



The Columns Winter 2016

A Publication of the Museum District Association

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*Museum District -
Richmond, VA*

Upcoming Events & Opportunities

Commit to making 2016 be your year
to get more involved in the MDA!

Here are some easy ways.

Mark Your Calendars:

Town Hall Meeting - Wednesday, March 9

See page 8 for more details

Mother's Day House & Garden Tour - Sunday, May 8

See page 4 for more details

Volunteer Opportunities:

Board Opening, position of Secretary

*See page 17 for more details or contact MDA Board President,
M.A. Powers at MDAPresident@MuseumDistrict.org*

House & Garden Tour Volunteers

*See page 4 for more details or contact Turner Cole at
MDAhousetour@museumdistrict.org*

IT/ Technology Assistance

*Contact MDA Board President, M.A. Powers at
MDAPresident@MuseumDistrict.org for more details*

MDA *Columns* Newsletter Distribution Volunteers

*We're always looking for volunteers to deliver our quarterly newsletter.
Contact Karen Headley at MDAnewsletterdelivery@museumdistrict.org*

We look forward to seeing you soon!



President's Column

Margaret A. Powers
2016 MDA Board President

Greetings neighbors and friends:

It is my pleasure to serve as your president for 2016. I joined the board just over a year ago and have been working as the secretary until recently. Many thanks and well wishes for those board members who completed their terms in 2015 and hallelujahs for the new and returning board members who are currently serving!

It is my love of the neighborhood that initially motivated me to serve on the board. The Museum District is such a fabulous place to live, and I am compelled to do my part to contribute to its success as a community. Once I became a member of the board, I was seriously impressed by the commitment of each board member to our community.

As president-elect it was my duty to ensure each position was filled for the coming year. As I began to reach out to people, I was blown away by the enthusiasm to serve that I found from my fellow neighbors. I have always believed that leaders should never ask another person to do anything they are not willing to try themselves. I am surrounded by leaders who share this ideology and passion. It's going to be a great year in the Museum District.

We will be conducting business in our regular fashion by holding monthly board meetings and special events such as our town hall meeting, Spring Fling, summer picnic, National Night Out, and our annual meeting. In addition to navigating issues that arise around us in the city, we have some defined goals for 2016: improvements to the median of Roseneath; banners throughout the neighborhood; maintenance of the traffic circles on Floyd; repair and replacement of street signs; monitoring and

contributing as needed to the progress of the Broad Street Bus Rapid Transit system; and our annual Mother's Day House & Garden Tour.

We depend on membership dues and the house tour to drive each of these maintenance needs and improvements in the neighborhood. We are all ambassadors for the historic community in which we live. Let's keep it beautiful, and vibrant, and safe. Be sure to join the Museum District Association and participate in our events, especially the house tour!

Additionally, if you are motivated or inspired to be part of our team, reach out to me or any other board member at any time. We currently have space for one additional member, particularly in the capacity of secretary and technical support. We also value your input and ideas, so don't be a stranger. I am looking forward to meeting and getting to know more of you throughout the year.

Best wishes for a healthy and happy new year!

Sincerely,
M.A.

Many thanks to the following merchants and restaurants who contributed to the success of our annual board work session in January:

- 10 Italian Cafe
- Ardent Brewery
- Belmont Food Shop
- Can Can
- Mongrel
- One Eyed Jaques
- Orange
- Plan 9
- Richmond Magazine
- Sweet Frog
- Ten Thousand Villages
- The Daily
- T-Shirt Studio

Museum District Association
 Founded 1964
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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

