



Fall 2015
The Columns
A Publication of the Museum District Association

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MDA Annual Meeting

Wednesday, November 11

Refreshments 6:00 PM

Meeting 7:00 PM

Temple Beth El

3330 Grove Avenue

(Please enter from Roseneath Rd.)

Join the Museum District Association for drinks and appetizers as we review the year's business, meet neighbors and local elected officials, and welcome special guest speaker Edwin Slipek, senior contributing editor of Style Weekly Magazine!

The Annual Meeting is a members-only event; please join online at MuseumDistrict.org or you may join or renew at the door.

If you can join us, please let us know by emailing
RSVP@MuseumDistrict.org



*Museum District -
Richmond, VA*



President's Column

Steve Thompson, 2015 MDA Board President

Dear Neighbors,

MDA membership continues a three-year upward trend, and I want to thank our current and 151 new members! Over the past few years, the makeup of the MDA board has changed and brings new ideas and ways to further engage, excite, and deliver value for the neighborhood. Although my presidency and my time on the board ends on December 31, I am excited to be passing the torch to M.A. Powers, our current secretary. She previously served on the board of a homeowners' association in Henrico and has brought fresh ideas to the table, such as MDA's presence on Instagram.

We will host our annual meeting on Wednesday, November 11, at Temple Beth El, beginning at 6:00 PM. We will provide an overview of our activities this year and financial status. I will have the pleasure of introducing our guest speaker and my longtime friend Edwin Slipek, senior contributing editor of Style Weekly Magazine! He is considered a preeminent architectural writer in Virginia and Richmond is very lucky to have him! He taught me about brickwork laid in the Flemish bond style.

Looking back on my years as an MDA board member, I reflect on why I decided to serve the neighborhood. Was it for fame or fortune? Really, what fame? What fortune? This is a volunteer position that can be as few as five hours or up to 50 each month. So why do I volunteer my time to the MDA? It is the belief that I am a part of something bigger, need to contribute, and do my part. At the end of my term, I want to have left a positive impact on the MDA and the board. Often MDA

presidents champion a neighborhood project, and I decided to champion positioning the organization for the next group of leaders. 2013 president Zoe Anne Green used her term to create Standing Rules for the MDA Board of Directors. 2014 President Andy Scudder used his term to build partnerships with nearby associations and lead a successful 50th anniversary celebration. I have used my term to increase our presence in person and online so more neighbors will see the benefits of the association.

Richmond continues to receive national accolades and earns a spot on top-ten lists for many reasons. The City is actually growing by eight residents a day. The Museum District is considered one of the top three neighborhoods in which to live due to its architecture, atmosphere, and mix of housing, retail, and restaurants. We are also home to Albert Hill Middle School, rated one of the best in the City.

Finally, I leave you with this thought. I often talk at work about roles, goals, and responsibilities. When it comes to roles, there are three key questions:

1. Where do I add value?
2. Am I doing that?
3. If not, how can I do that?

If you want to make the Museum District an even better place, ask yourselves these questions.

Thank you for a wonderful year. We hope to see you at the annual meeting.

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.

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**Museum District -
Richmond VA**

Mark Your Calendar!

Upcoming Events in the Museum District

What	When	Where
Daylight Saving Time Ends	October 31, Saturday 2:00 AM	Turn your clocks back one hour
Election Day	November 3, Tuesday	Polling locations open 6:00 AM - 7:00 PM
Annual Meeting*	November 11, Wednesday 6:00 PM Reception 7:00 PM Meeting	Temple Beth El 3330 Grove Avenue (Please enter on Roseneath Road)

* Members-Only Event. Please join in advance at museumdistrict.org or you may join at the door. More information regarding all of these upcoming events can be found throughout this issue of *The Columns*.

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

For more details and updates visit museumdistrict.org

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MDApresident@museumdistrict.org

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Capital Projects

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MDACapitalProjects@museumdistrict.org

Member-At-Large

James Shea

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.



COOKIES

By Truman Capote
 Adapted by Russell Vandenbroucke
 Directed by Dr. Jan Powell

Dec 3 - 26

VCU's Grace Street Theatre
 804-340-0115 934 W Grace Street
 www.QuillTheatre.org Richmond VA 23220

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Front Porch

Saint Gertrude

Date: Friday, November 20, and Saturday, November 21

Time: 6:30-9:00 PM and from 9:00 AM-3:00 PM

Location: 3215 Stuart Avenue

The Saint Gertrude Alumnae Association Board is presenting the "Holly Spree on Stuart Avenue." Over forty local vendors will be selling items. Tickets for PreSpree Friday night are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. Saturday includes pictures with Santa and a trip through Santa Land and admission is free. For more information and to make reservations for Friday night, please visit www.saintgertrude.org/hollyspree.



Science Museum of Virginia

Date: Friday, November 18

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: 2500 Broad Street

Dr. Len Nichols and Dr. Frank Dukes present "Transforming Societies: Interactions of Culture and Policy." They will discuss social transformation - from the Civil Rights Movement to healthcare reform - and explore how changes in societal values and infrastructures emerge through complex processes. Does societal change drive policy change or vice versa? The Living Ethics lecture series is free, but space is limited. There is a 6:30 PM reception prior to the 7:00 PM lecture. Please call 804-864-1400 to reserve space.

