



Winter 2017 **The Columns** *A Publication of the Museum District Association*

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Museum District Association Gains Five New Board Members

The Museum District Association is always looking for new opportunities and better ways to engage the community and advance the association's mission. The board recently added five new members, bringing the total size of the board to 18 members.

Several of the board members are filling new positions on the board — School Liaison, Technology Chair and Business Liaison.

In addition, the board created a newsletter committee to enhance the production of *The Columns*. The members are: Liz Bryant, Scott Cannady, Carolina Chilton, Ben Hopkins, Steve Jones, Justin Sizemore and Louise Turton. James Shea, Newsletter Editor, is the chair.



*Museum District -
Richmond, VA*



President's Column

M.A. Powers, 2016 MDA Board President

It is my privilege to return for another year of leadership on the Museum District Association board of directors. The board is diverse, professional and enthusiastic about serving the neighborhood. We have some projects from 2016 to finalize and a few new items for 2017 in the works.

Last year the MDA board sought to analyze the effectiveness of our printed newsletter, "The Columns." Specifically, we were concerned about rates of readership and resident engagement. The board conducted a survey and held a focus group to answer important questions and to chart the future course of the newsletter. The results clearly indicated that "The Columns," in its printed format, is a vital tool for information dissemination and resident engagement. Several deficiencies were identified and a list of challenges emerged. Previously the newsletter was produced by the board of directors, but now the work is undertaken by a group of talented and dedicated resident volunteers. This year will be a transition year with some changes in format, style and content. We will bring you more public interest stories and business spotlights, as well as timely information concerning the district. Since "The Columns" is a quarterly publication, we hope that you will connect with us through online outlets such as our website museumdistrict.org, Facebook, Nextdoor and our weekly email communications.

We have added two new liaison positions: school liaison and business liaison as well as a technology chair. Hannah Abbey will be working with our local school leaders in an effort to help Museum District residents best support the school system. Jennifer Fleming will be connecting with our neighborhood businesses to ensure that we, as residents, support them and that they are aware of the needs of the community. Kevin Bojarski will help to enhance technology resources.

In conjunction with Richmond Police, the organization of a Neighborhood Watch program is underway. With the escalation of crime in recent months, our goal is to both reduce it and get the word out to criminals that our community is not an easy target.

In May we will host the 23rd annual Mother's Day House & Garden Tour. The tour is an educational event, informing guests from all over Central Virginia about the unique character and historical significance of our homes. It is also our highest revenue producing event and funds many of our neighborhood projects.

Whether you are picking up the newsletter for the first time or are a longtime member and faithful reader, I hope you will consider joining (or renewing) your MDA membership for 2017. I also urge you to actively engage with your neighbors and become involved in the community. I look forward to seeing you soon!

Museum District Association
Founded 1964
PO Box 7186
Richmond, Virginia 23221
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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.

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Museum District - Richmond VA

Mark Your Calendar!

Upcoming Events in the Museum District

<u>What</u>	<u>When</u>	<u>Where</u>
Daylight Savings Time ends	March 12, Sunday 2 a.m.	Turn clocks forward an hour
Town Hall	March 8	TBA
Mother's Day House & Garden Tour	May 14, Sunday 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.	Throughout the Museum District

To be notified via email of all Museum District safety alerts, announcements, and events, please sign up for our emails by visiting Membership Resources on our website, MuseumDistrict.org.

For more details and updates visit MuseumDistrict.org

Board Of Directors

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MDApresident@museumdistrict.org

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Museum District Woman's Club Liaison -
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School Liaison - Hannah Abbey
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Technology - Kevin Bojarski
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Zoning - John Reyna
MDAzoning@museumdistrict.org

Committee Members

House Tour - Arax Boghosian
MDAhousetour@museumdistrict.org

Newsletter Ads - Steve Jones
MDAnewsletterads@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 p.m. on the third Monday of most months at All Saints Presbyterian on Grove Avenue. If you would like to make a presentation to the board, please email or call the president.