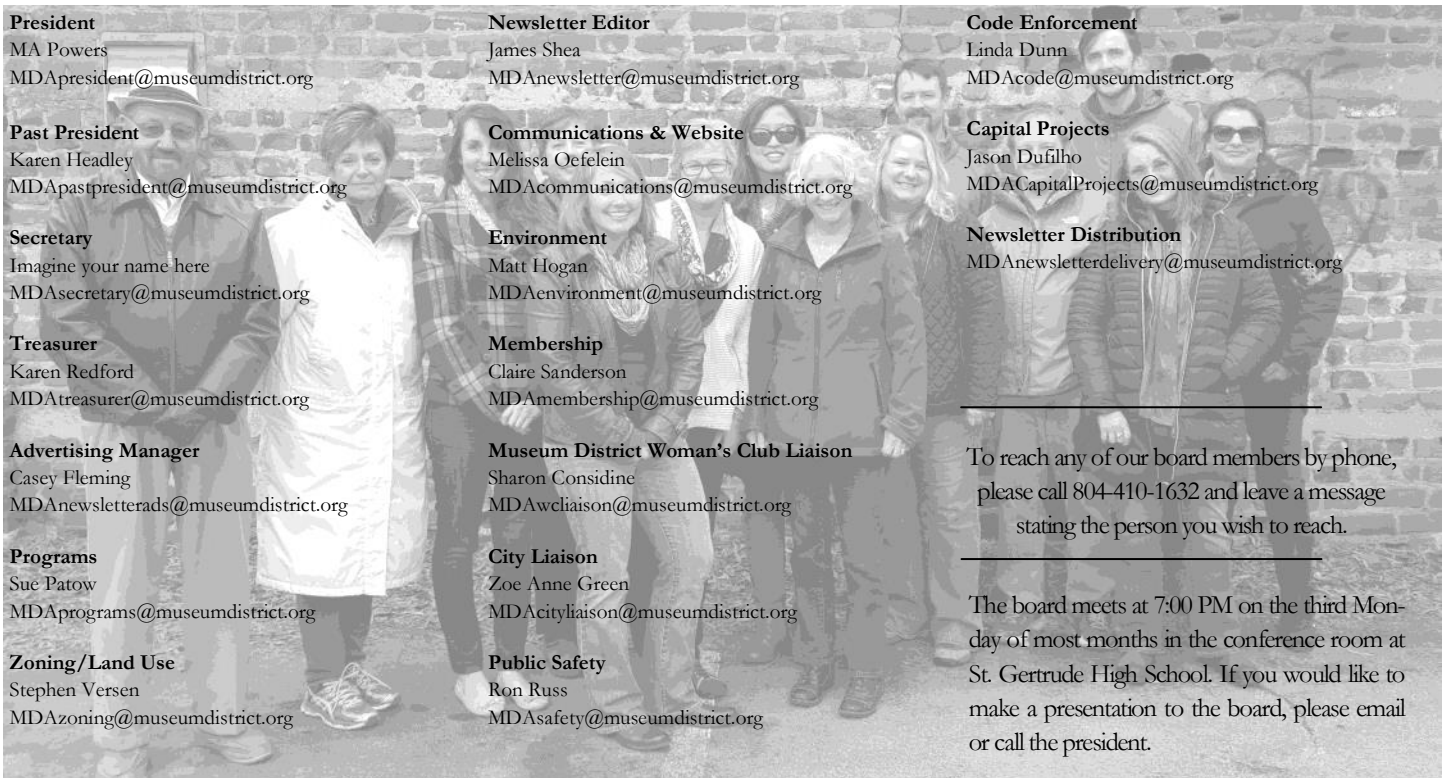
What	When	Where
Town Hall	March 9, Wednesday Refreshments: 6:15-6:30 PM Meeting: 6:30-8:00 PM	Temple Beth-El 3330 Grove Avenue (Please enter from Roseneath Road.)
Daylight Saving Time Begins	March 13, Sunday 2:00 AM	Spring forward one hour
Spring Fling*	April TBA	TBA
Mother's Day House & Garden Tour	May 8, Sunday 1:00 PM– 6:00 PM	Throughout the Museum District

* 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 emails 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

Board Of Directors



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<p>Advertising Manager Casey Fleming MDAnewsletterads@museumdistrict.org</p>	<p>Museum District Woman's Club Liaison Sharon Considine MDAwcliaison@museumdistrict.org</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>Programs Sue Patow MDAprograms@museumdistrict.org</p>	<p>City Liaison Zoe Anne Green MDAcityliaison@museumdistrict.org</p>	
<p>Zoning/Land Use Stephen Versen MDAzoning@museumdistrict.org</p>	<p>Public Safety Ron Russ MDAsafety@museumdistrict.org</p>	<p>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 to the board, please email or call the president.</p>

Mother's Day House & Garden Tour - May 8



Tour.