Date: Tuesday, November 27, to Thursday, November 29

Time: 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM

Location: 2500 Broad Street

Become a conductor at the 38th Annual Model Railroad Show! Featuring all the bells and whistles, guests will enjoy unique and traditional model train displays from across the state. Prance with Clydesdales, see healthy holiday cooking demonstrations and take a ride on the Teddy Bear Train! Learn how trains work, conduct experiments, check out special demonstrations and enjoy a holiday weekend filled with fun for the whole family.

Update on Fall Alley Clean-Up

The Fall Alley Clean-up was canceled due to unavailability of trash trucks and limited city resources. We hope resources will be available to resume this activity in the spring. Thank you to all who volunteered to help!

The MDA is looking into an alternative. Be sure to sign up for our emails and look for more information.

Go to MuseumDistrict.org to join our email distribution list.

STAY IN THE KNOW...

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To stay up to date on neighborhood happenings and important news.

Edwin Slipek speaking at MDA Annual Meeting



Edwin Slipek

Edwin Slipek is the keynote speaker at the Museum District's annual meeting on November 11 at 6:00 PM at Temple Beth El.

Edwin Slipek is a native of Richmond. He attended Richmond Public Schools, Boston University, and Virginia Commonwealth University.

For 25 years, he has been an award-winning architecture critic for *Style Weekly* where he serves as senior contributing editor. Edwin is an adjunct instructor of architectural history at Virginia Commonwealth University and taught for 16 years at the Maggie Walker Governor's School for Government and International Studies.

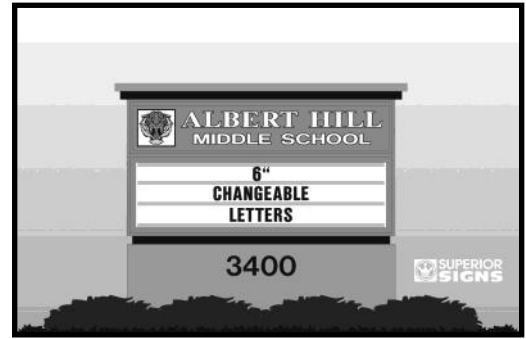
Currently he is writing a biography and examination of the architectural work of early 20th century Richmond architect W. Duncan Lee in collaboration with the Historic Richmond Foundation.

Albert Hill Middle School Annual Fund

School has started, and change is in the air at Albert Hill Middle School. The gym floor has been replaced, the elevator is under construction, and a new mural will greet our students this coming November.

The PTA is especially excited about another project that is in the works - a marquee sign for the corner of Nansemond Street and Patterson Avenue. Similar to the one recently installed at Thomas Jefferson High School, the much-needed sign at Hill will help to both identify the school and remind the community of upcoming dates and other information.

The PTA would like to thank the Museum District Association for generously offering a two-for-one matching grant to help us fund this initiative. The Hill community truly appreciates the ongoing support the neighborhood has provided and the grant, of up to \$2,500, has certainly helped to create excitement for our fund-raising efforts!



The total cost for the sign is approximately \$9,500 and the MDA's generous donation, along with a donation from RPS School Board, gets us well on our way to our goal. However, we are still short of our goal and are seeking personal or business donations from interested parties.

Upon completion, we will be publically thanking all our donors. Anyone interested in making a donation can send a check to the AHMS PTA at 3400 Patterson Avenue, Richmond, VA 23221 or visit our online donation site at mkt.com/albert-hill-middle-school-pta.

- Albert Hill PTA

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Updates from the MDA Board

Meet Our Newest Member:

James Shea, Member-At-Large



James and his wife, Jan, moved to the Museum District a year and half ago when Jan started graduate school at Virginia Commonwealth University. They have enjoyed exploring the Museum District on runs and walks through the neighborhood with their dog, Scooter.

James graduated from the University of Oregon with bachelor's degrees in philosophy and journalism and communications. In his free time he enjoys watching sports, hiking, and seeing a movie at the Byrd Theater.

Prior to living in Richmond, he worked in the newspaper business where he covered politics and local government. He now owns an online writing business but wanted to keep his fingers stained with ink.

He looks forward to working with the MDA board and creating a quality printed newsletter.

Farewell to Board Members

We would like to thank the following MDA board members who are rolling off the board.

Erica Lamberta: Communications and Website



Kimberly Reiff: Environmental Chair

Andy Scudder: Past President and Zoning & Land Use Chair



Steve Thompson: Current President and Public Safety Chair

Patrick Tanner: Communications Chair and House & Garden Tour Chair



Words from the Outgoing Editor

It has been a great pleasure serving as your MDA Newsletter Editor for the past three years. I have worn many hats as an MDA board member of seven years, but the newsletter editor role gave me a unique opportunity to share the great accomplishments of our community and to help connect our neighbors to one another and to the MDA.

I was proud to bring you the Non-Profit Corner in order to spotlight the caring nature of our neighbors while also offering ideas of ways you can give back to the community. Other articles have been fun to research like those spotlighting the MDA's 50th Anniversary last year and those that involved interviewing our elected officials.