Resources Available to Help with Feral Cats

by Steve Jones

If you live in the Museum District you more than likely have seen members of our feral cat community roaming our alleys. These little fellows suffer from a general public misconception that they are a problem. This is not necessarily the case.

Feral cats are simply cats that have not been socialized and have grown up without human contact. The difference between a stray cat and a feral cat is that a stray cat has at some point had interaction with humans and may be successfully reintroduced to human care.

Some undesirable issues with feral cats are: uncontrolled mating, foraging, fighting among males for territorial dominance and a lack of vaccinations. There are many resources to help minimize these issues and to allow for a safer, healthier and more controlled feral cat population.

Feral cats are protected under animal cruelty laws. The humane way to control the feral cat population is through Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) programs. These

programs are a collaboration between caretakers and organizations that provide health exams, spay/neuter services and rabies vaccinations. Caretakers can receive training on how to trap feral cats.



Feral cats hide in a backyard.

A number of organizations provide these services free of charge, among them being the Richmond SPCA (804-521-1300 www.richmondspca.org) and Operation Catnip (804-228-6479 www.operationcatnip.weebly.com).

In addition, the Richmond SPCA will lend humane traps and provide instructions on how best to trap a cat. There is a substantial network of feral cat caretakers (https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/Richmond_VA_Feral_Cats/info) that can help concerned citizens that lack the resources or knowledge to effectively implement a TNR program.



EVERYTHING ACHES

Has one too many pitches or catches got your shoulder aching. It could be the pain of arthritis. Did you know that your pet might feel the same aches and pains of arthritis as their owners feel? While your pet can't complain about the aches and pains, they feel them. You can help your pet maintain joint mobility and muscle strength with mild to moderate exercise, but the pain of inflamed joints may need help. With **Synovi-G3** a non-prescription nutrient supplement you can help relieve your pet's discomfort of painful joints. So come by our office and start helping your pet feel more comfortable today.

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Front Porch

Virginia Historical Society

Date: Feb. 24 to Sept. 4

Time: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Location: 428 North Boulevard

Gumby. Barbie. Slinky. Mr. Potato Head. Wham-O. Spirograph. Hot Wheels. They all have a story. Experience the toys and their stories through three imagined living rooms that bring the decades back to life.

Maymont Park

Date: Feb. 12

Time: 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Location: Maymont Mansion

Visit Maymont Mansion on Valentine's Day weekend as elegantly costumed ladies and gentlemen relate details of a royal love story and the courting customs of the era.



Science Museum of Museum

Date: March 1

Time: 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Location: 2500 West Broad Street

The museum is starting a five-part series on the science of climate change. Scientists from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration will discuss communicating climate science and resiliency as well as the impacts of climate change.



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**Please Keep
your Porch
Lights Burning
at Night**

The Richmond Police Department asks that residents leave lights burning from dusk to dawn on front and back porches. Hardware stores even have timers that will do the remembering for you! It is a proven fact that leaving your front and back porch lights burning from dusk to dawn helps deter crime for you, your neighbors, and the entire Museum District.

While you're at it, please consider installing motion detectors near your garage and alley to deter crime there as well.

It costs just pennies a day, so, please consider leaving these lights on year-round to help fight crime. Everyone will benefit!

Walk-Up Fun and Food on Cleveland Street

By Carolyn Chilton

Unique, fun and healthy are great words to capture the essence of the North End Juice Bar. Located at 718 North Cleveland (at Franklin), owners and brothers Cliff and Channing Miller opened for business on Dec. 3. When they rolled up their awning at 7 a.m. that morning, there were already 15 people in line.