Over the past 21 years, more than 15,000 guests have celebrated Mother's Day in the Museum District, touring more than 150 incredible homes, gardens, and institutions. There really is no better way to spend a lovely spring day than by walking our tree-lined streets, enjoying the varied architecture, world-class institutions, fragrant and colorful blooms, local shops and eateries, and enjoying friendly neighbors.

While these are all great reasons to enjoy this Richmond tradition, the tour offers even more than a pleasant way to pass the day. Each year, proceeds from the tour are invested in projects to enhance the neighborhood's vitality and a percentage is donated to nonprofits that serve our neighborhood and city, including schools, cultural institutions, and services for our citizens and animal friends.

On Sunday, May 8, a selection of our neighborhood's most beautiful and unique homes will open their doors for the 22nd Annual Museum District Mother's Day House & Garden

This popular event would not be possible without the support of those who graciously open their doors and give of their time each year. We invite you to become a part of this annual tradition and help the Museum District Association continue to advance, advocate, protect, and unite the interests of our historic neighborhood.

Open your home or nominate a neighbor

There are many wonderful houses in the Museum District, and we need your help to find the ones that best showcase our diverse and eclectic neighborhood.

Become a sponsor

Your business will receive prominent placement in print and online promotions, reaching more than 700 tour attendees and 4200 residences through our newsletter distribution.

Volunteer

Whether you'd like to help out on the day of the tour or be part of a fun and energetic committee that meets regularly throughout the year, we have a position for you!

Contact Turner Cole at MDAhousetour@museumdistrict.org to sign up today!



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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A Word from State Senator Glen Sturtevant



As your state senator, I am preparing for a busy and productive general assembly session. As I stated during the campaign, I intend to focus on important government reforms like improving our schools, lowering taxes to grow our economy, and increasing transparency and accountability in state government.

Finally, I am committed to increasing transparency and accountability in government. While serving on the Richmond School Board, I led the initiative to put our school district check register online. I strongly believe that citizens should have access to how their tax dollars are spent, and will introduce legislation to require more government agencies to do the same. Additionally, I am sponsoring a bill to create an independent redistricting commission to eliminate political gerrymandering and make our legislative districts more cohesive and representative.

I will remain an advocate for responsible, commonsense education reforms to strengthen our public schools. I will push for a 4 percent pay raise for teachers, which is an investment that will help attract and retain excellent teachers. I will also work to reduce the number of SOL tests to allow teachers to spend more time developing critical thinking skills and limit “teaching to the test.”

I will remain an advocate for responsible, commonsense education reforms to strengthen our public schools. I will push for a 4 percent pay raise for teachers, which is an investment that will help attract and retain excellent teachers.

- Senator Glen Sturtevant

sive and representative.

I am honored to have the opportunity to serve you

and the entire 10th District. Your thoughts and concerns about the issues facing our community are invaluable to me.

To grow our economy, I am submitting legislation to reduce personal income tax rates, eliminate the accelerated sales tax, provide tax penalty relief for small businesses, and create a mechanism for budget surplus funds to be returned to taxpayers. Virginians can grow our economy from the ground up by keeping more of our hard earned dollars to spend, save, and invest.

During the General Assembly Session, I encourage you to contact me at: 804-698-7510, district10@senate.virginia.gov, P.O. Box 2535, Midlothian, VA 23113. Before and after session, I can be reached at: 804-601-4046 and glen@glensturtevant.com.

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Overlay District Leads to Innovative Design

By Stephen Versen, MDA Zoning & Land Use Committee Chair

In last Summer's edition of *The Columns*, we gave some background and an overview of the West of the Boulevard Design Overlay District. This ordinance, adopted soon after the neighborhood was placed on the National Registry of Historic Places in 1994, sought to safeguard our neighborhood from inappropriate development. The purpose of this article is to share a real life example of the how the West of the Boulevard Design Overlay District has impacted our neighborhood.