As I complete this final newsletter, I want to thank everyone who has contributed to the past 12 issues: board members, councilmembers, business owners, and residents. I would also like to thank my editing team and all of our newsletter distributors! It truly takes a village, and I have been honored to be a part of this one.

I look forward to staying involved and know that James Shea will do great things with *The Columns* starting with our Winter Issue.

See you soon!
Karen Headley



Open Board Positions

Hello, neighbors! I am thrilled to be slated as the 2016 president of the Museum District Association. My first responsibility is to secure the board of directors for the coming year. There will be some significant changes, with about half of our directors either completing their three-year term or shifting into a new role on the board. If you have ever wanted to be part of the team, now is the time to reach out!

We have two vacancies remaining for 2016:

- **Secretary** - take minutes, maintain board roster
- **Public Safety** - communicate with fire and police departments in the neighborhood

Please contact me if you are interested in serving on the board!

MDAsecretary@museumdistrict.org

Sincerely,

MA Powers



Belmont Library

*Inform * Enrich * Empower*



Story Time Programs and Other Events

Book Babies - Mondays 3:30 PM and Tuesdays 10:30 AM
Interactive story time for infants birth - 24 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.

Hot Cocoa Challenge!

ALL Of December
Join the challenge this winter and warm up with a good book. For the month of December, we are challenging young readers to "outread" adult patrons! Sign up for a punch card and each time you visit the Library, you can get a stamp on your card. Fill up your card and turn it in for a prize and a raffle ticket for the grand prizes.

"Let it SNOW" Storytime

Thurs. Dec. 10 @11:15am
Join us for a special family storytime and craft about our favorite form of precipitation!

Afternoon Kid's Flicks!

Thurs. Dec. 17 @ 3:30pm
Bring a blanket and spread out for popcorn & a free family-friendly film with your little ones. For families with children ages 2-10.

Hot Cocoa Party!

Wed. Dec. 30th @ 4pm
Join us for hot cocoa, crafts, and treats as we announce the grand prize winners of our Hot Cocoa Challenge!

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

KNOW THE RULES – BIKE SAFETY

As more Richmonders hit their bikes for exercise and fun, it is important for everyone to know the rules of the road.

For Cyclists:

- Bicycles are vehicles when ridden on roads and streets:
- Follow rules that apply to motor vehicles
- Obey all traffic signs, signals, lights, and markings
- Ride on the right side, with traffic
- Stay as far to the right as safely possible or use the shoulder
- Ride no more than two side by side
- Ride single file when moving slower than traffic
- Yield to pedestrians
- Call to pedestrians when approaching from behind and to pass
- Use hand signals for turns and stops
- When turning, use motor vehicle turn lanes
- Keep one hand on the handlebars when carrying articles
- Don't carry adults on bicycles not built for more than one
- Carry children securely in special seats or trailers
- Don't wear earphones in both ears
- Use white headlamps visible 500 feet when bicycling between sunset and sunrise
- Use rear reflectors at night; if using roads with speed limits of 35 mph or more, use a red taillight visible 600 feet
- Be sure brakes work properly
- Obey local ordinances for riding on sidewalks, wearing a helmet, and having a bicycle license

For Motorized Vehicle Drivers

Drive Cautiously. Reduce speed when encountering cyclists. Don't tailgate, especially in bad weather. Recognize hazards cyclists may face and give them space.

Yield to Cyclists. Bicycles are considered vehicles. Cyclists should be given the appropriate right of way. Allow extra time for cyclists to traverse intersections.

Be Considerate. Scan for cyclists in traffic and at intersections. Do not blast your horn in close proximity to cyclists. Look for cyclists when opening doors.

Pass with Care. When passing, leave three feet between you and a cyclist. Wait for safe road and traffic conditions before you pass. Check over your shoulder before moving back.

Watch for Children. Children on bicycles are often unpredictable. Expect the unexpected and slow down. Don't expect children to know traffic laws. Because of their size children can be harder to see.

2016 Museum District Mother's Day House & Garden Tour



In the 22-year existence of the Museum District Mother's Day House & Garden Tour, owners of more than 100 of the Museum District's most beautiful and unique homes and gardens have graciously opened their doors to more than 25,000 guests - including a lot of mothers.

COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Come have fun and help plan the 2016 tour. If you are looking to make a difference with your time, consider joining our house tour committee. You can help with a variety of activities including event hosting and planning, home selection, promotions, ticket sales and volunteer management. Even if you are unable to help on the day of the tour - the committee could use your help now!

NOMINATE A HOME

Consider showing off your own beautiful home or nominate one of your neighbors. There are so many wonderful houses in the Museum District and we need your help to find the ones that best showcase the diversity and eclectic nature of our area.

ADVERTISE & SPONSOR

There are also some affordable and exciting advertising opportunities available. With more than 1,000 attendees projected and hundreds of volunteers, the Mother's Day House & Garden Tour offers numerous ways to spotlight your business or service.

Sponsoring the Mother's Day House & Garden Tour is also a wonderful way to honor or remember the mother in your life. With a number of options available in 2016, consider supporting this wonderful cause by sponsoring one of the houses, publications, transportation or becoming a presenting sponsor!