They feature fresh-pressed juices, shots (wheatgrass is the top seller and grown on site), smoothies, soups, coffees, salads, empanadas, cookies, fritters and pies. The brothers mentioned that they plan to have a rooftop garden this summer. To emphasize the freshness of their ingredients, the two indicated that they shucked thousands of ears of corn last summer so that they could use it in this winter's corn chowder. And yes, it was wonderful!

The special ingredient in the chicken Waldorf salad? Grapefruit juice, white meat chicken, Granny Smith apples, Greek-style yogurt, a few other ingredients that weren't revealed combine to make their recipe



Brothers Cliff and Channing Miller have opened the North End Juice Bar on North Cleveland St.

tangy and unique.

“We are having so much fun doing this,” Cliff said. “We’re only getting about four hours of sleep a

Continued on next page

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Continued from previous page

night though! When we close at 4 p.m. we have to start cooking for the next day. Channing is the night owl and he'll cook into the early morning, and then I come in, the early bird, finish and open up at 7 a.m."

Sarah, a happy customer, said she's pretty much sampled everything, and her favorites are the juices, smoothies and apple fritters. But on a cold windy day, she was trying the hot chocolate with a shot of espresso and melted marshmallows on top.

A perfect complement to the walkability of the Museum District, you order from the walk-up window which opens onto the sidewalk on Cleveland Street. Heaters have now been added for those who like to linger and visit. The Miller brothers also occupy the space next door (formerly Cakes by Graham). It houses their catering business and bakery, which focuses on special events and weddings.

"Putting a quality product into people's bodies and minds is very important to us," Channing said. "Our



The brothers grow their own wheatgrass, which is one of the favorite ingredients in the juices at the North End Juice Bar.

goal is to provide healthy and fun food!"

For more information, including hours of operation, please visit their website at www.northendrva.com.

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Belmont Library

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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 DVDs, 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.

Storytimes:

Book Babies (infant-17 months) – Mondays @ 10:30 AM
Toddler Time (18-36 months) – Mondays @ 11:15 AM
Preschool Storytime (ages 3-5) – Mondays @ 4:00 PM
Family Storytime (all ages) – Saturday, March 18 & April 15 @ 10:30 AM

Creative Writing Class – Wednesdays, 1/11-3/1 @ 6:00 PM

Join others to explore the exciting world of creative writing. This 8-week class for adults and teens will include topics such as memoir, biography and creative non-fiction. Please bring your own writing materials. No registration required.

STEM – Tuesday, 2/14, 3/14, 4/11 @ 4:00 PM

(Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Projects for ages 8-12. Sign up required.

I Am: Identity in African Art Exhibit – February 1-28

Visit the Belmont Library to view twelve high-quality photographic reproductions of objects in the VMFA's African collection. This exhibition explores the concept of identity in traditional African art and culture by focusing on objects that speak to various roles and personal status within a society.

Senior Book Club – 3rd Wednesday of the month (February-October) 10:15 AM-12:00 PM

Books and discussion questions are provided. Sponsored by RPL and City of Richmond Office on Aging and Disabilities.

Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss! – Tuesday, March 2 @ 4:00 PM

Help us celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday and Read Across America at the Belmont Branch. We'll have games, crafts, and a storytime to enjoy.

Preschool Projects – Thursday, 3/16, 3/30, 4/20 @ 4:00 PM

Bring your children ages 3-5 to hear a story and complete a fun project related to art, science, and/or math.

Lego Club – 3rd Tuesday of the month (starting in March) @ 4:00 PM

We provide the LEGOs – you provide the imagination! For grades K-6 with a parent.

The Belmont Library is located
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More information can be found at
RichmondPublicLibrary.org

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Five People Join MDA Board for 2017

John Reyna, Zoning and Land Use Chair



As the new zoning and land use chair, John Reyna is interested in helping guide responsible development while protecting the Museum District's character. He moved to Richmond two years ago and lives in the district with his wife, Lisa.

After completing graduate school at the University of Miami, John began working in the office of de la Guardia Victoria Architects and Urbanists in Coral Gables, Fla.

