please mail this form with your check (made out to FFHP) to:
FFHP Treasurer / PO Box 13161 / Richmond, VA 23225

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Friends of Forest Hill Park is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.
All Contributions to FFHP are Tax Deductible.

Forest Hill Walking History Tours

Saturday • September 24th
Saturday • October 22nd

10 am to NOON

Meet at the Stone House @ 9:30

\$15.00 Donation

free for Friends of Forest Hill Park Members

Local Guide: Matt Zipperer

Call 804-232-6644 for more information

SPONSORED BY FRIENDS OF FOREST HILL PARK



FHNA Calendar of Events

Saturday, September 10	Kick Off meeting for Friends of Forest Hill Park Junior, 10 a.m.-noon at the Stone House
Sunday, September 11	Music in the Park, <i>Big Pay Back</i> , 5-7 p.m.
Saturday, September 17	43rd Street Festival of the Arts, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Tuesday, September 20	FHNA Membership Meeting and Mayoral Candidate Forum, Forest Hill Presbyterian Church 7-9 p.m.
Sunday, October 2	Music in the Park, <i>Skydog</i> , 5-7 p.m.
Tuesday, October 18	FHNA Membership Meeting, 7 p.m., Forest Hill Presbyterian Church
Sunday, October 30	Halloween Howl, 1-3 p.m. at Forest Hill Park
Tuesday, November 1	Deadline for info and ads for the Winter Forest Hill Flyer
Tuesday, November 8	Election Day—Get out and vote!
Saturday, November 12	Friends of Forest Hill Park Junior Meeting, 10 a.m.-noon, Stone House
Tuesday, November 15	FHNA Membership Meeting, 7 p.m., Forest Hill Presbyterian Church
Saturday, December 10	Victorian Christmas, 1-4 p.m. at the Stone House
Tuesday, December 13	Forest Hill Neighborhood Holiday Social, 5-8 p.m. at 43rd Street Gallery

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: FHNA Treasurer
P.O. Box 13201 • 1021 Hioaks Rd.
Richmond, VA 23225-9998

FREE
Forest Hill
Pint Glass and Decal
when you join!



For more information visit www.foresthillneighborhood.com