

# FRIENDS OF FOREST HILL PARK

*The Forest Hill Park Post*



December 2018

President	Patricia Wood
Vice President	Terry Fitzgerald
Treasurer	Lee Shewmake
Secretary	Carolyn Paulette

[www.friendsofforesthillpark.org](http://www.friendsofforesthillpark.org)

## New Trees in Forest Hill Park

Friends of Forest Hill Park added six new native trees to the park landscape recently. The young trees were planted on November 3<sup>rd</sup> near the brick column entry on Forest Hill Avenue.

People who work in horticulture advise that diversity is important in any landscape, including forests. Different types of trees add not only beauty, but a smorgasbord to be enjoyed by creatures that live nearby.

The newly planted trees include a red bud, a sycamore, a post oak, a red maple, a sweet bay magnolia and a hackberry. Representatives from Richmond Tree Stewards were on hand at the planting to offer guidance and assistance to ensure the little trees get the best chance to thrive. Members of FFHP Junior were on site to help, as well. The youngsters were shown proper planting methods and then given an opportunity to use them.

Each tree is newly mulched and staked, so they will be easy to spot. Next time you're in the park, pay them a visit. Come back again when it's warm to see their leaves and flowers.



Richmond Tree Stewards shared tree planting tips at the new red bud tree.



Hackberry planting team.



Red maple planting team.



Suzette Lyon ties the post oak tree.



Sweet bay magnolia planting team.



Sycamore planting team.

# Halloween Howl-Wow!

## Great job Friends of Forest Hill Park Junior!

There were fabulous costumes, \$400 worth of



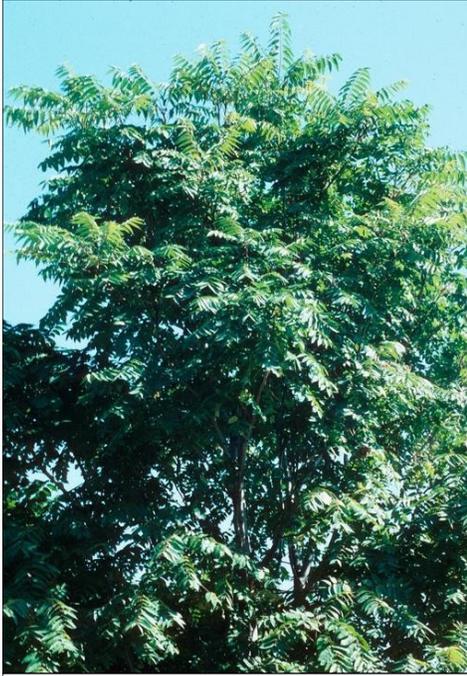
great prizes, and it looked like people were having fun!  
We had 25 dogs registered, and raised \$211 for Ring



Dog Rescue. Ring Dog said they had a lot of interest as well.



## Warning



Ailanthus altissima tree.

The ailanthus altissima tree is referred to as “tree of heaven,” although there’s nothing divine about it. We are at war with this tree in Forest Hill Park. If one of these prolific non-natives is growing on your property, consider cutting it to the ground. Here is an excerpt from “The Songs of Trees” by David George Haskell:

“Among these native plants, lies the seed of an immigrant species, a crispy plume, bulging at its center: *Ailanthus*, originally from East Asia.

“When roots emerge from these seeds, *Ailanthus* will ooze into the soil a chemical that poisons all roots but its own. The seedling’s roots will also converse with soil microbes in a language alien to native trees, encouraging bacteria to squeeze more nitrogen from the soil. Thus fertilized, the stem of *Ailanthus* will surge upward, shading its competition. By reworking the soil community, eliminating some connections and strengthening others, the tree has become one of the most common early colonists of gaps in the deciduous forests in the United States.”

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**Victorian Era Christmas Open House**  
**December 8, 2018**  
**1 to 4 pm**  
**Crafts for the Kids**  
**Holiday Stories by the Backpack Storyteller**  
**and a visit from Ol' Saint Nick!!**

A classic illustration of Santa Claus in a red suit, sitting in a sleigh pulled by reindeer through a snowy landscape with houses and a church in the background.

Sponsored by Friends of Forest Hill Park  
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