He is currently a project architect in the Urban Architecture Studio at Glavé & Holmes Architecture. When he's not in the office, John enjoys hunting and hiking, but spends most of his free time mowing grass and repairing his house.

Jessie Rueben, Woman's Club Liaison

Jessie Rueben has lived in the Museum District for over four years with her husband, Jay, and two pets, Remy and Simi. She has been active in the Woman's Club since moving to her Monument Ave. home.



Jessie was born in India and came to the United States in the 1970s, working and raising three daughters in Maryland, until retiring and relocating to Richmond four years ago.

Jessie was a nurse, but since retiring her passion has become enhancing the environment and enjoying the beautiful outdoors. She also believes in a healthy, safe, friendly, inclusive and aesthetically energizing community.

Jennifer Fleming, Business Liaison



Jennifer Fleming moved to Richmond in 2001, first living in Ginter Park before finding her way to the Museum District. She and her children quickly fell in love with the “city vibe” of the Museum District – walkability, bikeability, arts heavy, great shopping, awesome food and friendly neighbors.

Jennifer became involved with the MDA while serving as a house captain for the Mother’s Day House & Garden Tour. She was recently elected to the board as the business liaison. Jennifer looks forward to working with area business owners, better identifying their needs and finding effective ways for the association to best serve the businesses in our area.

Jennifer is a Realtor with Bobby+April, a real estate brokerage in Carytown. Jennifer’s son is a student at Georgetown University, and her daughter is graduating from Saint Gertrude High School this spring.

Kevin Bojarski, Technology Chair



Kevin Bojarski is a Richmond native who moved back home in 2015 after five years in Arlington. He lives with his wife Caitlin, son Michael (born in November) and dog Madison on Patterson Ave.

His favorite part of the Museum District is its walkability and dog-friendliness. As the new technology chair, Kevin is excited to use his experience as a consultant for CapTech to help increase the MDA's online presence and visibility.

Hannah Abbey, School Chair



Hannah Abbey grew up in the Museum District on the 3200 block of Monument Ave. Currently, she and her husband own a house on the 3200 block of W. Grace St. Prior to buying their home in 2013, the couple lived in an apartment on the 3200 block of W. Franklin for four years. Her husband

jokes that she can't leave the neighborhood, let alone the 3200 block!

Hannah joins the board as the school liaison. She is a strong advocate for the public schools. In the 1980s and 1990s she attended Richmond Public Schools, including Robert E. Lee Elementary School, Albert H. Hill Middle School, and Open High School

Professionally, Hannah is a licensed clinical social worker, with a focus on children's mental health. She earned her Masters in Social Work. Currently, she is a stay-at-home mom of the couple’s two-year-old daughter, Genevieve.

A Night in Old Havana

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New Era of Elected Officials in Richmond

Five of the six seats for Richmond City Schools and Richmond City Council that serve the Museum District have new members. The Museum District Association spoke with them about their goals and expectations.

Andreas Addison, 1st District City Council

A native of Alexandria and Woodstock, the newly-elected 1st District councilman, Andreas Addison, has worked in City Hall since 2008. He worked as a management analyst and a leader of special projects, where he supported the performance management program.



Addison, who obtained an MBA in 2012, supported the city's implementation of SeeClickFix, a mobile application that Addison says "empowers Richmond residents to use their smartphones to report potholes, broken streetlights, non-functioning traffic lights, abandoned vehicles, vacant property and overgrown lots."

With this background, the Virginia Tech graduate says he will bring to the council a "focus on government operations and transparency in order to make city government more accountable."

Addison adds that, "the keys to this goal are utilizing an open-data strategy with respect to public operations, and employing best practices from cities across the country."

Among other initiatives, Addison says he plans to utilize www.whatworkscities.bloomberg.org, sponsored by Bloomberg Philanthropies, which Addison says, "lets cities like Richmond better use data and evidence to improve public services."