Get Involved in this Year's Mother's Day House Tour:

- Nominate a Home**
- Volunteer for the Committee**
- Become a Sponsor**
- Advertise Your Business in the Tour Guide**

Contact

MDAHouseTour@museumdistrict.org



As you may know, the State applied for a Federal grant to develop a bus rapid transit route on Broad Street from Willow Lawn to Rocketts Landing. Plans are well underway with development at about 30%. The MDA supports mass transit but has several

concerns about the impact of this particular plan on our neighborhood, other nearby neighborhoods, businesses along the route, and the city at large.

We have joined a coalition, RVA Coalition for Smart Transit, to share these concerns with GRTC, the City, and State. The Coalition Members are:

- Byrd Park Civic League
- Downtown Neighborhood Association
- Fan Area Business Alliance
- The Fan District Association
- Monument Avenue Preservation Society
- The Museum District Association
- Scott's Addition Boulevard Association
- West Avenue Improvement Association
- West Grace Street Association

The MDA was instrumental in having a station relocated to

Cleveland, and adding left turns at Tilden and Sheppard Streets, and possibly one at Boulevard. The original plan had only one turn, at Boulevard. (It was removed, and hopefully will be reinstated.)

The City Planning Commission has 22 concerns with the current plan. These are shared by many coalition members. Foremost is a desire for the buses to run along the median from Thompson to 14th Street. The current plan shows both median and curb running lanes.

The Coalition posed 45 questions to GRTC and the city. They can be found at the coalition website listed below.

Upcoming GRTC meetings

Monday, October 26, at 6:00 – 7:30 PM
Library of Virginia
800 E. Broad Street, Auditorium

Tuesday, October 27, at 12:00 – 1:30 PM
Richmond Public Library, Main Branch
101 East Franklin Street

For More information:

GRTC: RideGRTC.com

RVA Coalition for Smart Transit: RVAsmarttransit.org

City Planning Commission: Richmondva.legistar.com - search for Sept. 8, 2015 Planning Commission minutes.

Mini Greek Festival 2015

SS Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Cathedral
30 Malvern Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23221
Tel: 804 358-5996

Lunch * Dinner Pastry Sale

Sanctuary tours, Hellenic Dancers,
International Bazaar
A La Carte Menu, Take Out Orders

November 12, 13, 14

Thursday, Friday, Saturday
11:00AM – 8:00PM

Please come and share our Culture, Hospitality &
World Famous Food & Pastries

For more Information please call 804 358-5996 or
Visit us at: www.vagocathedral.org
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Public Safety Report

By Melissa Oefelein, Public Safety Chair

Neighbors, the Museum District had a slight increase in thefts from motor vehicles this summer.

A few tips to remember:

- Double check those locks. Make sure you did indeed lock the doors of your vehicle.
- Do not leave anything visible in your car - even change.
- Lastly, try to have a porch light on at night and throughout the night. This is helpful not only for you but for your neighbors.



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!

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 Christopher Cirino*

Title: Police Officer III

How long have you been with the RPD and in Sector 311? I have been with the Richmond Police Department for 11 years, of that six have been in Sector 311 patrolling the areas of the Museum District and beyond.

What is unique about patrolling in the Museum District? What is unique about patrolling the Museum District is having the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in the area, and the amount of tourists who visit the area from different cultures.

What is a fun fact that most people don't know about you? I have been a Patrolman in N.Y. since 1985, Volunteer Ambulance for Port Jefferson N.Y. six years, and Selden Volunteer Fire Department seven years as a firefighter and a medic.

What is the most exciting/rewarding thing about your job? The most rewarding aspects of my job are the good contacts I make with ordinary citizens, talking about issues in the community, weather, fishing, and whatever topic pops up. I value life and helping people in their time of need.

What is a typical day like for you? The typical day consists of running from one end of the zone to the other answering calls for

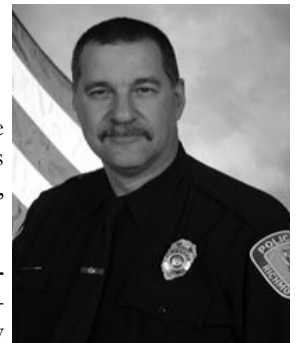
service. When it is slower I spend the time circulating through neighborhoods looking for things that are out of place, and talking to citizens.

Why is it important to report suspicious/out of place activity? The citizens that live in the community know what is normal or not, or out of place. The information needs to be shared with other neighbors and most importantly relayed to the police units that patrol the area.

How does it help? The information helps us to focus on areas that need more attention. Armed with the dates, times of occurrences, and descriptions of individuals involved in suspicious activity helps us to be more effective in being able to handle issues in the neighborhood.

My contact information is always available and I will check and address any issue at any time even if I am off duty. Email me at Christopher.Cirino@RichmondGov.com

Remember even if it does not seem like important information it can be a link to a larger picture. There is an old saying, "The way you call into the woods is the way the echo comes back."



