



# Spring 2015 *The Columns* A Publication of the Museum District Association

## Inside this issue...

<i>President's Column</i>	2
<i>Events Calendar</i>	3
<i>Spring Fling Announcement</i>	5
<i>Alley Clean-Up Thank You</i>	5
<i>Recycling Update</i>	7
<i>Town Hall Recap</i>	9
<i>Public Safety Update</i>	11
<i>Mother's Day House &amp; Garden Tour</i>	12-14
<i>NonProfit Corner</i>	19
<i>Words from Elected Officials</i>	20
<i>Neighborhood Business Profile</i>	22
<b>AND MORE....</b>	

## Be a Part of This Year's

### **MOTHER'S DAY HOUSE & GARDEN TOUR**

Sunday, May 10 ♦ 1 - 6 PM

Now in its 21st year, the 2015 Museum District Mother's Day House & Garden Tour provides a rare opportunity for guests to go inside some of Richmond's most beautiful and historic homes, gardens, and institutions.

The tour is not just about beautiful homes. Each year, proceeds from this annual event are reinvested in our neighborhood for beautification and enhanced safety. Additionally, donations are made to local nonprofits. Previous years' recipients have included Albert Hill Middle School, Byrd Theater Foundation, Fan Free Clinic and the FRIENDS Association for Children.

In order to continue these efforts, the Museum District Association relies on the well-attended Mother's Day House & Garden Tour. This popular event would not be possible without the support of those who graciously open their doors and the many guests who visit each year.



See pages 12-14 for more information on this year's tour.

### **BUY YOUR TICKETS TODAY ONLINE**

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

Advance tickets may be purchased through Saturday, May 9, at one of the following ticket locations:

- Cocoanut Jewelry | 1601 Willow Lawn Drive, #304D | 804.282.1335
- Ellwood Thompson's | 4 North Thompson Street | 804. 359.7535
- Martin's Food Market | 3522 West Cary Street | 804.353.0676
- Martin's Food Market | 7035 Three Thopt Road | 804.288.5263
- Mongrel of Carytown | 2924 West Cary Street | 804. 342.1272
- Tweed | 4035 Lauderdale Drive | 804.249.3900
- Williams & Sherrill | 2003 Hugueonot Road | 804.320.1730



Museum District -  
Richmond, VA

JOIN US FOR THE MDA SPRING FLING ON APRIL 30

More information on page 5.



# President's Column

Steve Thompson, 2015 MDA Board President

Dear Neighbors,

We made it through an unusually cold winter and most of us are enjoying the nice weather by walking around the Museum District, using the green space across from Albert Hill School, planting vegetables in the Community Garden next to Humphrey Calder, or playing tennis at the Patterson and Thompson courts. Spring is the perfect time of year to get to know our neighbors. The annual Spring Fling, a members-only event, is the perfect opportunity to meet new friends or catch up with longtime neighbors. The event will take place at the beautiful Muse home on Monument Avenue. Their backyard has plenty of open space, gardens, and covered areas, providing a perfect backdrop for our spring event. I hope to see you there on Thursday, April 30, and hear from you about how we can take the MDA to the next level this year.

One of the 2015 MDA board goals is to increase our visibility in the neighborhood and online. We hope that you not only see us out and about at different neighborhood functions, but also notice increased content on our website, Facebook, Twitter, and Nextdoor. A March Facebook post congratulated the RPD Third Precinct, which patrols the Museum District, on winning the Crime Reduction Flag for 2014. Those officers are responsible for our double digit reductions in crime within the Museum District. We also have begun taking a more active role in following up with city officials about See, Click, Fix items that are reported. In a city of over 200,000 people, we all know that everything will not be perfect and that

not all issues will be corrected immediately; however, we expect items of concern to be addressed. One value-add of MDA membership is the strong relationships the MDA board and committee members have worked hard to build. These relationships have enabled us to work quickly to address issues. One great example is the GRTC Pulse (BRT – Bus Rapid Transit). Our past president Andy Scudder worked with the Scott's Addition Boulevard Association and GRTC to move a planned station from the western side of 195 to Broad and Cleveland. This will allow residents to access the rapid transit line from the Museum District and Scott's Addition. At the MDA Town Hall meeting in March, I encouraged residents to share their thoughts about Bus Rapid Transit, the plan as shown at the time, and what items were of concern. We continue to be engaged with GRTC officials as the design process of the Pulse progresses to make sure the needs of Museum District residents and businesses are addressed.

Lastly, I want to say thank you to all renewing MDA members and welcome to our 78 new members. Your participation in making our neighborhood a better, more vibrant place to live, work, and play is important. I look forward to seeing you at our many events this year and I value your feedback.

Sincerely,  
Steve Thompson

Museum District Association  
Founded 1964  
PO Box 7186  
Richmond, Virginia 23221  
804-410-1632  
museumdistrict.org

The Mission of the Museum District Association is to unite, protect, and advance the interests of the neighborhood in order to realize its potential and improve the quality of life in the neighborhood and community.


## Advertise In The Columns

### Quarterly Advertising Rates


\$85	1/8 Page 3.67" x 2.4"
\$135	1/4 Page 3.67" x 4.9"
\$245	1/2 Page 7.5" x 4.9"
\$420	Full Page
\$735	2-Page Spread

**10% Discount**  
We offer a 10% discount for advertisers who pay for one year in advance.

Contact our Advertising Manager,  
Colleen Wallace at  
MDAnewsletterads@museumdistrict.org.



If you want to write on the wall in the Museum District make sure it's on Facebook!



**Museum District - Richmond VA**

# Mark Your Calendar!

## Upcoming Events in the Museum District

<u>What</u>	<u>When</u>	<u>Where</u>
Spring Fling*	April 30, Thursday 6-8 PM	Home of the Muses, 3319 Monument Avenue
Mother's Day House & Garden Tour	May 10, Sunday 1 - 6 PM	Throughout the Museum District
Summer Family Fun Picnic	TBD in June	Sign up for our email distribution to receive updates on the summer picnic and all of our events. Go to <a href="http://MuseumDistrict.org">MuseumDistrict.org</a> and enter your email address in the bottom right corner under "Mailing List."

\* Members-Only Event: Dues will be taken at the door or you can join/renew at [museumdistrict.org](http://museumdistrict.org), or by completing the enclosed membership form.

To be notified via email of all Museum District safety alerts, announcements, and events, please sign up for our eCards by visiting [museumdistrict.org](http://museumdistrict.org) and entering your email address in the bottom right corner under "Mailing List."

**For more details and updates visit [museumdistrict.org](http://museumdistrict.org)**

### *Board Of Directors*

#### **President**

Steve Thompson  
MDApresident@museumdistrict.org

#### **Past President**

Andy Scudder  
MDApastpresident@museumdistrict.org

#### **Secretary**

M.A. Powers  
MDAsecretary@museumdistrict.org

#### **Treasurer**

Karen Redford  
MDAtreasurer@museumdistrict.org

#### **Advertising Manager**

Colleen Wallace  
MDAnewsletterads@museumdistrict.org

#### **Programs**

Sue Patow  
MDAprograms@museumdistrict.org

#### **Zoning/Land Use**

Stephen Versen  
MDAzoning@museumdistrict.org

#### **Newsletter Editor**

Karen Headley  
MDAnewsletter@museumdistrict.org

#### **Communications & Website**

Erica Lamberta  
MDApr@museumdistrict.org

#### **Environment**

Kimberly Reiff  
MDAenvironment@museumdistrict.org

#### **Membership**

Claire Sanderson  
MDAmembership@museumdistrict.org

#### **House & Garden Tour Liaison**

Patrick Tanner  
MDAhousetour@museumdistrict.org

#### **City Liaison**

Zoe Anne Green  
MDAcityliaison@museumdistrict.org

#### **Public Safety**

Trey Mason  
MDAsafety@museumdistrict.org

#### **Code Enforcement**

Linda Dunn  
MDAcode@museumdistrict.org

#### **Newsletter Distribution**

MDAnewsletterdelivery@museumdistrict.org

To reach any of our board members by phone, please call 804-410-1632 and leave a message stating the person you wish to reach.

