



# Diamond Hill News

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

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## Woodlawn 48th annual needlework exhibition!

Woodlawn is a gracious 126-acre estate that was originally part of George Washington's Mount Vernon. The main Federal-style house was designed by the architect of the U.S. Capitol, Dr. William Thornton, and constructed between 1800 and 1805 for Washington's nephew Major Lawrence Lewis and his bride, Eleanor "Nelly" Custis Lewis. During the Lewis' years in residence, Woodlawn comprised over 2,000 acres and was worked by over 100 workers, at least 90 of whom were enslaved people of African descent.

In 1846, the Lewis's son sold the property to two families from New Jersey and Pennsylvania, the Troths and the Gillinghams, who were members of The Society of Friends (Quakers). Ethically opposed to slavery, the Troths and Gillinghams established Woodlawn as a "free labor colony," selling lots to both free black and white farmers, and employing only free laborers to demonstrate as false the argument that the abolition of slavery would mean the death of the Southern plantation economy. This belief in liberty and equality made Woodlawn a controversial social experiment in its time and place, and its residents became a target of raids and suspicion by Confederate forces during the Civil War.

By the turn of the 20th century, Woodlawn was sadly deteriorated and, in 1896, severely damaged by a hurricane. In 1901, the playwright Paul Kester moved in — with his mother, brother and 60 cats — and began "restoring" the house to livable conditions. In 1905, Kester moved on to nearby Gunston Hall, and sold Woodlawn to Miss Elizabeth Sharpe, a Pennsylvania coal heiress who spent two decades lovingly rehabilitating Woodlawn and its grounds to suit contemporary views of an ideal early American estate.

Woodlawn's final private owners were Senator and Mrs. Oscar Underwood of Alabama. Following Mrs. Underwood's death, it was purchased by a private organization to ensure its preservation. In 1952, Woodlawn became the first historic site owned by The National Trust for Historic Preservation.

## 48th annual needlework exhibition! March 2-31, 2011 (closed Tuesdays)

The nation's premiere exhibition of contemporary needlework is held annually at Woodlawn, a National Historic Landmark located in Alexandria, Virginia. Woodlawn was the home of Eleanor Custis Lewis, one of America's foremost needleworkers. The exhibition honors her legacy by maintaining the tradition of the needle arts and by raising funds to preserve her estate. Woodlawn is a completely self-supporting, nonprofit historic site. Your support is vitally important to us. Your participation helps support ongoing efforts to maintain and restore this National Historic Landmark. During the Needlework Exhibition, Woodlawn is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Monday, including weekends. The house is closed every Tuesday in March. For adequate time to view the exhibition, visitors are encouraged to arrive before 3:30 p.m. Demonstrations throughout the month will highlight a variety of techniques for the visitor. Technique/Judging tours may be scheduled in advance for groups of 8 or more.

### Daily Admission Fees

Adults: \$10.00  
Students through 12th grade: \$5.00  
Children 5 and under are free.  
Exhibitors receive one free pass.  
Friends of Woodlawn & Pope-Leighey are admitted free.

## Dining in the Underwood Room

Lunch and desserts are served from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The freshly prepared menu is created and served by members of Nelly's Needlers and other volunteers. Luncheon bills and all gratuities support the site. To make group reservations for 8 or more, call 703-323-1781. Advance reservations are required for large parties.

## Exhibitors

For details on eligibility, divisions, categories, techniques, fees, and more, please refer to the link below. This link also includes the required entry form.

[NeedleShow2011Brochure](#)

## Questions?

Please call 703-780-4000 x26333 with any questions regarding the Needlework Exhibition.

Woodlawn's address is:  
9000 Richmond Highway, Alexandria, Virginia

For additional Woodlawn information:  
(703) 780-4000 •  
[www.woodlawn1805.org](http://www.woodlawn1805.org)



## 2012 Diamond Hill Calendar

We are looking for vintage photos of Diamond Hill. Vintage can be 100 years or can be 40-50 years. We can also use pictures from Books, but likely will have to get permission from author/publisher and cite the source. Please send your pictures earlier rather than later to Jeff Schneider by mail at 307 Washington St., Lynchburg VA 24504 or e-mail at: [jeffandsally@ntelos.net](mailto:jeffandsally@ntelos.net)

## Loose Leaf Collection Ending For the Season

Loose leaf collection for all wards will end for the season on Friday, February 25. There is no charge for this service, and no phone call is necessary. Citizens are asked to rake leaves curbside but do not place in leaves in the street. Leaf piles should be free of sticks, rocks and pine cones. City crews will vacuum leaves as promptly as possible.

