



Diamond Hill News

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Federal and State Rehabilitation Tax Credits

The preservation of historic buildings benefits communities. Historic places connect us to our heritage and enrich the quality of our lives in many tangible and intangible ways. Their preservation also provides demonstrable economic benefits.

Through the federal and state rehabilitation tax credit programs, property owners are given substantial incentives for private investment in preservation, resulting in enormous advantages to the public. Both the federal and state tax credit programs are administered in Virginia through the Department of Historic Resources.

State tax credits are available for owner-occupied, as well as in-

continued inside

DHHS Serves KIDS' HAVEN Dinner

The willing hands of DHHS volunteers prepared and served a wonderful hot dinner at the Kids' Haven Monday "Group" session on September 9th at Presbyterian Homes. Kids' Haven serves the unique needs of grieving children through support and education. DHHS began this community support effort in 2005 and has done a meal each year since that time. Sally Schneider once again planned the menu and coordinated the volunteer effort. This year's menu included hot dogs with all the trimmings, macaroni and cheese, assorted chips, wonderful chocolate fudge brownies and assorted beverages. A special thanks to all of those who volunteered including: Jane Dooley who made the fabulous brownies; Ray Pulliam who diced and sliced lots of onions and tomatoes; Becky Young and Kat Becker who insured we had a great variety of chips; Carol Banker who donated beverages; Mary Kathryn McIntosh, Marla Potter, and Ray and Martha Stokes who supported us with financial donations; and Jeff and Sally who donated and prepared the hot dogs and buns, did much of the shopping, and served the nearly fifty children and family members and Kids' Haven facilitators. Kristin Dabney, the Director of Kids' Haven, insured that all in attendance knew that it was DHHS supporting this important community mission. In a letter to DHHS, Kristin wrote,



*Dinner planners and volunteer and donation coordinators
Jeff and Sally Schneider*

"I extend a heartfelt thanks to your team for providing a delicious meal to our Kids' Haven Group Night participants on Monday, September 9th. We could not begin to offer our support program in its current format without the help of friends like you.... On behalf of our participants, our volunteers and our board, I thank you for sharing the mission of Kids' Haven with your generous gifts of both food and time. We look forward to a continued partnership with you and the Diamond Hill Neighborhood Association."

Diamond Hill on Facebook

The Diamond Hill Historic District has a facebook page dedicated to things going on both in the District and around town. We invite you to "Like" the page. At www.facebook.com search for "Diamond Hill Historic District."



come-producing buildings. If your property is income-producing, you may also be able to take advantage of federal tax credits. Also, information and assistance with tax-credit projects may be requested from DHR's Richmond office. Contact Elizabeth Tune at (804) 482-6093 or Julie Langan at (804) 482-6087.

A study conducted in 2007 (and updated in 2010) concluded that since the state tax credit program's inception in 1997, it has spurred private investment of approximately \$1.5 billion in the rehabilitation of more than 1,200 landmark buildings. This investment in turn has generated an economic impact of nearly \$1.6 billion in the Commonwealth and created more than 10,700 jobs and \$444 million in associated wages and salaries (for more information, see this January 2008 publication, "Prosperity through Preservation.").

This money represents costs paid into the construction industry for architects, contractors, craftsmen, and suppliers, with a corresponding increase in local employment. The capital improvement to the buildings results in significant increases in local property taxes, as well as a general enhancement in commercial activity. The rehabilitated buildings provide needed housing (in many cases, low- and moderate-income housing), and office, retail, and other commercial space. As a result, communities benefit from property improvements, blight removal, and increased occupancy of buildings in historic core neighborhoods.

Article from: www.dhr.virginia.gov/tax_credits/tax_credit.htm.



Prep your Pumpkins

Mari Smallshaw and friends will be judging the best pumpkin carvings on October 31st. All you need to do to be included is to have your pumpkin out on your front porch Halloween Evening.

Events Around Town

Lynchburg Historical Foundation

Story Time with Santa
Saturday, December 7th
*Miller Claytor House –
Riverside Park*

A reading and a visit from "the right jolly old elf himself." Three story times of approximately one hour are offered.