32nd Annual National Night Out Block Party

By *Melissa Oefelein, Public Safety Chair*



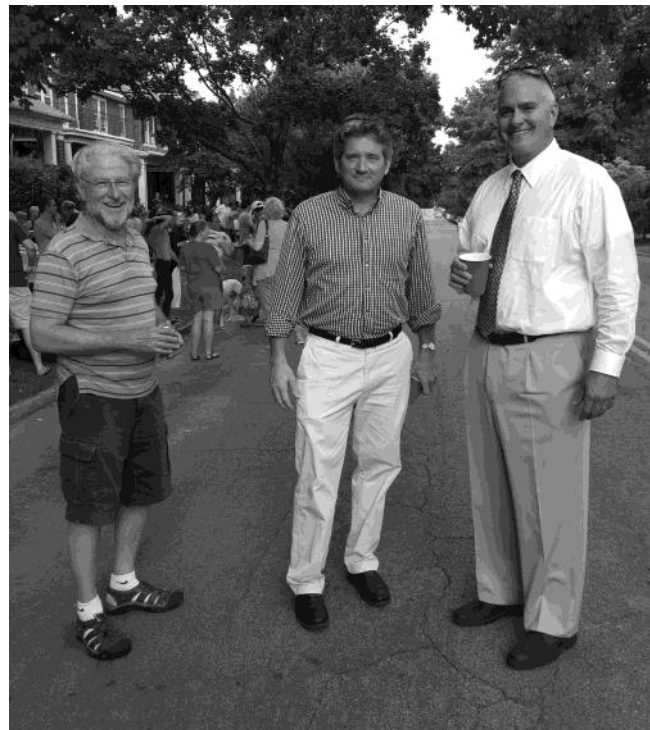
Hi, Neighbors! We had a great summer in the Museum District. On August 4, we celebrated the 32nd Annual National Night Out in the Museum District with neighbors and the firefighters of Station 18 who serve our community.

Thank you to Billy Poarch and all of our neighbors of the 3100 Block of West Grace Street for allowing us to close the block to have our event. We enjoyed Lee's Famous Chicken, music by Brent Small of the One Man Band, and Station 18's ladder truck, which many of the young ones were able to tour.

We had a huge turnout of about 120 neighbors, and were excited to see many new faces.

It is because of the Museum District Association that we are able to know each other and keep our neighborhood safe. Please share information about the association with your new neighbors.

Also, mark your calendars for the first Tuesday in August for our next National Night Out!





Tips for a Safe Halloween

Swords, knives, and other costume accessories should be short, soft, and flexible.

Avoid trick-or-treating alone. Walk in groups or with a trusted adult.

Fasten reflective tape to costumes and bags to help drivers see you.

Examine all treats for choking hazards and tampering before eating them. Limit the amount of treats you eat.

Hold a flashlight while trick-or-treating to help you see and others see you.

Always test make-up in a small area first. Remove it before bedtime to prevent possible skin and eye irritation.

Look both ways before crossing the street. Use established crosswalks wherever possible.

Lower your risk for serious eye injury by not wearing decorative contact lenses.

Only walk on sidewalks whenever possible, or on the far edge of the road facing traffic to stay safe.

Wear well-fitting masks, costumes, and shoes to avoid blocked vision, trips, and falls.

Eat only factory-wrapped treats. Avoid eating homemade treats made by strangers.

Enter homes only if you're with a trusted adult. Only visit well-lit houses.

Never accept rides from strangers.



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Museum District Zoning Map

By Stephen Versen, MDA Zoning & Land Use Committee Chair

The primary purpose of zoning is to guide and control land and building uses, segregating uses that are thought to be incompatible, and preventing new development that might interfere with existing uses or negatively impact the "character" of a community. The Museum District has several different zoning categories within its borders, and several more just outside. Which category is your home in? And just what does that mean? This map and abbreviated description of each residential zoning category should begin to answer those questions, but to learn more, check out the *Citizens Guide to Residential Zoning Districts & Regulations on the City website, RichmondGov.com*.

R6 - Single-Family Attached Residential: intended to preserve and enhance older residential neighborhoods characterized by a mixture of detached single and two-family dwellings situated on modest sized lots. Maximum height: 35 ft.

R48 - Multifamily-Residential: intended to encourage townhouse or garden-type apartments in sections of the City where traffic and utility systems accommodate such density. In addition to residences, by right uses include day nurseries and adult day care facilities. Maximum height: 35 ft.