The board meets at 7:00 PM on the third Monday of most months in the conference room at St. Gertrude High School. If you would like to make a presentation, please email or call the president.

The community of  
**St. Mark's Episcopal Church**

individuals and families of all kinds  
 has long been committed to inclusion,  
 warmly welcoming all persons.



We invite You to Visit

Sundays at 8 and 10:30am

520 N. Boulevard 358-4771

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

HENLEY STREET THEATRE AND RICHMOND SHAKESPEARE  
 PRESENT

**SAM AND CAROL:**  
 A PLAY WHERE EVERYTHING IS TRUE

By DAVID L. ROBBINS

**APRIL 2 – 25, 2015**

**GOTTWALD PLAYHOUSE**  
 RICHMOND CENTER STAGE

Directed By  
**DR. JAN POWELL**



A part of the  
 Acts of Faith Festival

PURCHASE ONLINE AT  
[www.HenleyStreetTheatre.org](http://www.HenleyStreetTheatre.org)  
 BOX OFFICE  
 (800) 514-3849



2014-2015 Sponsors:  
 The E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation,  
 Moses D. Nunnally Jr. Trust, Dill Family Foundation,  
 John and Bucci Zeugner, and New Richmond Ventures



**\$29.99**

**Oil  
 Change**

(eco-friendly or  
 semi-synthetic)

Valid 30 days.

**TAKING CAR  
 OF BUSINESS**

AC | BRAKES | TUNE-UPS | REPAIRS | INSPECTIONS | PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE



**CUTSHAW AUTOMOTIVE®**

3105 Cutshaw Ave / (804) 355-6666 Convenient Automotive Services

Monday-Friday 7:30am-5:30pm & Saturdays 8am-4pm / [CutshawAutomotive.com](http://CutshawAutomotive.com)

# Museum District Association SPRING FLING

Thursday, April 30 • 6 – 8 PM  
Home of the Muses • 3319 Monument Avenue



Join us for this delightful Museum District Association **members-only** event.

When: Thursday, April 30, 6 - 8 PM  
Where: 3319 Monument Avenue  
Who: Adult (18+) MDA members

The annual Spring Fling brings together neighbors and community supporters in a casual setting. Last year, over 120 people attended!

If you are not a member, you may join instantly online via PayPal (preferred) at [museumdistrict.org](http://museumdistrict.org). We will also be accepting new memberships and renewals at the door.

**For planning purposes, RSVPs are a must.** If you plan to attend, *please let us know by Monday, April 27*, at [RSVP@museumdistrict.org](mailto:RSVP@museumdistrict.org) or leave a message at 804-410-1632.

## JOIN THE REVOLUTION!

How can I protect my cat from nasty parasites?

You can protect your cats from nasty parasites including irritating fleas, painful ear mites, dangerous hookworms and roundworms and, if left untreated, fatal heartworms. Thanks to **Revolution**, there's an easy fast way to protect your cat against all these parasites. There are no pills, no sticky sprays and no hassle! With simply a spot a month, **Revolution** protects your cat inside and out! **Revolution** is 100% satisfaction guaranteed. Call us today and ask how your cat can join the **Revolution!**

• **FAN VETERINARY CLINIC** •

307 North Robinson Street • Richmond 23220

(804) 358-3779

Jeffrey W. Taylor, DVM



Walk your pet to the Vet

## What a Crew.....



We would like to give a HUGE thank you to our fantastic volunteers who came out on April 4 to participate in our **Spring Alley Clean-Up**.



Led by Environmental Chair, Kimberly Reiff, these folks donated their time on a beautiful Saturday morning:

Michelle Baily	Chris Dunn	Andrew Jones
Polly Brickman	Teri Dunnivant	Emily Kowalski
Joe Crane	Jim Goetzinger	Karen Redford
Gordon Davies	Joyce Goetzinger	Zachary Reiff
David Doane	Catherine Ham	Harold Swartz
Linda Dunn	Karen Headley	

Thanks also to the Richmond City employees who were on hand to drive the trucks and help out: Chris Clark, Dont'e Carrington, Jermaine Wills, Derrick Battle, Karmiti Pauley I, Louis Blakey and Torey Gilmore.



Hopefully you have been enjoying some delicious Girl Scout cookies over the past several weeks. If you were able to purchase cookies from girls at the Kroger store in Carytown, you may have supported Troop 425, comprised of girls from William Fox Elementary School. The group began in 2009 with a group of 10 Daisy Scouts in the first grade, lead by Amy Gilbody. Today there are four leaders (Laura Brady, Pamela Embrey, Amy Gilbody, Emily McFarlane) and 50 girls in the troop spanning kindergarten through 5th grade! Museum District resident Laura Brady is one of four leaders for the troop. Her oldest of three daughters was a founding member of the troop which continues to grow as younger siblings and friends seek to have positive scouting experiences.



## FACTS ABOUT TROOP 425

- Troop 425 is the largest troop in Central Virginia! There are 74 registered members, 50 girls and 24 adults.
- Currently there are three levels: Daisies, Brownies, and Juniors that make up four groups that are determined by age: K & 1st grade Daisies, 2nd grade Brownies, 3rd grade Brownies, and 4th & 5th grade Juniors.
- The original Troop 425 founding scouts are now in middle school and still meet as Troop 5079 at the Belmont Library.
- There are five assistant leaders and over a dozen other registered parents who routinely assist in activities and events.

The troop is grateful that their community provides a rich learning environment for scouting. Natural areas along the James River, museums and historical resources, and many talented community members make scouting fun and educational for the girls of Troop 425.

Troop 425 is part of the Girl Scouts Commonwealth of Virginia Council  
4900 Augusta Avenue, Suite 200 Richmond, VA 23230 1-800-4SCOUT4

This is a new feature for *The Columns* highlighting scouting achievements and activities in the Museum District and surrounding neighborhoods. We welcome contributions from residents that are involved in the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts! Please contact [MDAsecretary@museumdistrict.org](mailto:MDAsecretary@museumdistrict.org) if you have news to share.

## MDA Looking for a Newsletter Editor

After seven years on the board in various positions, our newsletter editor Karen Headley will be rotating out of her position at the end of 2015.

If you are interested in the newsletter, enjoy working with page layout and are good at proofreading - this board position could be the volunteer opportunity for you.

To learn more,  
email [MDAnewsletter@museumdistrict.org](mailto:MDAnewsletter@museumdistrict.org)



**William K. Grogan**  
Attorney at Law

203 E. Cary Street  
Richmond, VA 23219

Phone: 804-788-4600

Fax: 804-788-4693



***See what all the  
excitement is about!  
Call for a visit!***

**College-preparatory  
Leadership Program for all grade levels  
All-girls grades 9 - 12**

For more information:  
call 804-822-3955  
[www.saintgertrude.org](http://www.saintgertrude.org)

# RICHMOND IS ON A ROLL WITH RECYCLING

Richmond has been selected as one of four cities to partner with Curbside Value Partnership (CVP) for a first of its kind private/public recycling agreement, called CVP's The Recycling Partnership. The program will help the City move forward with plans to provide alley collection in neighborhoods where trash is picked up in alleys. Currently recycling is limited to curbside pick-up. In January 2015 the City implemented the initial phase of a new recycling program that brought alley collection to 6,000 homes in select neighborhoods. The program will expand City-wide by the end of 2015.

## BE ON THE LOOKOUT

In late December approximately 6000 households in the initial phase-in received a postcard in the mail. In January those same residences received a green recycling cart with a blue lid. If you did not receive a postcard or a recycling cart, that's okay. That just means your neighborhood will be included when the program goes City-wide. As the City-wide rollout gets closer, you will receive your postcard and cart.