Addison also plans to start a newsletter, launch a collaborative website and coordinate town hall meetings with 1st District School Board Member Liz Doerr.

"I will also make myself available regularly at prearranged places and times throughout the community," Addison said.

Liz Doerr, 1st district school board

The newly-elected 1st District School Board member, Liz Doerr, credits her grandfather, a school superintendent, with having inspired her to enter public service.



"As a graduate of public schools, I strongly believe in the value of quality public education," said Doerr, a graduate of William & Mary who now works at a Richmond-based venture capital firm.

Doerr, elected by a two-to-one margin, says her number one priority will be "the recruitment and retention of high-quality teachers and administrators."

Calling the city's high turnover rate for teachers and administrators "unacceptable," especially compared with Henrico and Chesterfield, Doerr points out that the city lost more than 10 administrators in the last year. The situation, she says, "needs to change."

Doerr says engaging her constituents will be critical to achieving these goals. She plans to publish a monthly newsletter that will include notes from board meetings, as well as relevant articles.

She will also participate in town hall meetings that 1st District Councilman Andreas Addison will be hosting.

"We plan to have one meeting per quarter that will focus on issues related to the schools at which I will provide updates," Doerr said.

She is also looking to set up an advisory board of parents and a teacher task force. She entered the race for School Board because she believes it is "critical that we elect leaders who will work together to ensure every child in our city has a ladder to success."

Scott Barlow 2nd District School Board



The new 2nd District School Board member, Scott Barlow, comes from a long line of teachers, going back to his great-grandmother. Though an attorney by profession, education is in his blood and he has seen firsthand the sacrifices made by many teachers, like his mother an elementary school teacher in the Atlanta area.

“I saw a lot of my mom’s paycheck going to books and pens,” he said. “This year she bought backpacks for a dozen kids.”

The way to make progress here in Richmond, Barlow said, is to foster a spirit of collaboration between the School Board and Richmond city government.

“I think fundamentally the most important thing our local government does is help educate our kids,” he said.

The way to do that, Barlow said, is a combination of good facilities and good teachers.

“There’s a lot of work to be done with our facilities, ensuring that our buildings are not falling apart, and that we are providing the necessary resources,” he said. “I’m also really focused on recruiting and retaining our best teachers and trying to get feedback from our teachers on what issues may be driving them out of the school district or out of the profession.”

Barlow said he wants to hear from residents and plans to attend civic association meetings. People should feel free to contact him at any time they have questions or suggestions because, as he says, moving the schools forward will be a team effort.

“Most of the challenges we are facing are community challenges and I think that everyone in our city, whether they have kids or not, or whether they are a student or not, ... is a stakeholder in the success of our kids and the success of our schools,” Barlow said.



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Kim Gray, 2nd District City Council

Kim Gray represents 2nd District Richmond residents on City Council. Elected in November, she most recently served as the 2nd District School Board member. While the district covers primarily a large portion of the Fan and Northside, the northeast corner of the Museum District is in the 2nd, as well.



Gray, a Richmond native and real estate agent, said she is excited about being in a position to impact communities that are often neglected.

“I think all boats rise with the tide,” she said. “So if we can make a difference for our most vulnerable citizens – our children, our elderly, our low-income families – then I think we’ll all be served better.”

She also places a high priority on city finances and, “making sure that we’re operating with the level of accountability and transparency that is acceptable to all of us. Because it’s our money. It’s coming out of our households.”

What Gray terms quality of life issues are a high priority. Things like potholes and broken sidewalks. She and her council liaison, Craig Bieber, are prioritizing all of the district concerns and working through that list with city administration to make sure those issues get addressed.

Gray stays engaged with residents through a district newsletter, quarterly meetings and attending civic association meetings. But people should know they can reach out to her at any time.