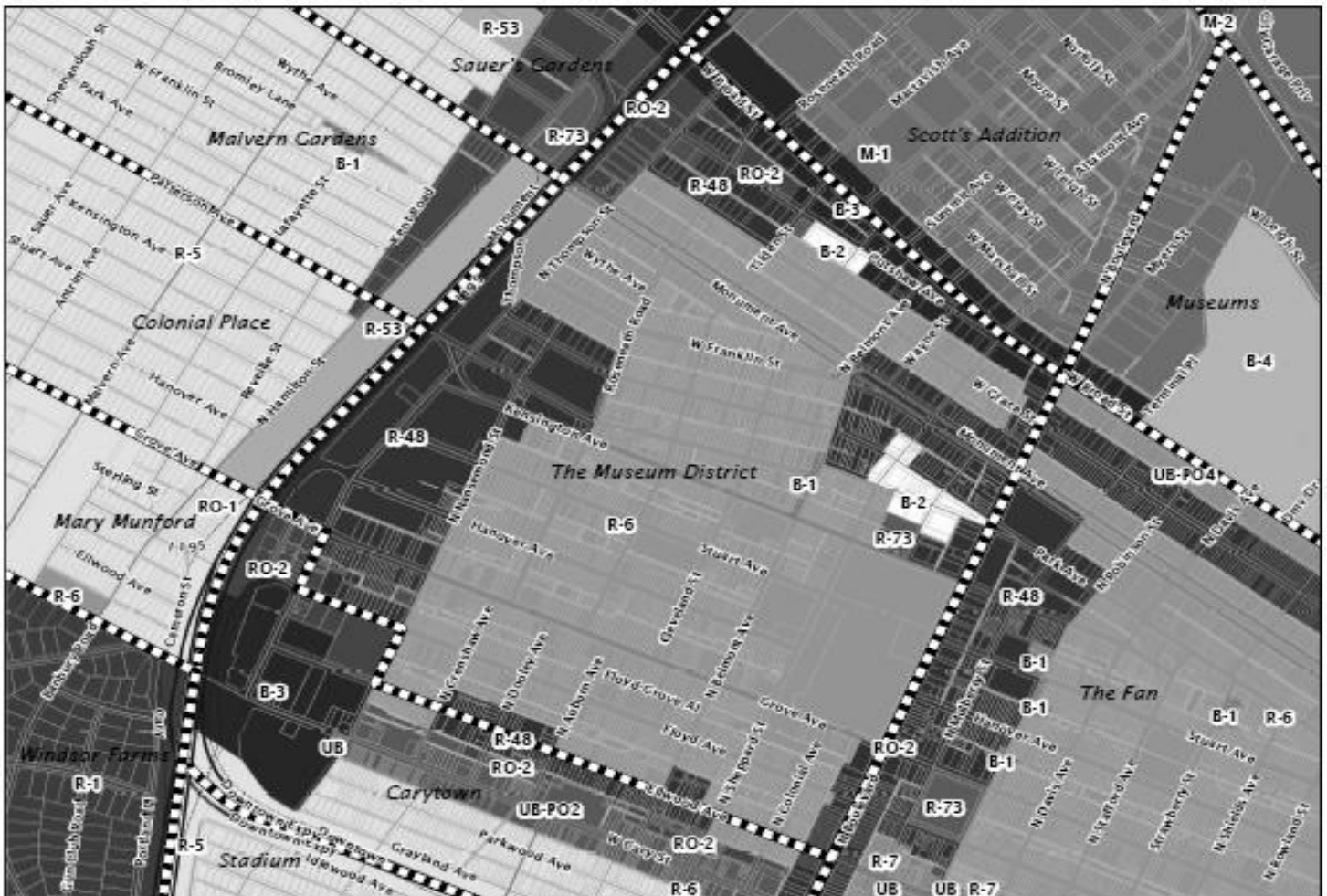
R73 - Multifamily Residential District: intended to encourage development of a medium-density neighborhood comprised of a mix of residential uses while promoting a pedestrian-oriented urban environment. Maximum height: 150 ft.

RO-2 - Residential-Office District: intended to encourage mixed use development which supports and incorporates into it business uses appropriate to the neighborhood. Allowable uses include parking decks, offices, banks, hospitals and funeral homes. Maximum height: 35 ft. (60 ft. on lots of 2 or more acres).

B1 - Neighborhood Business District: intended to preserve smaller, retail and service focused business appropriate for a residential neighborhood. Excludes newly constructed buildings larger than 10,000 square feet, as well as facilities with drive-up service or fuel dispensing equipment. Allows residential uses, but not on ground floor. Maximum height: 25 ft.

B-2 Community Business District: intended to encourage development of more intensive business uses serving community at large, while protecting neighboring residential areas. Allows a wide variety of business uses, including automobile-oriented business, provided they are not in a transition zone to residential areas. Maximum height: 35 ft.

B-3 General Business District: intended to encourage and preserve commercial areas and corridors. The most permissive business zoning, outside of the Central Business District and specialized mixed-use districts, that includes protections to maintain uninterrupted commercial frontage. Maximum height: 35 ft. (60 ft. under certain conditions).



2016 Admissions Programs begin October 15th.

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Nov. 3 through Dec. 15
*9:00 - 10:30 a.m. &
Tuesday, Dec. 1
7:00 p.m.*

Kindergarten

Friday, Nov. 6
Monday, Nov. 16
each at 9:30 a.m.

Middle School

Sunday, Nov. 22
Sunday, Jan. 10
each at 2:00 p.m.

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UCI ROAD WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS RICHMOND 2015 | USA

Reflections by a Richmonder *by Steve Thompson*

It seems like just yesterday the announcement was made that Richmond would host the 2015 UCI Road World Championships. September 19-27 brought many new people to the area to enjoy the event, and hopefully the overall experience for you was positive. Yes, we had to endure road closures and reconfiguration of our drives over the ten days, but life went on and the world did not end.

The Museum District had races on our roads three separate days, and what I saw during the Sunday event was amazing. Our neighbor, First Baptist Church of Richmond, had a bike valet, and handed out free water and cow bells.

According to the church, the cow bells were so popular they had to order more for races later in the week. There were hundreds of people lined up at the turn from Boulevard to Monument Avenue at the Stonewall Jackson Monument to watch the team races. The last day of racing saw the hundreds of competitors originating at the University of Richmond turn left from Carytown onto Boulevard and right onto Monument. The VMFA held a well-attended viewing party for the procession as it passed by on Boulevard.