## HOW IT WORKS

The City will provide one 95 gallon recycling cart (green

can with a blue lid) to residents in single family dwellings or multi-family housing units with fewer than four units. Once you receive yours, you will be able to get your recyclables collected wherever your trash is picked up, including the alleys. In addition, each cart is equipped with a radio frequency identification device (RFID) tag tracking mechanism.

## RECYCLING PERKS

Residents who utilize the 95 gallon carts can participate in Recycling Perks, which is a program that rewards those who recycle by offering incentives from local businesses who participate in the program. The program has three major advantages: **(1)** promotes local merchants **(2)** helps divert waste from landfills, and **(3)** allows you to save money through discounts at participating merchants.

For more information and to sign up for the perks program, visit

[RichmondGov.com/RichmondRecycles](http://RichmondGov.com/RichmondRecycles)

*Information supplied by the City of Richmond*



## OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE

SPECIALIZING IN PLASTER MOLDING  
DRYWALL & PAINTING

**DAVID POLLARD**

(804) 539 6223  
DPollard@colonialplaster.com

**LARRY COOKE**

(804) 339 0624  
LCooke@colonialplaster.com

**WE BRING YOUR  
PLASTER BACK TO LIFE!**

WWW.COLONIALPLASTER.COM

# What it Means to be a Member of the MDA

*By Claire Sanderson, Membership Chair*

It's finally warming up, and after the winter we've had, now is the perfect time of year to get outside and enjoy our beautiful neighborhood! Whether it's walking, visiting the museums, gardening, or simply sitting on the porch, there are so many ways to enjoy living in the Museum District this time of year.

Please take the time this spring to consider giving back to your community by becoming a member of the Museum District Association (MDA). The MDA works hard to make our neighborhood the kind of place we love to live in – all year round.

## How?

We make sure the neighborhood stays beautiful and well maintained through code enforcement and environmental projects such as alley clean-ups. We work closely with law enforcement officials to provide a safe neighborhood. We stay connected with the community through email and social media. We host many events throughout the year to help neighbors get out and get to know each other. We ensure that the voices of our members are heard when decisions are made at the City level, and we produce the comprehensive, hand-delivered newsletter that you are reading right now.

These are just a few of the many ways that the Museum District Association brings value to our members and to all residents of the neighborhood. As you can see, the Museum District Association is busy making the neighborhood the best it can be. But we need your help.

By becoming a member, you can support all of these efforts, attend members-only events, and to vote on neighborhood issues and board appointments.

Joining is easy, and you can become a member of the MDA for less than the cost of a tank of gas. Membership is just \$15, with senior and household discounts available.

To join online, go to [MuseumDistrict.org](http://MuseumDistrict.org), and click on "membership." You can pay via credit card or through PayPal. While on the site, you can also sign up for our e-card communications, which keep our members up-to-date on neighborhood events and other information.

Your membership and donations are invaluable to the work we do, so whether you are just hearing about us for the first time, or are a past member considering renewing for 2015, we hope that you will choose to join the Museum District Association.



**B.K. Martin**  
CONSTRUCTION

EST. 1987  
CLASS "A" BUILDING CONTRACTOR  
A DESIGN/BUILD FIRM

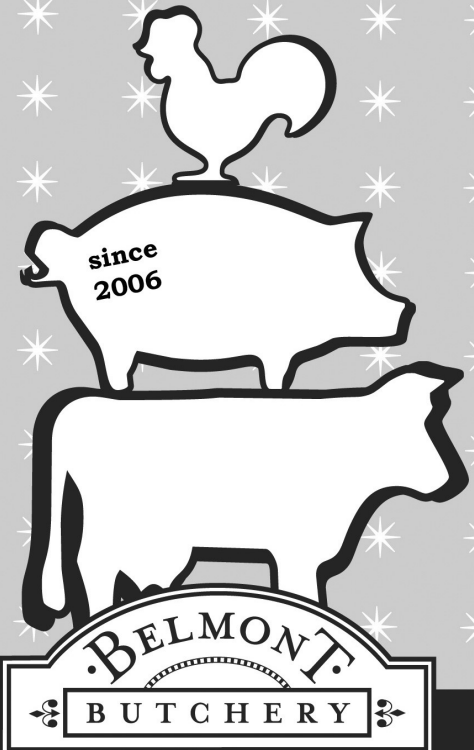
— Over 25 Years of Service —  
Creativeness, quality and reliable service makes  
B.K. Martin a better building experience.

Additions & Renovations | Kitchen & Bathroom Remodeling  
Unfinished Attics & Basements | Outdoor Kitchens & Patios  
Porches, Decks, Garages | Replacement Windows, Siding & Doors



**804.554.1013 • [www.bkmartin.com](http://www.bkmartin.com)**

[www.BelmontButchery.com](http://www.BelmontButchery.com)



since 2006

**BELMONT**  
BUTCHERY

(804) 422-8519 - 15 N. Belmont Ave.



# Town Hall Meeting Recap

On Wednesday, March 4, the Museum District Association hosted nearly 70 neighborhood residents and business owners at a Town Hall Meeting at St. Benedict School.

## New Recycling Carts

Ms. Kimberly Hynes, Executive Director of Central Virginia Waste Management Authority (CVWMA) and Mr. Bobby Vincent, City of Richmond Department of Public Works (DPW) Deputy Director addressed the new Recycling Carts coming to the Museum District. Recycling will be collected in 96 gallon carts from the alley, or wherever your supercan is currently collected. The collection schedule will remain as it is, every other Monday (for most of the Museum District). See article, page 7.

## Other DPW Issues and Questions

Concerns were raised about garbage trucks damaging the median on Roseneath when they exit the alleys. This is a very tight turn for the trucks.

If you witness the garbage trucks in the median, contact Bobby Vincent at (804) 646-6444 or [bobby.vincent@richmondgov.com](mailto:bobby.vincent@richmondgov.com) and he will address it with the driver.

Work is scheduled to begin in May on the Floyd Bike-Walk Street and will start in the Museum District with a traffic circle at the Dooley and Floyd intersection. Once the traffic circles are installed the crosswalk lines will be repainted.

## Fire & Police

Sector 311 Richmond Police Lieutenant Stith and Interim Deputy Fire Chief and Museum District resident Rob Baumgardner, along with Battalion Chief Jeff Currie and firefighters from Station 18 were on hand to discuss public safety. See our Public Safety Report on page 11 for more.



Firefighters from Station 18. From left to right: Battalion Chief Jeff Currie, David Runion, Corey Wilson, Patrick Stewart, Lt. Mark Chase, Interim Deputy Chief Rob Baumgardner



## Elected Officials

State Del. Manoli Loupassi, 1<sup>st</sup> District Councilman Jon Baliles, and 1<sup>st</sup> District School Board Representative Glen Sturtevant were on hand to answer questions.

Councilman Baliles reported that it is uncertain if there will be an “Alley Blitz” this year to seek out alleys in need of grading and graveling. Last year’s Council appropriated \$500k towards alley maintenance, however it may not be in this year’s budget. The North-South streets in the Museum District will be paved using a formula based on the number of vehicular travel miles per day. East-West roads rate higher and were paved recently.

## Thank You

Thank you to our public and elected officials for attending the meeting and updating us on issues and addressing our concerns. A special thank you goes to St. Benedict School for providing the meeting space and Zeus Gallery Café for providing the refreshments.

## Star Award

We took advantage of this meeting and having Bobby Vincent present to award him the 2014 Museum District Star Award for all of his efforts to help keep the Museum District streets clean and safe. Bobby is shown here with MDA Board member, Zoe Anne Green.



## Stay Tuned...

A second Town Hall Meeting is planned for Mid-September just before the UCI Bike Races. We hope to see you there!