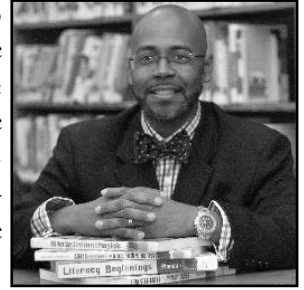
“There is no issue too small or too large,” Gray said. “If it’s causing stress or discomfort to someone, they need to communicate and let us assist with it. That’s really important.”

Her bottom line philosophy on public service is simple.

“The right thing to do is not always the easy thing to do, or the most expedient,” Grays added. “But in the long run, I’ve learned that you’ll never fail if you fol-

Patrick Sapini, 5th District School Board

When Patrick Sapini moved to Richmond seven years ago, he volunteered as a tutor with the Richmond City Schools. He found that he enjoyed the activity and that led him to become more involved in the school system.



“I didn’t focus on myself,” Sapini said. “I focused on the children.”

He says his involvement went beyond tutoring and that the time commitment was considerable. Sapini channeled that dedication into public service and was elected in November to the Richmond School Board, representing the 5th District.

Raised in New York City, Sapini graduated from St. John’s University with a degree in biology. He earned D.P.M. from the New York College of Podiatric Medicine and is a practicing podiatrist.

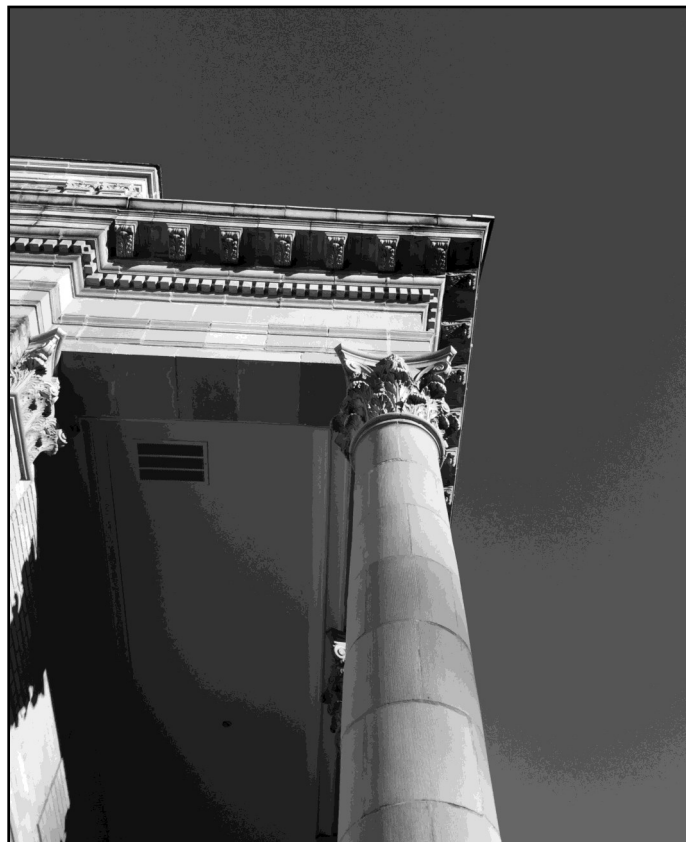
Sapini said he is working hard to understand the needs of the community, trying to find the best ways to serve on the School Board. He is attending PTA meetings, working with community groups and visiting the schools within the Richmond school system.

“I want to get feedback,” Sapini said. “I want to meet with those stakeholders who want to be involved in the system, even that those that do not have school-aged children.”

When not working or attending school functions, Sapini spends time with his wife and four children and likes to tinker with machines. He is currently trying to develop a new tool for his practice. “I tinker for entertainment,” he said.

Sapini says that the school system faces many challenges and he plans to focus on pre-K education during his tenure on the School Board. He believes that children are more likely to succeed when they are given quality early education. Currently, Richmond has three different pre-K programs and Sapini says he wants to understand which program works best. Data needs to be collected and children tracked so the best program can be developed.