Story times begin at 1:00, 2:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. Cost is \$5.00 per child. Limited Seating.

Reservations are required. Please call 528-5353 by November 22nd for reservations.

Jones Memorial Library

**Civil War Christmas:
A Snapshot of Blue and Gray**
November 20th, 5:00 p.m.

Mary Kathryn McIntosh
Among the ironies that punctuate the wars of Christian nations, the annual celebration of the birth of the Prince of Peace stands out as perhaps the grimmest. This overview of Christmas during the American Civil War as it was observed on two home fronts and in the frontlines reaffirms William Tecumseh Sherman's 1879 remark that "War is Hell."

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Newsletter articles:
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Officers & Directors

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<i>Director 12-14:</i>	Mari White Smallshaw
<i>Director 12-13:</i>	Marla Potter
<i>Director 12-13:</i>	Fran Briley

Committee Chairpersons

<i>Neighborhood Beautification:</i>	Louis Kibby
<i>June Social:</i>	Jean Hannon
<i>Tours:</i>	Ray Pulliam
<i>Website:</i>	Mari Smallshaw
<i>Newsletter:</i>	Kathryn Becker Jeff Schneider
<i>Neighborhood Watch:</i>	L. Robert Halpin
<i>Children's Activities:</i>	Mari Smallshaw
<i>Auditor:</i>	Todd Leap
<i>Endowment Fund:</i>	Jim Carrington
<i>Remembrance Committee:</i>	Ray Pulliam
<i>Parliamentarian:</i>	Pat Gatti

Any updates to the above committee's chairpersons will be published in further releases.

Meetings

Business meetings are usually held at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of January, March, May, September and November. 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.

Diamond Hill Historic Society Membership Application and Renewal Form for 2014

MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATIONS

EXISTING ACTIVE MEMBERS: those who are the owners of D.H. property, plus adult members of their family who live in the residence, and whose dues are paid for 2013. Dues are \$10 per person.

PROSPECTIVE NEW ACTIVE MEMBERS: those who are new owners of D.H. property (plus adult members who reside in the residence), but not members of D.H.H.S., who wish to join for 2014. There is a one-time initiation fee of \$5 for each person, plus dues of \$10 for each.

PROSPECTIVE RE-ACTIVATED ACTIVE MEMBERS: those who were previously Active Members but whose dues lapsed. Dues for 2014 are \$10.

EXISTING ASSOCIATE MEMBERS: those who do not own property in D.H., but whose 2013 dues as Associate Members are current. Their dues for 2014 are \$10.

PROSPECTIVE NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS: those who do not own D.H. property and are not Associate Members, but wish to become Associates. Dues are \$10.

NON MEMBERS: can receive the 2014 Diamond Hill News by mail for \$5.

Please return tab below at the next meeting or by mailing to
DIAMOND HILL HISTORICAL SOCIETY, P. O. Box 803, Lynchburg, VA. 24504



Total

- Sign me/us as Current Active member(s) – dues \$10 per person _____
 - Sign me/us as New Active Member(s) – dues \$10 per person plus \$5 initiation per person _____
 - Sign Prospective Reactivated Active Members – dues \$10 per person _____
 - Sign Existing Associate Member – dues \$10 per person _____
 - Diamond Hill News – subscription \$5 per year. _____
 - I am (we are) enclosing the following contribution to support the work of DHHS* _____
- Check enclosed for _____

Name _____ Second Member _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____ E-mail _____

Signed _____ Date _____

*As a 501(c)(3) Organization, your donation to DHHS may be tax deductible. Please check with your tax advisor.

Photos from the September Open House and Happy Hour



A group of residents gathered at the September Diamond Hill Open House and Happy Hour potluck to meet new neighbors and chat with old friends. Make plans to join us for the Holiday Brunch Social December 7 at the Dugan-Woods, 503 Washington Street.

Neighbor Notes: Geoffrey Kershner and Endstation Theatre Company

Resident Geoffrey Kershner recently received news that his staging and adaptation of Shakespeare's *Taming of the Shrew* was selected to be the headline performance at the Virginia Theatre Association's annual conference (October 25-27, 2013). The show was part of the Endstation Theatre Company's summer series, and was performed downtown as they took the show on the road this past summer. At the festival it was performed in front of approximately 1,000 participants.