Local Designers and Manufacturers  
of  
Fine Jewelry



In Carytown since 1974

**Repairs**                      **Appraisals**  
**Diamonds**                    **Gemstones**

**3011 West Cary Street**  
**Richmond, VA 23221**  
**(804) 353-9612**

Visit our online gallery at  
[www.j-s-i.com](http://www.j-s-i.com)

Monday-Friday 9:00am-5:00pm

## Cakes by Graham

*"More Than Just The Icing On The Cake"*



**\$10 off**

your next order

Call Today

**804.288.1920**

Please allow 2 weeks notice. Exp. 3.31.15

## MUSEUM DISTRICT HOME SALES REPORT

ADDRESS	SOLD PRICE	DAYS ON MARKET
3134 Hanover Avenue	\$250,000	14
12 S Auburn Avenue	\$260,000	34
3116 Grove Avenue	\$265,000	2
3156 Ellwood Avenue	\$275,000	50
3327 Stuart Avenue	\$335,000	64
120 S Colonial Avenue	\$389,000	4
3118 Grove Avenue	\$474,950	3

Based on closed single family home sales January 1 - March 13, 2015, as recorded in CVRMLS.

This report is courtesy of  
**Jennie Barrett Shaw, REALTOR®**



JOYNER FINE PROPERTIES  
319 Maple Avenue | RVA 23226  
jennie.shaw@joynerfineproperties.com  
804.545.6347

## "I DO" HAIR

A new neighborhood hair care studio  
is offering

**\$25 off any 2 services**  
(during same visit) now through  
March 31, 2015.

Meet new neighbor & Master Stylist  
Loys McLaughlin  
at 3500 Kensington Ave.  
**Suite D 2.**

For information or  
an appointment call

**399 - 4554.**

# Public Safety Report

By Trey Mason, Public Safety Chair

The Museum District started off 2015 with a relatively low amount of crime. This is the result of several factors including being cognizant and aware of our surroundings, reporting suspicious activity to the police, remembering to remove all items of value from our vehicles, and, most importantly, locking our cars.

We were fortunate to have Lieutenant Stith at our MDA Town Hall Meeting in March where he reported the total number of incidents from January and February was down 5% from the same period in 2014 and 8% from the same period in 2013. He was also pleased to share that Sector 311 now has a bicycle officer, Glendon Cox (profiled below), dedicated full-time to the Museum District and will soon be assigning an additional officer for Carytown. It is no wonder, with their great service that the 3rd Precinct was recognized as Richmond's Precinct of the Year for crime prevention. We cannot thank Lt. Stith and his team of officers enough for keeping our neighborhood safe.

We also heard from Interim Deputy Fire Chief (and Museum District resident) Rob Baumgardner about fire safety. While kitchen fires remain the number one cause of fires in the city, Deputy Chief Baumgardner also encouraged us to ensure we keep our chimneys safe by having them inspected and serviced at least once a year. Additionally, he reminded us that the Richmond Fire Department provides other services including smoke detector replacement, home fire safety surveys, and child car seat installations. Call 804-646-2500 for more information or to schedule one of these free services.

Finally, please sign up for Nextdoor. This is a great social network that encourages residents of the Museum District to share neighborhood information and tips for local services. The Museum District currently has more than 400 residents registered. Nextdoor.com



Lt. Stith addressing Museum District residents at the MDA Town Hall Meeting

*When you notice something out of place, including an abandoned vehicle, contact the police non-emergency line: 804-646-5100.*

## Richmond Police Department Spotlight, Meet Officer Cox



**Name:** Glendon Cox

**Title:** Police Officer II

**How long have you been with the RPD?** Since 2007

**How long have you been in Sector 311?** Since 2007

**What is something you regularly see while on patrol in the Museum**

**District?** I get the opportunity to see citizens enjoy the serene area they live in. On a routine basis, I see residents improving their quality of life by exercising, walking their pets, relaxing on their porches, reading, and embracing the nice weather.

**What is a fun fact that most people don't know about you?** In my leisure time I enjoy travelling around the world and visiting historical landmarks, indulging in local cuisines, and participating in outdoor activities such as zip lining, jet skiing, sailing, etc.

**What is the most exciting/rewarding thing about your job?** Instant gratification is my reward for helping RPD reach its goal of decreasing crime and improving public safety.

Additionally, educating citizens in the community on the importance of complying with the laws, exercising community awareness, and giving safety tips are all rewarding.

**What is a typical day like for you?** A typical day for me includes investigating minor crimes, making arrests, providing court testimony, and writing reports.

**Why is it important to report suspicious/out of place activity?** It's important to report suspicious activity because it provides the Police Department with a chance to investigate and observe the behavior or the activity. It contributes to reducing crime, creating and sustaining a safe environment, and gathering statistical data. Citizens are our eyes and ears in the community and we depend on them to keep us informed of criminal activity and problems we might not otherwise have known about. Information regarding suspicious activity, often provides the key to tying up loose ends to make an arrest of a particular suspect.

*"The most rewarding thing is knowing that when I end my shift, I feel like I have made a difference in someone's day or possibly saved their life. It's comforting to know that what I do on my job allows others to enjoy travelling safely to and from their jobs, and sleep comfortably at night in their homes."*

# 21<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL MUSEUM DISTRICT MOTHER'S DAY HOUSE & GARDEN TOUR SUNDAY, MAY 10, 2014 ■ 1-6 PM

*Each spring, visitors are welcomed to the Museum District for a day of beautiful gardens and homes in celebration of Mother's Day. The 2015 House & Garden Tour provides visitors a unique opportunity to cross the thresholds of some of Richmond's most historic and unique homes.*



## **7 SOUTH BOULEVARD HOME OF CARL & SUE PATOW**

The building permit for this striking French Tudor Revival, designed by Otis Kerr Asbury, was issued in 1916. Asbury designed a number of houses on Monument, where his own home was located, as well as the picturesque Ingleside Apartment Building at 603-605 Davis Street and a number of upscale homes in Byrd Park. Many of his designs are considered among the finest of the period.

## **2811 GROVE AVENUE**

### **MUSEUM DISTRICT BED & BREAKFAST, PROPRIETOR ANNA CURRENCE**

The fall of 2007 heralded the grand opening of the Museum District Bed & Breakfast located at 2811 Grove Avenue. Owner Anna Currence knew from the start that this home would be perfect for a bed and breakfast and was very pleased when a career change led her to Richmond and to what is now a successful B&B in one of the city's most beautiful and historic districts.



## **2901 GROVE AVENUE HOME OF PAGE EDGERTON**

This spectacular 1910 Craftsman-Spanish Mission inspired granite home was designed by prolific Richmond architect Charles M. Robinson to serve as his family home, office, and studio. Mr. Robinson came to Richmond in 1906 and was Richmond Public Schools' architect from 1910 to 1929. Some nearby examples of his work are William Fox Elementary, Albert Hill Middle School, and Thomas Jefferson High School, as well as the Altria (Landmark) Theater and many other significant Richmond buildings.



## **3154 FLOYD AVENUE**

### **HOME OF RICHARD & KATE BARRETT**

Upon entering this 1916 home, the first impression is of the light that streams in from oversized windows and washes the spacious foyer and stairway with natural radiance. After leaving Chapel Hill four and a half years ago, this abundance of light is one of the things that drew Richard and Kate Barrett to this lovely house.





**3200 FLOYD AVENUE**

**HOME OF PATRICK & MARGARET ANNE POWERS**

This spectacularly remodeled 1910 Victorian, prominently placed on the corner of Floyd and Auburn, is a place of honor. Patrick and Margaret Anne Powers named the home “Honor’s Corner” in recognition of its first resident, Honor Patterson. Just over a century later, after decades of decline followed by two years of meticulous renovation, the house has achieved a new honor, that of LEED Gold certification.