“I value education,” Sapini said.



Where is this in the Museum District?

The Columns is giving away a \$15 gift certificate to the Belmont Butchery, a long-time supporter. To win, you need to email the correct answer to MDAnewsletter@museumdistrict.org by Feb. 28. All the correct answers will be entered into a drawing. The winner will be notified by email and the person's name will be published in the next issue of the newsletter.



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'Social Circles' Improve Safety on Floyd Ave.

by Liz Bryant

Those newfangled intersections on Floyd Avenue in the Museum and Fan districts have been in place for almost a year. They are all part of a larger, long-range plan to allow for shared cycling traffic from the top of the Museum District at Floyd and Thompson all the way to the Virginia Capital Trail downtown. Technically termed "neighborhood traffic calming circles," they are also part of what City Transportation Engineer Mike Sawyer calls the complete streets approach.

"That means that everything has its place," he said. "Everyone shares the road. Everyone gets along."

This includes designing streets that shift the city's safety culture toward yielding to pedestrians, toward giving bikes the three feet of clearance required by state law, as well as accommodating automobile traffic.

It turns out that calming traffic at these intersections isn't the only goal.

"We're going to probably be moving toward just calling them social circles," he said. "Because it really requires people being social for them to work appropriately. You really have to make eye contact, and negotiate, and all the life skills that our moms taught us to do is what's required at a social circle, or a traffic calming circle."

The Code of Virginia spells out who has the right-of-way.

"At circular intersections, vehicles already in the circle shall have the right-of-way over vehicles approaching and entering the circle, unless otherwise directed by traffic control devices," it stated.

But what if two cars arrive at the same time? There is a code to follow but also use common sense, Sawyer said.

"You yield to the left because that's where you're looking," he said. "But if there's something else happening in front of you, you still stop."

The lower speed, which is now 20 m.p.h., on Floyd helps, too.

"What we know from driver behavior is if you get speeds down to 20 mph or 15 mph or less, we're really



Traffic calming circles on Floyd Ave. at Auburn Ave.

talking about higher yield rates," he said. "A driver is willing to see you and willing to yield. At higher speeds you lose the interaction."

Continued on next page

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Continued from previous page

It's important to note that both bicycles and cars are considered vehicles and must obey the same rules. This also includes yielding to pedestrians. In the crosswalks, pedestrians have the right-of-way over everyone. But even then, pedestrians need to exercise common sense about safety.

Getting back to the idea of the social circle, Sawyer says residents in the Museum District can be leaders in the culture change he hopes to see citywide.

"There are so many things going well with the city," he said. "If we can get to this one last piece where we can brighten someone's day by saying that guy actually stopped, where it isn't like a surprise anymore, it's just routine. We're known as being a genteel culture in many things, and Southern hospitality. We just need to keep going in that direction when it comes to how we behave behind the wheel, or when we put on our walking shoes, or our bicycle helmets."

MDWC

Museum District Woman's Club

Upcoming events

February 15th

Elements of Carytown Beauty Shop
3425 W. Cary Street

March 15th

Healing Avatars with Mo Regulinski, Artist/
Designer
3208 Monument Ave.

SAVE THE DATE:

Saturday April 22nd will be the Progressive Dinner. It's always a favorite event, not to be missed! Tickets are available on line.



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- The pitfalls of joint ownership, especially with family members.
- How you can protect your children's inheritance from predators, greedy nonfamily members, and bad marriages.



Jim Garrett
Attorney-At-Law

Weinstein Jewish Community Center

5403 Monument Avenue

Wednesday, February 15, 2017

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

7:00 pm

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or visit our website www.carrellblanton.com for more information,
other seminar dates or to make a reservation.

Dates and times subject to change.