For the past two years, Endstation has been voted "Best Live Theatre" in the Lynchburg News and Advance, and was the recipient of the 2013 Virginias for the Arts "Rising Star" award. Their work was also featured in this year's "Random Acts of Culture," a project planned and put on by the Economic Development Council. This event included free lunch time performances at many nearby businesses and venues.

Geoff grew up in Amherst, VA. His dad was a professor of theatre at Sweet Briar College and still holds that position today. He received his BA in Acting from University of the Arts in Philadelphia. After college, he was selected as an apprentice for The Arden Theatre Company's Professional Apprenticeship Program. He received his MFA in directing from Florida State University's School of Theatre.

In 2006, Geoff brought fellow FSU graduate Krista Franco to his childhood home in the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains of Central Virginia. Both agreed that Central Virginia, would be an ideal home for a theatre company, and saw an

opportunity to bring quality, live theatre to the area. So they created Endstation Theatre Company, a non-profit organization focused on creating theatrical experiences for and about Virginia. Since then, Endstation has become a summer company, producing reinvented outdoor classics on the bucolic Sweet Briar Campus every year. Audiences can enjoy a picnic and a glass of wine, cider or beer while watching an incredible story unfold before them. Endstation has also produced plays and musicals that speak to the region. Endstation actors, interns, and staff members come from all over the country to produce this work in Central Virginia, making Endstation the area's only professional theatre company.

After running the company from afar nine months out of the year, Geoff was offered a faculty position at Lynchburg College, allowing he and his wife Ashley to live in Lynchburg year-round, and they



chose Diamond Hill for its lovely homes and convenient location. Geoff has taught acting and directing at a number of colleges and universities including Randolph College, Sweet Briar College, Florida State University, and Daytona State College. He is currently the Artistic Director for Endstation Theatre Company (www.endstationtheatre.org) and an Assistant Professor of Theatre at Lynchburg College.



Geoff and the cast prepare to take the stage at the Annual Conference.

More Events Around Town

Lynchburg Museum

Christmas Open House at Point of Honor

December 1, 12 – 4 p.m., Free
Point of Honor will host its 31st Annual Open House. Join us for tours of the home, period music, refreshments, and a special sale.

City Cemetery

www.gravegarden.org

Victorian Ornaments Workshop

November 30, 10 a.m. – Noon
Learn the history of decorating trees and make your own Victorian-style ornaments.

Wreaths Across America

December 15, 12 – 1:30 p.m.
After a brief ceremony, attendees lay evergreen wreaths on hundreds of veterans' graves in the Cemetery.

Holiday Open House

December 15, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
The Cemetery's historic museums will be open to the public and decorated for the holidays.

Downtown Events

Turkey Trot

November 28, 8 - 10 a.m.
<http://give.phfs.org/TurkeyTrot>

Yultide Square

December 3, 5 - 9 p.m.
A downtown-wide open house including retailers, restaurants and other businesses.

Lynchburg Christmas Parade

December 8, 5 - 8 p.m.
A Season of Lights and Laughter
Two hours of music, colorful floats, antique cars and much more.

Mistletoe Market

December 8, 15 & 22, 7 - 2 p.m.
Lynchburg Community Market
lynchburgcommunitymarket.com

First Fridays

First Fridays continues with even more downtown Galleries open on the First Friday of the month
Hours: 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Admission: FREE
(434) 528-3950
www.downtownlynchburg.com

Upcoming DHHS Events

**Next Meeting:
Tue., November 5th
7:30 pm.**

at the Long House (c.1902)
401 Washington St.
Hosts: Jeff and Marla Potter

**Neighborhood
Clean Up:
Sat., November 9th
9 a.m.**

Meet at the corner of
Madison and Washington

**Holiday Brunch:
Sat., December 7th
Brief meeting at 10,
Brunch afterward**

at the Deane House
(c.1850)
503 Washington St.
Hosts: Jennifer Dugan and
John Woods