**2914 FLOYD AVENUE**

**HOME OF CARTER & ANNIE SNIPES**

With an inviting front porch and generous foyer, this spacious 1922 brick home is welcoming right from the start. Recently renovated, an open floor plan now easily accommodates their young family and their gift for entertaining. A massive dining room table, custom made by friend Steve McKenna from reclaimed American Chestnut, is the centerpiece of the renovated space. A stylish, well-equipped kitchen ensures that this table will never be empty for long.



**3009 GROVE AVENUE**

**HOME OF MARK & SHARON CONSIDINE**

This adorable 1914 row house exemplifies efficiency and the essential interplay between in-door and out-door living. The broad front porch offers beautiful views of the Reformed Presbyterian Church and Confederate Memorial Chapel, and the wide back deck, enticing fire pit, and double carriage house, complete with chandelier, provide ample space for entertaining.

**ADVANCE TICKET SALES - \$20**

Tickets are \$20 before the close of business on Saturday, May 9. Tickets purchased online may be picked up at the Hospitality Center Will Call, located at St. Mark’s Episcopal Church (520 N. Boulevard), on Sunday, May 10 starting at 12:30PM. **Purchase Tickets in Advance Online at [www.MuseumDistrict.org](http://www.MuseumDistrict.org)**

**DAY OF TOUR TICKET SALES - \$25**

'Day of' tickets may be purchased in person at the Hospitality Center, located at St. Mark’s. The ticket price on Sunday, May 10 is \$25. Tickets may be purchased with cash, check or credit card.

**HOSPITALITY CENTER**

St. Mark’s Episcopal Church  
520 North Boulevard

- Parking
- Ticket Sales and Will Call
- Refreshments and Restrooms

**A FEW FINAL NOTES**

- Please be aware that all sales are final; we regret we are not able to offer refunds.
- Also, the event will proceed, rain or shine.
- Unfortunately, we are unable to accommodate strollers and wheelchairs.

*For more information, please visit [www.MuseumDistrict.org](http://www.MuseumDistrict.org) or call (804) 410-1632.*



**HOUSE & GARDEN TOUR  
HONORARY CHAIR  
THE HONORABLE JONATHAN T. BALILES**



Jonathan T. Baliles is the current councilman for Richmond's West End 1<sup>st</sup> Voter District, a post he has held since January 2012.

Prior to being elected to Richmond City Council, Mr. Baliles worked in both the private and public sectors – working in the insurance industry and for the City in the Press Secretary's Office and as Assistant to the Director of the Department of Planning and Development.

In his near decade of service on the Museum District Association Board of Directors, including serving as president, Mr. Baliles dedicated himself to community and neighborhood issues. He is also a member of the Virginia Repertory Theater (Barksdale) Board, and the Programming Committee of the Richmond Folk Festival.

Mr. Baliles entrepreneurial spirit has always been evident in such ventures as the arts and entertainment web site [www.riversityrapids.com](http://www.riversityrapids.com), co-producing the RVA Street Art Festival, and other community-wide interests and projects.

A 1993 graduate of the University of Virginia (B.A.), he earned a master's degree in International Business Transactions from George Mason University in 1995. He is also a 2011 graduate of the Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership.

**CALL FOR HOUSE TOUR  
VOLUNTEERS**

We are still in need of volunteers for the day of the tour. Offering a choice of two shifts: 12:30 - 3:30 PM or 3:15 - 6 PM, volunteers receive a **complimentary ticket** to the tour and an invitation to our volunteer appreciation party the evening before the tour.

To learn more or to sign up for a shift, email [HTVVolunteer@museumdistrict.org](mailto:HTVVolunteer@museumdistrict.org).



**2900 GROVE AVENUE  
CONFEDERATE WAR MEMORIAL CHAPEL**

This 1887 Carpenter-Gothic chapel was designed by Marian J. Dimmock and built by Joseph F. Wingfield, with help from many of the veterans, using the recently invented steam saw and timber from the oak grove on the grounds of the R. E. Lee Camp Confederate Soldiers Home.



**520 NORTH BOULEVARD  
ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH - HOSPITALITY  
CENTER**

Founded in 1866 to serve Richmond's working class, St. Mark's was originally a mission church of St. James's. Worship was conducted in three successive structures in Jackson Ward. As the church grew, and in anticipation of continued growth, church leaders bought the property on the Boulevard in what was then the far West End so that they would have land on which to expand. The present Georgian Revival structure, designed by Baskerville & Lambert architects, was completed in 1922.

*Photos courtesy of Gerry Alferio  
Home write-ups contributed by Amanda Scudder*

## Special Use Permitting 101 *By Stephen Versen, Zoning & Land Use Chair*

As a continuation of the article in the winter issue, we will now review the basic process for pursuing a Special Use Permit (SUP).

**Do you need a Special Use Permit?** If you are considering changing your business or property – its structure or its use, or if you are putting up a new structure, you must first check with the City to see if it's allowable. If it is determined that underlying zoning regulations cannot be met, then a Special Use Permit must be awarded in order to make the change.

**Schedule a pre-application conference** - Applicants for SUPs are strongly encouraged to schedule a pre-application conference with the Division of Land Use Administration staff to review related Master Plan, land use and other issues that may be involved prior to making application.

**Meet with the MDA** - Applicants are also strongly encouraged to discuss the proposed special use permit with area civic associations (for our neighborhood, that's the Museum District Association (MDA), starting first with the MDA's Zoning and Land Use Committee). Much back and forth can occur between the applicant, the City and the relevant civic associations, as the merits and problems of the proposal are discussed, issues are explored, solutions developed and the implications of the SUP understood.

**Submit the application** - Eventually, a final application is submitted (the application fee starts at \$1,800, and many applicants also hire an attorney to assist with the process). Included with the application are letters from the civic association, neighbors or others. The process for receiving a letter from the MDA Board is to first present to the Zoning and Land Use Committee outlining for what the SUP is being requested. The committee then votes to recommend to the MDA Board that they either Oppose the SUP request or to Not Oppose the SUP request. The MDA Board then votes on the Committee's recommendation and the appropriate letter is sent to the City sharing the MDA's position.

**Review Process with the City** - The City's Division of Land Use Administration circulates the SUP application materials to the appropriate City agencies, which may include: Public Works, Building Permits & Inspections, Public Utilities, Water Resources, Zoning Administration, and Fire and Emergency Services. After this review, City staff will confer with the applicant regarding suggested conditions to be included in the ordinance and any suggested changes to the plans. If the property is located in a City Old and Historic District and the request involves exterior alterations, additions or new construction, the plans should also be reviewed by the Commission of Architectural Review. Once the plans are in final form, an ordinance is drafted and the plans are attached to and are made a part of the ordinance. The staff will forward a copy of the ordinance to the applicant for review and approval.

**City Council & Public Hearing** - The ordinance is then reviewed by the City Attorney's office and the City Administration. Once their review is complete, the ordinance is introduced to City Council and a public hearing is scheduled, usually thirty days after introduction. During this thirty-day period, public notice of the hearing is posted on the city website and in a daily newspaper. Notices are also mailed to the owners of all properties within 150 feet of the subject property. One week prior to the City Council public hearing, the Planning Commission, after receiving a report from the Department of Planning and Development Review, considers the proposed special use permit and forwards a recommendation to City Council. The Planning Commission welcomes information submitted prior to the meeting and may ask questions of proponents and opponents during the course of its deliberation on the ordinance. Six affirmative votes of City Council are required to adopt a special use ordinance.

**Once the Ordinance is Adopted** - If the special use ordinance is adopted by City Council, it becomes law. The applicant then has a specified time period in which to apply for a building permit to implement the special use permit.

In general, the approval process for special use permits takes between 120 to 180 days.