I got chills down my spine watching the events live online during the week while in Orlando for work, knowing that millions of viewers around the world could literally see our front yard! I listened to the commentator with a European accent explain as the riders passed the Capitol that was designed by Thomas Jefferson, and the




Kanawha Canal whose development was overseen by George Washington. The best line I heard the commentator say was during the camera view down Monument Avenue. He said this is the world famous street that gives Richmond, Virginia its nickname "The City of Monuments."

It is my hope that you will look back on this experience and say that you met or talked to someone from another country, broke bread or had a drink with one, opened your home to one of the athletes, or hosted a gathering for one of the visiting teams that competed in the races.

I hope you were able to experience this international event firsthand.



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Town Hall Meeting Recap

The Museum District Association hosted a second town hall meeting for the neighborhood on the evening of Thursday, August 27 at St. Benedict School. The focus was the Richmond 2015 UCI Road World Championships and its impact on the Museum District.

About 80 residents heard from Monica Callahan of Richmond 2015 and Lt. Nolan of the Richmond Police Department. They explained in detail the dates and times of road closures and impacts to the Museum District. Richmond Police Department Sector 311 Lt. Stith and several officers including Officer Cox (the Museum District's bicycle officer) were on hand and answered questions about safety and crime.

Ruppert Beirne, chairman of St. Benedict Oktoberfest, told the group about the September 18-20 festival planned for the 11th annual event. He thanked neighbors for their understanding, patience, and support throughout the years that have made the family friendly event such a hit. First District Councilman Jon Baliles gave an update and answered residents' questions.

The MDA would like to acknowledge the two-year partnership with Richmond 2015. We are grateful that they participated in our town hall meeting. We also would like to thank Zeus Gallery Café and Cakes by Graham for providing a delicious refreshments.



A vertical advertisement for Black Hand Coffee Co. The background features various geometric and abstract patterns. At the top is a circular logo with a handprint and the text "Black Hand Coffee Co". Below the logo, the text reads: "A ROAST FOR EVERYONE! Stop by and enjoy our coffee in our cozy cafe situated at 3101 Patterson Ave. in the Museum District. We've got a roast for everyone! And enjoy 10% off your purchase with this ad. (expires 11/30/15) BlackHandCoffeeCo.com".

A square advertisement for Belmont Butchery. The background is black with white text and graphics. At the top, it says "THINK FALL" in large, bold letters, followed by "Tailgates | Holidays | Everyday" in a smaller font. Below this is a detailed illustration of a turkey's head. Underneath the turkey is the quote: "Our meat comes from farmers, not factories." At the bottom, the "BELMONT BUTCHERY" logo is displayed in a stylized font. The address "15 N. BELMONT AVENUE • RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23221" and website "BELMONTBUTCHERY.COM • 804.422.8519" are listed at the very bottom.

Neighborhood Business Profile

The Red-Hot Real Estate Market *Submitted by Deborah Edgar Real Estate Group*

Have you noticed all of the red-hot "SOLD!" signs throughout the Museum District this year? We've experienced a very strong seller's market, resulting in the sale of approximately 90 residential properties so far this year. Houses are selling almost as quickly as they are listed, often with multiple offers, and property values are on the rise. The median sales price of residential properties sold in the Museum District this year is \$300,000, compared to last year's average of \$288,000. An additional 20 residential properties are currently under contract, averaging a list price of \$320,000. This increase in value is healthy for the local economy, healthy for our personal prosperity, and healthy for business. Increased revenue is good for the City.

Speaking of increased values, have you enjoyed the sound of all the saws and hammers awakening you on Saturday mornings? There has been a tremendous surge of renovation and growth throughout the City this year. These improvements increase property values and encourage more individuals to join our wonderful neighborhood. As we know, the City offers a wealth of rich history, fabulous restaurants, beautiful parks, incredible architecture and local shopping. Don't you love living in an historic, walkable neighborhood? We invite you to keep your shopping local. It contributes greatly to our overall economic development. And with so many small businesses right in our backyard, it has never been easier to support our community merchants.

Are you thinking of buying or selling soon? Don't wait until the spring market! People move all year long for various reasons. Selling or buying during an "off" season can reduce competition and provide opportunity for economic advantages. Interest rates are still very low, inventory is reduced, and people still need to move! Whether buying or selling, seek a professional who specializes in the uniqueness of our City and one who knows and understands our historic-specific market.

Considering a renovation project for your enjoyment or increased value? It's important to measure the potential investment against future market value and hire professionals who are familiar with historic properties before you invest your hard-earned dollars. Your local professional real estate broker can assist in providing this valuable information.

It's an exciting time for our City and the Museum District. Our neighborhood is growing. We welcome all new residents to join us in loving where we live, work, and play!