After February 25, bagged leaves may be placed at curbside for pickup during regular trash collection; however, each bag must be tagged with a .95 cent trash tag.

For more information, contact Citizens First at 856-CITY (2489).

## Easter Egg Hunt

The Diamond Hill Easter Egg Hunt is Saturday, April 23rd at 10:30 on the lawn at the corner of Washington and Harrison Streets. Look for more information in April newsletter!

## Ghosts of Historic Lynchburg

The "Ghosts of Historic Lynchburg" walking tour will be on Diamond Hill this year on Oct. 20, 21, 22. Please submit new ghost stories to the Foundation at: [lhf@centralvirginia.net](mailto:lhf@centralvirginia.net)



## March Events

### Point of Honor

March 19  
Hearth Cooking Class  
Help prepare and eat a meal cooked in the open hearth kitchen at Point of Honor. 2pm to 5pm. \$20 per person - Limited to 12 people so reserve early!

### Lynchburg Museum System

March 4 First Friday:  
ShoeTown - Craddock Terry Shoes and More Explore how Lynchburg became the city of shoes and see examples made here from 1880-1980. 5 pm - 8 pm FREE

### Old City Cemetery

March 25-26  
9:00-4:00  
4th Annual Garden Symposium \$  
Presentations and workshops by speakers around the country.

### Poplar Forest

March 15  
Poplar Forest Opens for the 2011 Season  
Open for tours from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. seven days a week, March 15 through December 15. Closed Thanksgiving Day.

March 19  
"This Old Tool" Roadshow \*  
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Meeting of the Early American Industries Association. Tour the house, go behind-the-scenes in the restoration workshop, and meet with historic tool enthusiasts to exchange ideas. Free with regular admission.

### Jones Memorial Library

March 16  
THOMAS JEFFERSON AND HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH HIS WIFE, MARTHA  
*by James Thompson*  
Martha Wayles was born in October 1748, the daughter of John and Martha Eppes Wayles. She married first Bathurst Skelton. He died September 1768. She married Thomas Jefferson 1 January 1772. She died at Monticello on 6 September 1782 during the birth of their sixth child. For some time after Martha's death, Thomas suffered bouts of depression. What exactly was their relationship?

## Diamond Hill News

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### Meetings

Business meetings are usually held at 7:30 p.m. on first Tuesdays of each month except June, July and August. Owners of properties in the Diamond Hill Historic District and others interested in supporting historic preservation are welcome to attend.

### Membership

Annual dues for Active Members are \$10.00 per person and the initiation fee is \$5.00 (first year). Active Membership is limited to adult members of households owning Diamond Hill property. Annual dues for Associate Members are \$10 per person (no initiation fee). All members receive this newsletter at no charge. Newsletter subscriptions for non-members are \$5.00 per year.

### Publisher's Statement

The Diamond Hill Historical Society (DHHS) is a nonprofit historic preservation organization approved under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. Its purpose is to preserve and encourage—through the fostering of education, research and restoration—the historical and architectural integrity of the Diamond Hill Historic District. DHHS was incorporated in the Commonwealth of Virginia February 22, 1979. Views expressed in the *Diamond Hill News* do not necessarily reflect the position of DHHS or its officers and directors.

**FACination... An American Vacation!**

sponsored by  
Genworth Foundation

Lynchburg's favorite community choral group explores America through music!

**March 5, 7:30 PM / March 6, 2:00 PM**

Tickets  
\$15 Adults  
\$10 Seniors/Students

AcademyFineArts.com / (434) 846-TIXX  
Historic Downtown Lynchburg

Mark your calendar: **FACination Chorus** has two performances coming up – 7:30 PM March 5<sup>th</sup> and 2:00 PM Sunday March 6<sup>th</sup>.