### LONG & FOSTER REALTORS®



#### STRAWBERRY STREET SALES IN THE HEART OF RICHMOND

A Boutique Approach to Customer Service with a  
National Network to DRIVE RESULTS

409 Strawberry Street

[www.strawberrystreetsales.com](http://www.strawberrystreetsales.com)

804-340-0840



CHRISTIE'S  
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE



hardwood  
floors  
{circa 1918}

expanded kitchen  
with outdoor living space  
{very 21st century}

Cabinetry &  
Construction  
INCORPORATED

*We bring new life to old homes.*

804 497 3491 | WWW.CABINETRY-CONSTRUCTION.COM



***RVA's most famous neighborhood tavern***

CRAFT BEER TASTINGS • TRIVIA GAMES • GAME NIGHT SPECIALS

Items Made Fresh

20 Seasonal Rotating Craft Beer Taps!

20% Discount on Food for Students (no other discounts apply)



**Happy to be in the Museum District**



**(804) 355-3701**

**600 N Sheppard St. • Richmond, VA 23221**

On the corner of Sheppard and Patterson in the "Devil's Triangle" (Museum District)

[www.buddysplace.net](http://www.buddysplace.net)  

**★ DAILY SPECIALS ★**

**Monday**

Karaoke 10pm

**Tuesday**

Live Trivia 8pm

**Wednesday**

1/2 OFF Basic Burger & Fries

**Thursday**

Live Music

**Friday**

TGIF!

**Saturday & Sunday**

Bogo Basic Breakfast

Before Noon!

Game Day Specials

**10% OFF**

**Food \$25 or more**

*excludes beverages and tax*

*Expires 5/17/15*

## Belmont Library

*Inform \* Enrich \* Empower*



*The Columns* is pleased to introduce its new column spotlighting the wonderful offerings from our local library.

The mission of the Richmond Public Library is to inform, enrich, and empower Richmond's residents: to enrich lives and expand opportunities for all citizens by promoting reading and the active use of cultural, intellectual, and information resources through a dedication to excellence and professional service.

In addition to books, e-books, recorded books and DVD's, we offer programs and classes, meeting room use, wireless Internet access, fax service, and public use PCs. Notary service is also available by appointment at each library.

### ***Story Time Programs and Other Events***

**Book Babies** - Mondays 3:30 PM and Tuesdays 10:30 AM  
Interactive story time for infants birth - 18 months with an adult

**Toddler Time** – Tuesdays: 11:15 AM  
Interactive story time for ages 18 - 36 months with an adult

**Preschool Story Time** – Thursdays: 11:15 AM & 3:30 PM  
Interactive story time with songs, stories and rhymes for ages 3 - 5 with an adult

**Music and Movement** – Mondays: 3 PM ages 1- 6.  
Your child will be enriched in this environment full of songs, storytelling, fine and gross motor movements, and social interactions, aiding in his/her development. Scientific research reveals that exposure to music enhances the learning process in young minds.

**Computer Training** - Wednesdays: 12 - 2 PM  
Belmont will offer free one-on-one computer sessions for adults. Sign up in advance at the desk for a half-hour session.

**E-Reader Tutorials** - Wednesdays: 12 - 2 PM  
Bring your questions about E-books, E-readers, online resources or Microsoft applications, etc.

The Belmont Library is located at 3100 Ellwood Avenue  
and is open Monday through Saturday:  
Mondays & Wednesdays 12 - 8 PM  
Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays 10 AM - 6 PM  
Saturdays 10 AM - 5 PM

More information can be found at  
[RichmondPublicLibrary.org](http://RichmondPublicLibrary.org)

## FLOYD AVENUE BIKE-WALK STREET

On February 23 the Planning Commission voted 4 to 2 to pass the Floyd Avenue Bike-Walk Street. The compromised plan leaves the majority of the initial proposal intact but will replace four traffic circles with raised crosswalks. The purpose of the traffic impediments, including raised crosswalks, bump-outs, and traffic circles, is to limit the frequency that bikes have to stop and start and to slow vehicle traffic.

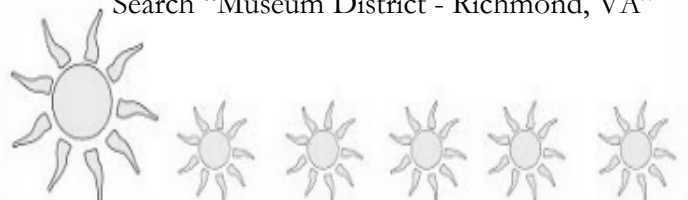
With the City Planning Commission's approval, construction is expected to begin this spring, beginning in the Museum District and extending into the Fan later this year. So what does this mean for the Museum District? We will see traffic circles installed at the intersections of Floyd Avenue and Dooley, Auburn, and Belmont Avenues. In addition to the traffic circles, there will be bump-outs installed at the intersections of Floyd Avenue at Auburn and Belmont Avenues. Please direct questions to the MDA Public Safety Chair at [mdasafety@museumdistrict.org](mailto:mdasafety@museumdistrict.org).

## FAMILY FUN PICNIC

Every year, the Museum District Association likes to celebrate the end of a school year by hosting a Summer Family Fun Picnic. This year's picnic will take place in June. A date and location will be announced shortly. Be sure to sign up for the MDA email distribution list to receive the announcement about this year's picnic in your inbox.

**Go to [MuseumDistrict.org](http://MuseumDistrict.org) and enter your email in the bottom right corner under "Mailing List."**

You can also stay connected by liking us on Facebook.  
Search "Museum District - Richmond, VA"



# UCI ROAD WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

On February 27, Richmond 2015 officially announced the final race courses! The small portion of the Museum District along Boulevard is included in the below routes:

- Team Time Trial Training - Saturday, September 19 from 9 AM to 12 PM
- Women's Team Time Trial – Sunday, September 20 from 11:30 AM to 12:55 PM
- Men's Team Time Trial – Sunday, September 20 from 1:30 PM to 3:35 PM

These courses will originate at Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens on Lakeside Avenue, turning onto Hermitage Road then onto North Boulevard, then left at the Stonewall Jackson Monument onto Monument Avenue. The Museum District, which includes the east and west sides of Boulevard, is delighted to have our neighborhood included in the race.

Your MDA has been active and engaged with Richmond 2015 since early last year and, most recently, our president Steve Thompson attended the February 25 pre-public announcement of the race courses, and our communications chair Erica Lamberta attended a

Look for this logo around town. Businesses display this logo to show their support of the event. →



marketing seminar on how to enhance visibility during the UCI Road World Championships.

Monica Callahan from Richmond 2015 attended the March 2015 MDA board meeting to present an update on the race and answer questions. Monica first met with the MDA Board in early 2014 before the race courses were announced.

In preparation for the over 400,000 spectators and 300 million television viewers that will be watching the races, the MDA will be having a fall alley clean-up and another Town Hall shortly before the Mid-September event. While spectators are in town for the nine days of races they will be venturing out to enjoy our local amenities. Now is the perfect time to spruce up the Museum District because the world will literally be seeing it. To get the latest information on the UCI Road World Championships please visit [Richmond2015.com](http://Richmond2015.com).

## COME OUT AND RUMMAGE AROUND in FRONT OF THE FINE RESTAURANTS OF THE "DEVIL'S TRIANGLE"



Friends & Family of the Restaurants on the Triangle are collaborating on a Giant Yard Sale!! Stroll around the Patterson & Sheppard Streets Triangle and find Great Deal's on Treasures!

**BANDITO'S,  
DECO, BUDDY'S &  
CALIENTE  
SAT. MAY 9th  
10AM-4PM**



# NonProfit Corner – Donate Life Virginia

*Contributed By Chris Nalley, Museum District Resident and Organ Transplant Recipient*

*In order to express the ultimate GIFT OF HOPE that someone can provide by choosing to be an organ, eye and tissue donor, I would like to share the letter I wrote to my donor family.*

## Dear Donor Family,

It is certain that this letter may be as difficult to read, as it is difficult for me to write. It is both painful and joyous. The reason is to thank you. How do you say thank you when it means that because of you and your loved one, I am alive to speak at all?