In the late 1990s, a plan emerged to build six new housing units, known as Village Grove, along the south side of the 3200 block of Grove Ave. The site had been vacant since a large building on the site was torn down after a fire. The project's architects, Johannas Design Group, looked to the West of the Boulevard Design Overlay District when designing these homes, specifically in regards to the facades. Here's a list of the eleven design requirements and how the architects dealt with each:

- 1. Existing Building Allowance:** *If an existing building is destroyed, a new building with a street façade matching that of the destroyed building is acceptable.* This did not apply since the architect was not seeking to mimic the structure that once stood on the site.
- 2. Cornice Height:** *If within 30 feet of an existing building, a new building's cornice must match it. If within 30 feet of two buildings, the new cornice can neither exceed nor fall below the height of those cornices. If no building is within 30 feet, the cornice must be between 23 to 30 feet above grade.* As there were no buildings within 30 feet, the architects used a height based off nearby homes.
- 3. Building Width:** *For lots less than 30 feet wide, the width of the building shall be the greatest allowed by the zoning ordinance (minimum side setbacks maintained). For lots greater than 30 feet, buildings must be between 20 and 30 feet wide.* This was a Special Use where one lot was subdivided into six lots that were equal to the average lot width in the immediate area. A spacing of roughly three feet between buildings was used.
- 4. Front Setback:** *The setback of the front façade from the street, excluding front porches, shall match the building on an adjacent side, but not be less than allowable by the Zoning Ordinance.* Front setback aligned with homes on the block.
- 5. Pitched Roof:** *Front façades shall have a pitched main building roof visible from the street.* All of the homes have pitched slate roofs facing the street. It should be noted, however, that this guideline does not take into account, and therefore not allow, three-story apartment buildings with parapets (a low protective wall along the edge of a roof), of which there are many in the neighborhood.
- 6. Building Material:** *The prominent building material on street-facing façade(s) shall be "standard" size brick, horizontal siding, or stucco.* The predominant material on all street façades is brick.
- 7. Fenestrations** (The arrangement, proportioning, and design of windows and doors in a building): *a) No sliding glass door or windows are allowed, b) first and second floor windows shall not be less than 15 square feet each, c) head height of first and second floor windows must be at least 7' 6", d) one decorative/ accent window less than 15 square feet shall be allowed, and e) the windows must have operational sashes.* Fenestration conforms to these requirements. There are no decorative windows, although some homes do have small oval stained glass in the entry.
- 8. First Floor Elevation:** *When within 30 feet of an existing building, the new construction's first-floor elevation shall match it; otherwise, the first floor elevation shall be at least 2' 6" above grade.* First-floor elevation is at least 2' 6" above grade. This is not measured from the sidewalk, but from the grade closest to the front wall of the home. The building code requires minimum height crawlspaces, which added to the depth of the floor structure. This guideline can make it difficult for a multi-family dwelling to meet accessibility codes without the introduction of ramps, lifts, etc.
- 9. Front Door:** *The main entrance (front) door shall face the street and be in the front façade.* The front door faces the street.
- 10. Front Porches:** *They are not required, but if present: a) no treated lumber shall be visible, b) porch columns must be 8" wide x 8" deep or 8" diameter, and c) the porch's cornice must match those of buildings within 30 feet.* Front porches do not have exposed treated wood, and the columns are 10" to 12" in diameter or square dimension, depending on which design was chosen. Although not within 30 feet of an existing building, the cornice and the remainder of the porches were designed to be consistent with the prevailing porches in the area in scale, materials and dimension.
- 11. Accessory Building:** *Where a garage or accessory building faces a street, the prominent building material on the street façade(s) shall be "standard" size brick, horizontal siding, or stucco.* This project had no garages or accessory buildings facing the street.

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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.

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.

Spread the Love - Thursday, February 11 at 4 PM
Interactive workshop to make a special Valentine's craft.

Black History Movie - Wednesday, February 17 at 4 PM

National Fairy Tale Day - Thursday, February 25 at 4 PM
Celebrate with a special Fairy Tale Storytime.

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

Inform * Enrich * Empower

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Town Hall on March 9

The next Museum District Association town hall meeting is Wednesday, March 9 and is related to the Bus Rapid Transit system - The Pulse.

The route stretches from Willow Lawn to Rocketts Landing, along Broad Street and E Main Street. The route and station locations are set, as well as most of the station design. Pre-construction is to begin in March of this year.

The Richmond Department of Planning and Development Review will share the current land use environment and ask for our input regarding what uses and development we would like to

see along the route. There will also be discussion about connectivity to the Pulse.

To learn more, visit: richmondgov.com/PlanningAndDevelopmentReview/BrfTodPlan.aspx. There you will find a survey about the plan. Please take a moment to express your views.