• **We Live and Work in The City** •



Allison Elliott **Bill Payne** **Deborah Edgar**
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Deborah Edgar
Real Estate Group

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MDWC

Museum District Woman's Club

The Museum District Woman's Club is open to all ladies 21 and up who work, reside, or own property in the Museum District. We meet the third Wednesday of every month. Our meetings feature a guest speaker on a specific topic or theme, and also have plenty of time for catching up, meeting new people and learning something new. *We invite you to join us and see what we are all about!*

October 21: "Something Must Be Done About Prince Edward County" with Author, Kristen Green *featured on Oprah's Reading List* - 420 North Sheppard Street

November 18: **Holiday Fashion and Fun** at Eurotrash- 3009 Cary Street

December 16: **Holiday Social at The One Bed & Breakfast**- 1 N. Boulevard

January 20, 2016: **History of the Museum District** with Edwin Slipek- 3200 Floyd Avenue

February 17, 2016: **Nine Roses Jewelers**- 19 North Belmont Avenue



Are you on Nextdoor?

If you have not already done so, consider joining the neighborhood social network called **Nextdoor**. It is a great way to connect with your neighbors to meet, talk online, and share information that can make our neighborhood better and safer. As of September 8, there were 612 neighbors already utilizing this site. We now have more residents on Nextdoor than any neighborhood in Richmond! Let's get the Museum District to 1,000 users by year end!

Join today at www.Nextdoor.com.



Instagram

The Museum District now has an Instagram account!

Follow us at
[museumdistrictrva](https://www.instagram.com/museumdistrictrva)
 or you can follow us online at:
[instagram.com/museumdistrictrva](https://www.instagram.com/museumdistrictrva)

Do YOU have ideas for our quarterly *Columns* Newsletter?

If so, we would love to hear from you!

Contact James Shea with any suggestions:
MDAnewsletter@museumdistrict.org

- Would you like to see more information about Richmond events?
- Would you like to learn about some of our neighbors who make a difference in the community?
- Do you have a specific handyman project we could research?
- Do you want to nominate a non-profit to highlight in our Non-Profit Corner?
- Do you have a good story to tell?



Rob Wright is Cabinetry & Construction. He's on every job. He's the designer/builder, owner/worker, dreamer/pragmatist. Rob envisions improvements and makes them happen, always careful to honor the spirit of the original architect. So whether he's enlarging a small closet or renovating an entire kitchen, you know the change is in harmony with the home.

Rob has numerous credentials and awards, all earned through long experience. He is a Class A licensed design/build contractor, a Certified Green Professional, an accredited HVAC system installer, and a Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist. Yet there is no board of accreditation to validate his most significant skill—creativity. Hundreds of proud homeowners do that for him.

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Non-Profit Corner: 1708 Gallery's *InLight Richmond*

Contributed by Emily Smith, Executive Director

1708 Gallery's *InLight Richmond 2015* will be held on Friday, November 13 on the VMFA grounds. *InLight* is a public exhibition of light-based art - interactive projects, video, sculpture, performances, and more. Each year, *InLight* invites artists to respond to a particular site in our diverse city, attracting audiences to unique areas of Richmond. Over seven years, 1708's *InLight* has featured 190 local, national and international artists and artist collectives across some of Richmond's most unique neighborhoods and sites, from Broad Street to historic Tredegar to Monroe Park, and has engaged over 30,000 visitors. The partnership with VMFA continues this tradition of engaging with the histories and narratives of some Richmond's most evocative spaces.

The free event, from 7:00 AM until midnight, will include access to VMFA, which will stay open until midnight in honor of the event. *InLight 2015* will include special curated projects by Derek Larson, SuttonBeresCuller, Jacco Olivier, Ander Mikalson and John Dombrowski, and Jacob Stanley and will feature a selection of juried artworks selected by Alex Baker of Fleisher/Ollman Gallery in Philadelphia.

Leading up to *InLight*, 1708 organizes lantern-making workshops with partners throughout the city, including schools, non-profits and other arts organizations. New this year, 1708 is collaborating with the VMFA to coordinate a series of artist-led workshops that create lanterns inspired by work in the VMFA's permanent collections. All workshop participants, as well as the general public, are invited to walk in the Community



Art Installation from 2014 Event

Lantern Parade that kicks off *InLight*. *InLight* also features community-based projects from other arts and cultural organizations and non-profits.

InLight has received notable recognition including the 2013 Teresa Pollak Prize for Excellence in the Arts / Arts Innovator and grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts.

InLight Richmond is made possible in large part by the continued generosity and support of 1708 Gallery's *InLight* sponsors. To date *InLight 2015* supporters include the National Endowment for the Arts, Altria Group, WestRock Foundation, Windsor Foundation, E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation, McGuire-Woods, Eugene Holt Foundation, and Oliver Properties, as well as numerous individuals.

About 1708 Gallery

1708 Gallery is a non-profit contemporary art space located in the Downtown Arts and Culture District. Founded in 1978 by VCU arts faculty - Joseph Seipel, Richard Carlyon, Gerald Donato, Tom Chenoweth, James Bradford and Davi Det Hompson - 1708 is one of the longest-running nonprofit art spaces in the country and is committed to providing opportunities for artistic innovation for emerging and established artists and to expanding the understanding and appreciation of new art for the public.



Art Installation from 2014 Event

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646-0999

Building Permits, Inspections
646-6955

Environmental/Housing Code
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Fire Non-emergency
646-6640

Police Non-emergency
646-5100

Crime Stoppers
780-1000

3rd Precinct
646-1412

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

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

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

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

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

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



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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		
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	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.

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TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

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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.