MDA Gives Out Annual Star Award

by M.A. Powers

Each November the Museum District Association board of directors recognizes one resident and one city employee who have demonstrated exceptional support to the neighborhood throughout the year. The 2016 recipients were



recipients were recognized for their positive dispositions and dedication to the Museum District.

Karen Kelly was awarded the Resident MDA Star for the constant volunteer spirit she provides throughout the neighborhood. Karen serves in

Karen Kelly was given a Star Award for her volunteering in the Museum District.

such an unassuming manner that she seemed surprised

herself when her vast contributions were highlighted at the annual meeting.

Karen has been involved in the Roseneath Median Project for years, helping to design and implement a variety of different plans. Karen also volunteers to maintain the grounds at Albert Hill Middle School, as well as the Floyd Avenue neighborhood traffic calming circles. Karen volunteers annually for the MDA House & Garden Tour and serves as the MDA historic house plaque coordinator. Residents will also see Karen delivering the MDA newsletter and assisting neighbors with their individual home and garden projects. Karen and her husband Steve have lived on Floyd Avenue since 1979.

The city employee recognized for the MDA Star was actually a team of employees who assisted the neighborhood in two alley clean-up events in 2016. Both events, held on Saturdays in April and October, were quite weather challenged. Rain pelted the refuse drivers, collectors, and Museum District residents for hours while clearing the neighborhood's alleys of excess debris and water-soaked furniture.

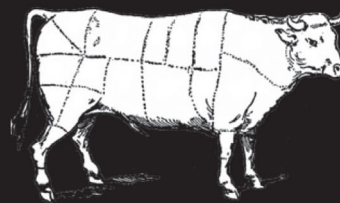


City employees were recognized with Star Awards for helping with the alley clean up.

The city employees wore smiles from the moment they arrived on the scene. They each expressed their gratitude to us for helping them, and commented on how impressed they were with our residents. Certificates and gift cards to a local eatery were hand-delivered to the men at the solid waste office. We are thankful to

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Your Real Estate Agent Works for Whom?

by Steve Jones

One of the least talked about subjects in real estate articles is that of agency. Until the 1990s there was technically no buyers' agency, meaning that even though a home buyer worked with a real estate agent on a transaction, that agent was in fact a sub-agent to the listing agent. Therefore there were no distinct obligations of an agent to a buyer.

Things changed in the 1990s when the thought was that a home buyer should have someone in the transaction to represent their best interests. Therefore, today the home-buying process typically has a seller's agent and a buyer's agent, each with a distinct set of obligations to their client.

However, it is sometimes not that simple. If an unrepresented buyer wants to make an offer on a listing, the

listing agent may act as a dual agent and represent both his initial client, the seller, and the buyer. This requires all parties to acknowledge the dual agency relationship in writing.

Compensation for both the listing agent and the buying agent is built into the listing agreement and paid by the seller so that each party can have full representation.

Dual agency can compromise services for both the buyer and seller since the dual agent is more limited in the services he or she can provide for each client.

If you want exclusive representation in a real estate transaction, make sure you are getting it.



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City

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Chief Administrative Officer
Selena Cuffee-Glen
804-646-7978

Citizens Assistance
804-646-7000 or 311

Public Works
804-646-0999

Building Permits, Inspections
804-646-6955

Environmental/Housing Code
804-646-7448

Police & Fire

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Fire Non-emergency
804-646-6640
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3rd Precinct
804-646-1412

City Council

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804-646-5935
andreas.addison@richmondgov.com
Kimberly B. Gray (2nd District)
804-646-6532
kimberly.gray@richmondgov.com
Parker Agelasto (5th District)
804-646-5724
parker.agelasto@richmondgov.com

General Assembly

Del. Manoli Loupassi (68th) - 804-698-1068
Del. Betsy Carr (69th) - 804-698-1069
Vacant (71st)



MUSEUM DISTRICT ASSOCIATION

Member Name(s): _____
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*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.

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. \$ _____

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

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West of Boulevard Historic District Plaque Order Form



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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.