I can try, though. I must try, because I think you should know that this life that was saved is a life of promise. My promise to you is that I will never waste one moment of it. The importance and immense meaning of the gift you and your loved one have given me, truly cannot be expressed in words.

Thirty-five years ago I was born with a disease called Cystic Fibrosis. This genetic disease affected me mostly in my lungs, but can cause damage to your pancreas and reproductive organs as well. Most of my childhood as well as some of my adult life I spent in and out of hospitals with lung infections and pneumonia. As I grew older, the antibiotics I took to combat these infections became less and less effective as my body built a resistance and the infections themselves mutated and became harder to control.

Despite this disease I became very independent, and driven to succeed. After high school, I had to make the choice of joining the work force full time to ensure I always had health insurance.

In early January of 2005, I developed a walking pneumonia over the course of a few months. I was hospitalized. The only way to treat the pneumonia fully was for the doctors to put me in a drug induced, paralytic coma. This is where I laid for over five months. An avid sports fan, I missed that year's Super Bowl, March Madness, and the NBA playoffs...even my own birthday.

When I finally woke up, I was a shell of my former 6'1, 160lb self. Weighing now only 126lbs, I was dependent on a ventilator, a feeding tube, and various machines and IVs for life. It took another month at a ventilator rehabilitation facility, where I relearned how to walk, talk, eat, as well as other basic motor skills, before I was able to return to my home. Unfortunately due to the grapefruit size pneumonia, and scarring in my lungs, I was forced to be on 24/7 oxygen. Even walking down the hall to simply use the bathroom was like running a marathon. I was no longer independent.

It was suggested I be listed for a double lung transplant at the University of Virginia. After about a year of waiting, I received a call at 6am on July 6<sup>th</sup> 2006. The doctor on the other end stated that they had a set of lungs for me and that

I needed to get to UVA immediately. After a twelve-hour surgery I woke up, and took the longest, deepest breath I had ever taken in my life. If you have ever had a mint in your mouth and taken a deep breath on a cold winter day, that cooling sensation, that is what I felt through my whole chest after that first breathe.

Because of you and/or your loved one's decision to become an organ donor I had an extra chance at life. I took advantage of my new lease on life. Five months after the lifesaving surgery, I ran my first race, an 8k. Next was the Richmond Marathon in 2009. I also collected two flag football championships here in Richmond, as well as a gold and silver medal in 3 on 3 basketball at the U.S. Transplant Games. The Games are an Olympic style event for organ recipients.

It has not all been about athletics. I am thrilled to report that I am engaged to be married which would never have been possible without this amazing gift of life. I have also become an organ donation ambassador. Both the revelation that I had the opportunity to leave the hospital but your loved one didn't; as well as the fact that I want to help others who continue to wait on a lifesaving transplant by promoting the importance of donation, are the driving forces that get me out of bed on a daily basis.

In closing, I want you to know this gift will not be wasted. I will honor and value this gift as long as I may live. Someday soon I would like to meet and thank you, and your family in person and share in the joy of something great coming out of what I am sure was a tragedy.

Forever Thankful,  
Chris Nalley, Museum District Resident



More than 123,000 people across the nation are waiting for a second chance at life. 3,200 of those waiting are right here in Virginia. Sadly, 21 people die each day because an organ is not donated in time.

To learn more about organ, eye, and tissue donation and to sign up to be a donor, please go to [DonateLifeVirginia.org](http://DonateLifeVirginia.org).

**Give hope. Save lives.**



# A Word from 1st District City Council Member

By Jon Baliles



Over the course of the last dozen years many have joined me in becoming more acutely invested in the success and future of Richmond. As winter transitions into spring (hopefully), our attention often turns to thoughts of washing away winter's salt and grime, opening windows, enjoying the outdoors, and planning and planting our landscapes and gardens.

Springtime also signals the vital planning season of our City's budget. Observing this process from both a professional level and as an active member of my community, one thing has become clear: the choices we make in the budget matter. The priorities we focus on are the rudder of our ship and steer us where we want – and need – to go. In the past, some past investments have been good for Richmond's long-term vitality, while others have never even left the harbor.

Furthermore, transparency and openness in local government operations and deliberations are imperative for confidence and trust between the citizens and the government. Unfortunately, that has been in short supply in recent years at City Hall and has only made an already skeptical public more wary. Improving that transparency is a responsibility I take seriously and for which I will continue to advocate.

Comments and suggestions from my constituents, as well as my own experience, have led to a belief that citizens expect government to fund the core needs of Richmond and do so accordingly.

For most people, local government funding is relatively simple to identify:

- A significant **public safety** presence in all of our neighborhoods;
- **Schools** that graduate students to college and/or have life-ready work or trade skills – and **school facilities** that are healthy and safe;
- Tackle **numerous social issues** and our high **poverty** rate;
- Paved **streets** that don't damage vehicles, bicyclists, or pedestrians;
- **Frequently updated utilities** to one of the country's oldest water and sewer systems;
- A modern **financial billing system** that keeps track of payments without confusion or invalid charges, and;
- Support of the **arts, recreation and housing** initiatives;
- **Economic development** that capitalizes on the strengths of Richmond's culture – our history, business-friendly climate, quality of life, and creative and entrepreneurial spirit.

Funding these priorities should be relatively straightforward. Relying on big, "shiny" projects to grab headlines or a 1970's-mindset of issuing general obligation bonds for

projects will only continue to jeopardize our long-term bond rating and debt service capacity, a formula that is not sustainable.

What we should do is learn from previous successes and replicate them for our core needs. For example, the investment in Richmond's public safety sector over the last decade has created a safer city. The Richmond Police and Fire Departments are not only connected with and appreciated by the neighborhoods they serve; they have also received attention nationwide for their effectiveness and success. Community policing has led to steep declines in crime, especially violent crime. While some may still consider the city "dangerous," those of us who walk our neighborhoods daily know that it is incredibly safer as a result of the public safety sector's outreach and community involvement. Funding these institutions at the appropriate levels is vital to positive outcomes.

We are also at the crossroads of the future for the public school system. We all know that our public schools have not lived up to their potential. However, under the determined leadership of Superintendent Dana Bedden and the School Board, tough choices will be made that affect real change - with reason and planning instead of emotional hysteria and fear of change. Dr. Bedden said recently that we can, "... make Richmond schools the district of choice, not last choice." That will only happen if we make it a priority over the next decade. It worked for public safety and it can work for public schools.

The City has to better address our distressingly high poverty rate and create opportunities and repair the overburdened Department of Social Services whose past mismanagement does not help raise those in need to levels of independence. Richmond is also an old city with many aching joints and also needs to focus on maintaining our aging infrastructure. Streets, sewers, and storm water drainage issues (which affect alleys, river, and the Chesapeake Bay) require constant vigilance.

These are the types of core needs those in my district and others across the city want us to focus on in this and future budgets. They are not interested in unfathomable deals, "flashy" numbers, hollow promises, or hidden costs. Nor am I.

Richmonders know that our city is on the verge of future better future, but it comes down to choices we make today. Our fundamental focus should be on core needs that deliver public services on time and on budget, with efficiency and without the fanfare.

Visit [JonBaliles.com](http://JonBaliles.com) to join his mailing list.



**TOP 50 HOSPITAL  
IN THE NATION  
9 YEARS IN A ROW.**



**Top 10% in the Nation for  
Overall Cardiac Services**



**Top 10% in the Nation for Stroke Care**



**Top 10% in the Nation for  
Outstanding Patient Experience**



**Retreat Doctors' Hospital**  
*HCA*<sup>Va</sup>

AN HCA AFFILIATE / A CAMPUS OF HENRICO DOCTORS' HOSPITAL

HENRICO DOCTORS' / PARHAM DOCTORS' / RETREAT DOCTORS'

# Neighborhood Business Profile



Contributed by **Jacquie O'Connor, Managing Director**

Henley Street Theatre and Richmond Shakespeare are two local companies that have joined together to become Richmond's center for classic theatre and contemporary works sparked with genius. Led by Dr. Jan Powell, Artistic Director, and Jacquie O'Connor, Managing Director, HST/RS is dedicated to creating fiercely excellent theatre that transforms, thrills, and moves audiences.

