

# FRIENDS OF FOREST HILL PARK

*The Forest Hill Park Post*



October 2018

President	Patricia Wood
Vice President	Terry Fitzgerald
Treasurer	Lee Shewmake
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[www.friendsofforesthillpark.org](http://www.friendsofforesthillpark.org)

## City Plans to Repair Water Damage in Forest Hill Park

On June 21, the City of Richmond experienced a significant rain event that had a heavy impact on the Reedy Creek Watershed. Large volumes of storm water runoff caused flash flooding in Forest Hill Park and in areas along Reedy Creek within the James River Park System. The storm event caused significant damage to the roadway to the north of the dam in Forest Hill Park and destroyed a wooden bridge that connects the Reedy Creek parking lot to the Buttermilk Trail.

Since the storm, the Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities (PRCF) has coordinated with the Department of Public Utilities to ensure no damage was done to the existing sewer line. We are also currently working with the Timmons Group to develop engineered plans that will help prevent a catastrophic failure of the roadway from happening in the future. This will be achieved by rebuilding the stone wall that supports the roadway and sealing the back side of the wall with mortar. The next step will involve the placement of flowable back fill material behind the wall to allow any water that gets under the surface to flow back



into Reedy Creek without damaging the roadway via engineered gaps in the stone wall. To further mitigate the impact of heavy rain and flood events to the roadway, there will be two drop inlets installed to allow runoff to flow into the creek.

We expect the engineering drawing to be complete by the end of September. Once we have the drawings in hand, PRCF will work diligently to get the project out to bid. From the time the bid is awarded, construction will take about 30 days to complete. We appreciate the community's understanding and patience as we work to repair and improve one of our city's most beloved parks.

**Nathan Burrell**  
Facility Maintenance Manager  
City of Richmond  
Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities

## *A Walk Back in Time and An Invitation to Tea*

On September 22, Friends of Forest Hill Park sponsored a Walking History Tour lead by Matt Zipperer. After looking at the collection of vintage photos at the Stone House, the tour members started along 41st Street. Nearly every structure has an amazing story; some include chauffer driven Pace Arrow automobiles or tea parties on spacious Victorian porches or an internationally recognized artist or port cocheres and Supreme Court justices.

As the group made its way from block to block, it had the good fortune to encounter owners of two of the homes on the tour. They were very gracious. One of them did a wonderful “Katherine Hepburn” when Matt told her about the fabulous teas that took place many years ago on her porch. *I would love to have you for tea if only I had notice. I’m not certain I have enough tea cups* was her response.

The group saw two large residences that had once been joined together as one building. There was discussion about the Hancock house’s many chimneys and Mrs. Northrop riding horseback and carrying a rifle to deal with trespassers.

Noon arrived, yet there was so much more to see and hear. Maybe next year the tour will be divided into two parts, but in the meantime, the final Walking History Tour this year will be October 20th. Come to the Stone House in Forest Hill Park at 9:30 to look at the old photographs. The walking portion begins at 10:00. The cost is \$15 per individual (no charge for members of Friends of Forest Hill Park.)





## **All About Trees: Presentation by Julia Marano**

Stone House, Forest Hill Park---

Oct 13, 1-3 PM

This event is a presentation of the vast array of research being done worldwide on the role of trees in the earth's ecology. The afternoon will focus on two main areas: trees in the forest and trees in the environment that people have created. Subjects will include trees and human health; trees and the quality of life; trees and soil and water cleanup; individual trees and their interconnection; and Macro ecology.

Julia Marano has worked in natural resource conservation and management for over 35 years ranging through a wide arena of issues such as soil and water cleanup and pollution prevention; solid waste management; community restoration and greening; garden designs and tree plantings. Julia has been a Master Gardener since 2000.

**This presentation is approved by Richmond Tree Stewards for renewal of educational points. There is no fee to attend. Please let us know if you plan to be with us so that adequate seating will be available.**

info@friendsofforesthillpark.org.

## *Halloween Howl*

*Sunday, October 28th*

*1:00-3:00 at the Stone House*

*Forest Hill Park*



*Register your canines in costume at 1:00 for the games at 1:30. A parade will follow. No fee. Donations are accepted.*

*Prizes provided by CritterTown BathHouse and Canine Adventures. This howling good time benefits Ring Dog Rescue.*

*Sponsored by Friends of Forest Hill Park and Friends of Forest Hill Park Junior. Pooch Pad provided by CritterTown BathHouse.*





***Hear Ye, Hear Ye!***

***Welcome New Friends of Forest Hill Park Board  
Member Chris Catanzaro***

Chris has been a resident of Westover Hills since 2008, and currently serves on the faculty at Virginia State University. He lived previously in Nashville, Tennessee in an historic district for 13 years, and served on the neighborhood association board, as well as the board of Nashville Neighborhood Alliance.

**Friends of Forest Hill Park Junior** recently gave up part of their weekend to pick up trash in the park. Thank you, FFHPJUNIOR!