**State of the City Address Monday, February 28, 2011**

Mayor Joan F. Foster and Vice Mayor Ceasor T. Johnson will deliver the 2011 Annual State of the City Address on Monday, February 28 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chamber, City Hall, 900 Church Street. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Mayor Foster and Vice Mayor Johnson will also recognize 11 citizens for their outstanding community service work. The 2011 recipients of the Mayor's Award of Excellence are Susan A. Carrington, W. E. Clark, III, Donald J. Davis, Jonathan P. Falwell, Nathaniel X. Marshall, Phyllistine W. Mosley, David B. Neumeyer, and Dr. Ralph Reavis. The 2011 Vice Mayor's Young Adult Award of Excellence honorees are Maggie H. Davis, Branden G. Riley and Daveta J. Saunders. The award recipients will be honored immediately following the State of the City Address.

In the event of inclement weather, the State of the City Address will be held on Monday, March 7 at 7:00 p.m. in City Council Chamber.

**Academy of FineArts**

**FACination**

Come take a trip down memory lane with FACination as they take you across the country on their great big family vacation! Lynchburg's favorite community choral group, FACination Chorus, is back and ready to explore America with you. Whether you have a New York State of Mind or you've been California Dreamin' come travel America the Beautiful with familiar tunes! You'll even be able to pick up vacation brochures and get travel tips in the lobby before and after the show from travel experts. Be prepared to have fun and see America through music!

**Academy Players' Chicago**

Book by Fred Ebb & Bob Fosse, Music by John Kander, Lyrics by Fred Ebb  
Based on the play Chicago by Maurice Dallas Watkins  
In roaring twenties Chicago, chorine Roxie Hart murders a faithless lover and convinces her hapless husband Amos to take the rap...until he finds out he's been duped and turns on Roxie. Convicted and sent to death row, Roxie and another "Merry Murderess" Velma Kelly, vie for the spotlight and the headlines, ultimately joining forces in search of the "American Dream": fame, fortune and acquittal. It's one of Broadway's hottest musicals!  
"Wildly entertaining... dazzling score." —New York Daily News  
**Performances:** May 6 & 7, 2011 at 7:30 p.m.; May 8 at 2:00 p.m.; May 12 at 7:30 p.m. ;May 14 at 7:30 P.M.  
**Tickets:** \$25 Adults, \$22 Seniors, \$13 Students —Senior priced tickets are for ages 60 and above .

## Bluffwalk Center

The Bluffwalk Center successfully made the latest, interest-only payment on its city-sponsored loan, according to City Manager Kimball Payne. The \$63,085 installment was due on Tuesday. Bluffwalk, a high-end downtown hotel and restaurant complex, made the payment ahead of schedule, submitting the money in early January. Opened in 2007, Bluffwalk was financed in part by a \$3.2 million loan from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The city backed that loan, essentially acting as a co-signer, and has since made four large payments on Bluffwalk's behalf. Bluffwalk has always come up with the smaller, interest-only payments owed on the debt each February, but since 2007 it has not been able to make the hefty principal-plus-interest installments that come due in the summer. Those payments tend to run around a quarter of a million dollars. To date, the city has paid slightly more than \$1 million on the loan. Bluffwalk is expected to repay that money with interest.

Co-owner Hal Craddock said the Bluffwalk Center had a good year in 2010. The Craddock-Terry Hotel's revenues increased more than 10 percent, Shoemakers American Grille "made a really good comeback" and Waterstone Pizza "had the best year it's ever had," he said. The city manager confirmed Bluffwalk had made its February payment and said the business seemed financially stable. "I'm glad they're still open, running three businesses, employing people and sending us sales and meals tax," Payne said. Craddock said the Bluffwalk venture is still trying to catch up on its audits. The audit for 2007 has been completed, and he expects the audits for 2008 and 2009 to be finished soon. "We're hoping to have those done in the next month," he said.

Bluffwalk's auditing firm has offered a discount because some issues on its end had held up the process, Craddock said. Once the audits are complete and presented to Bluffwalk's bank, the bank could release more than \$400,000 in tax credit money that belongs to Bluffwalk. That money could help repay the city, although other creditors and investors would have a say in that, Craddock said. "We need to negotiate that with everyone involved, but certainly the city would play a lead role" in the negotiations, he said.

*Information for this article has been extracted from The News & Advance, February 2nd, 2011 edition.*



## Mar. Meeting

**Tues., Mar. 1  
7:30 p.m.**

at the

**Tyree-SlaughterHouse  
(c.1856)  
1421 Harrison St**

Hosts: Josie & Jon Alvarenga