Jacquie is a proud founding member of Henley Street Theatre. She moved to Richmond from New York twenty-six years ago, first as an actress on tour with Theatre IV, becoming the business manager for Barksdale Theatre before founding Henley with Alex Previtara. She is well known in town for her performances in dramas and musicals, and for her active community leadership in the arts, winning a 2015 Style Weekly Women in the Arts award.

Jan is Oregon-born, arriving here in early 2012 as the guest director of *Macbeth* for Richmond Shakespeare. She found the city and its residents to be irresistible, and is now a happy resident of the Museum District. This is her third time as an Artistic Director—she founded Tygres Heart Shakespeare at the Portland (Oregon) Performing Arts Center, and later became the artistic leader for Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival, in its magnificent setting on the shore of the lake.

Both women are excited and inspired by the opportunity to grow their theatre company in Richmond's burgeoning arts scene. In addition to receiving a major grant from the NEA which has allowed them to offer a free one-hour production of *Romeo and Juliet* to the Richmond inner-city schools, their latest triumph was bringing a full theatrical run of the award winning play, *The Lion in Winter* back to the VMFA's Leslie Cheek Theater, the former home of TheatreVirginia (its doors closed in 2003 after nearly fifty years of operation). For two years, Jan and Jacquie worked with VMFA staff including Alex Nyerges, Cathy Turner, and John Hailey, to negotiate the re-opening of the theatre. Everyone's labors were rewarded with the opening of *The Lion In Winter* on February 6 this year, starring two of Richmond's favorite actors: David Bridgewater and Melissa Johnston Price in the leading roles of Henry and Eleanor (made famous by the 1968 movie starring Peter O'Toole and Katharine Hepburn). The show was showered with rave reviews, packed houses, and audiences reliving fond memories of years of theatre-going in the beautiful space.

"We were honored to be allowed to bring theatre back to the VMFA," says Jan. "We knew the rich history of the space, and wanted to produce a show that resonated with the type of theatre that Richmonders have always loved." Jacquie adds, "Our partnership with the VMFA has been deeply rewarding. We are so grateful for the hard work of the Museum's staff, and the warm generosity of the patrons who thanked us for bringing

them back to the Cheek. We hope to return soon and continue adding our work to the notable legacy of that beautiful space."

HST/RS is perhaps best known for the Richmond Shakespeare Festival, resident at historic Agecroft Hall for the last seventeen years. Jan says that the Festival's important location was the first thing that brought Richmond to her attention. "When I saw pictures of Agecroft and understood the historical significance of producing Shakespeare there, I knew I had to see it!" Its origins go back as early as 1291 in Lancashire, England; it was improved to resemble its current appearance just a few years before Shakespeare was born. The house was crumbling until it was purchased and brought across the Atlantic in 1925 by Thomas and Marion Williams, and rebuilt in the Windsor Farms neighborhood under the watchful eye of architect Henry G. Morse.

Jan enthused, "We perform in the only authentic Elizabethan courtyard theatre in America. This site holds tremendous significance in the cultural history of the western world. We know that Shakespeare's own company performed in houses in the countryside surrounding Agecroft, so it is very likely that they also performed at our house. Knowing that our voices echo off the very same timbers as Shakespeare's players is a thrill beyond belief. And, the experience is absolutely lovely, on a balmy night with the moon aglow overhead and a gentle breeze wafting through the trees."

Jacquie glows: "How did we get so lucky? Shakespeare under the stars at Agecroft is a beloved Richmond tradition. Our guests can picnic on the banks of the James, serenaded by our Festival Young Company, then go into the courtyard and sit in comfortable chairs to enjoy top-quality performances of the greatest plays in the English language. It's a true highlight of Richmond in the summer." This summer's 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Richmond Shakespeare Festival at Agecroft includes, *Much Ado About Nothing*, running June 4-28 and *Hamlet*, running July 9 – August 2.

The next challenges for Jan and Jacquie?

There are two: announcing their new name at their Bootleg Ball on May 16, and finding a permanent home for their mainstage productions from fall to spring. The horizon is bright for this plucky theatre company!



See the HST/RS ad on page 4.



# No One Knows Your Home Better Than You Do.

---

And No One Knows  
What It Takes To Sell  
Your Beloved Museum District Home  
Better Than Realtor® Chris Small!

*Contact Chris today to find out how he can get your home sold.*

804.350.0879


chris@smallrealestate.com

www.chrissmallrealestate.com

CHRISTOPHER  
**SMALL**

*A Visible Passion for  
Richmond Real Estate*



Richmond, VA 



**Museum District Info Line  
804-410-1632**

**City**

Mayor Dwight Jones  
646-7970

Chief Administrative Officer  
Byron Marshall  
646-7978

Citizens Assistance  
646-7000 or 311

Public Works  
(Leaf and trash collection, sidewalks and tree  
maintenance, etc.)  
646-0999

Building Permits, Inspections  
646-6955

Environmental/Housing Code  
646-7448

**Police & Fire**

Emergency  
911

Fire Non-emergency  
646-6640

Police Non-emergency  
646-5100

Crime Stoppers  
780-1000

3rd Precinct  
646-1412

**City Council**

Jon Baliles (1<sup>st</sup> District)  
646-5349  
jonathan.baliles@richmondgov.com

Charles Samuels (2<sup>nd</sup> District)  
646-6532  
charles.samuels@richmondgov.com

Parker Agelasto (5<sup>th</sup> District)  
646-6050  
parker.agelasto@richmondgov.com

**General Assembly**

Del. Manoli Loupassi (68th) - 440-6222

Del. Betsy Carr (69th) - 698-1069

Del. Jennifer McClellan (71st) - 698-1171



**MUSEUM  
DISTRICT  
ASSOCIATION**

Member Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address\*: \_\_\_\_\_

\*By providing your e-mail address, you will be joining the MDA eNewsletter distribution list. Check here \_\_\_\_\_ if you DO NOT want to receive email updates about MDA events.

I would like more information about volunteering with the MDA. Volunteer opportunities are detailed in the *About* section of our website: [museumdistrict.org](http://museumdistrict.org).

Types of Membership**		Amount	Check Desired Membership Level
Individual	Includes one membership		
	Member	\$15.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Senior Member (65+)	\$10.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Household	Includes two memberships		
	Household	\$25.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Senior Household (65+)	\$15.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Business	Includes two memberships	\$35.00	<input type="checkbox"/>

\*\*Members who do not live or own property in the Museum District are non-voting FRIENDS of the MDA.

Would you like to contribute additional support to the efforts of the MDA?

If you wish to donate additional tax-deductible gifts to support the efforts of the MDA, please indicate the amount of the enclosed gift. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*CONSIDER JOINING ONLINE -- IT IS EASY!\*\***

Just visit [MUSEUMDISTRICT.ORG](http://MUSEUMDISTRICT.ORG) to pay with a credit card via PayPal

\*\*\*Dues and gifts are tax deductible. Please make checks payable to the MDA \*\*\*

P. O. Box 7186 RICHMOND, VA 23221-0186 (804) 410-1632 MUSEUMDISTRICT.ORG

***West of Boulevard Historic District Plaque Order Form***



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Enclose a \$75 check, payable to Museum District Association and mail to: P.O. Box 7186, Richmond, VA 23221-0186. Turnaround depends upon meeting a minimum order.

Properties located within the nationally registered "West of Boulevard Historic District" will be issued a West of Boulevard plaque. Properties on 2800 - 3300 blocks of Monument Avenue, West Franklin Street, south side of West Grace Street, and side streets within are part of the Monument Avenue Historic District and should contact: Fan Woman's Club, P.O. Box 4321, Richmond, VA 23220.