What: Town Hall Meeting
When: Wednesday, March 9
Time: 6:15 PM refreshments, 6:30 PM meeting begins
Where: Temple Beth-El (3300 Grove Ave.)
RSVP: If you are coming, please let us know at rvsp@museumdistrict.org.

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Five Ideas for an Organized New Year

By Amanda Scudder, *Abundance Organizing*

Getting organized is a popular New Year's resolution. There are countless articles to help you put your home in order, but many overlook the fact that organization starts from within. To move from resolution to action in 2016:

- **Imagine the Freedom of Living With Less:** Picture this—you are going on an extended trip and can only bring one suitcase. What will you put in it? What will you miss? And more importantly, what will you not miss?
- **Honor the Rule of the Gift:** When you are given a gift, your only obligation is to receive it with gratitude. After that, the item is yours to do with as you wish. Release the things you don't want so they can find a place where they are needed.
- **Practice Mindfulness:** Adopt the mindset of a curious child and observe how things are coming in and leaving your home, how they are being put away, or not. Avoid judging, just notice.
- **Choose the Path of Least Resistance:** Consider small changes that work with your current habits. If you observe that you drop your jacket on the chair by the door, consider installing a coat tree nearby. If you often lose your keys, designate an eye-catching dish on the hall table and practice putting the keys there every time.
- **Find a Cause:** When the holidays have passed, many non-profits experience a drop in donations, but the needs don't disappear. Keep a bag handy for duplicates, things you no longer love or use, or things that have been replaced. When the bag is full, take it to a local non-profit that is meaningful to you.

The things we own and the commitments we make require our time, energy, and attention. Carefully curating our lives to include only those things that are useful, meaningful, and beautiful benefits others and ourselves. Best wishes for a 2016 that is filled with the things that matters most to you!



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SNOW REMOVAL REMINDER

It is important to remember that residents are required to clear snow on sidewalks adjacent to their property within six hours of snow stopping or by 11 PM the next day if snow continues to fall through the night. City code holds property owners and occupants responsible for doing so.

BE SAFE AND STAY WARM!

TRIM YOUR LIRIOPE BEFORE SPRING

After you have removed the snow, it will be time to trim your liriope, also known as "monkey grass." Be sure to trim damaged old foliage before its healthy new foliage emerges in spring but wait until the threat of subzero temperatures subsides.

Happy Trimming!



MDWC

Museum District Woman's Club

By Sharon Considine, Museum District Woman's Club Liaison

Each year, the Museum District Woman's Club adopts a charity for the holidays. This year's charity is the Fan Free Clinic (FFC).

Established in 1968, the Fan Free Clinic's mission was to provide quality health services, especially to those least served, in a compassionate and non-judgmental environment.

In addition to providing medical services and mental health counseling, they run a food pantry and a lending library that includes children and adult books.

At the December MDWC meeting, we had a very special guest speaker, Heather Turbyne-Pollard, Director of Resources & Philanthropy at the FFC. Heather outlined the clinic's mission statement, showing how it has helped, and continues to help, those in need in our community.



The MDWC donated \$200 and many members brought food and books to supplement the food pantry and lending library.

Donations are accepted year-round. If you would like to make a donation or volunteer, you can visit the FFC website at www.fanfreeclinic.org.

MDWC Adopts the Fan Free Clinic as Holiday Charity

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Richmond Police Officer Spotlight: Jay P. Riley



How long have you been with the RPD and in Sector 311?

I have been with the department for 21 years. Of those years, I have been assigned to Sector 311 for 11 years.

What is unique about patrolling in the Museum District?

Being in the Museum District, I come across people from different areas in Richmond, as well as across the nation and overseas. The Museum District attracts visitors throughout the year. I have had the opportunity to learn about other cultures and have mediated differing opinions between several local groups. I have met with City and State officials.

What is a fun fact that most people don't know about you?

Every school morning, I meet with the kids coming in for school at Mary Mumford. I always meet the children with high-fives and smiles. I'm known as Officer Jay and the kids love seeing me every morning. I open the doors of the vehicles the children are being transported in, and greet as many as I can.

What is the most rewarding thing about your job?

Being able to influence the youth of the community to do good and show love to one another always makes me feel great. I have seen several kids grow into respectful adults, and they thank me for being a part of their lives.

What is a typical day like for you?

Every day presents new challenges for me. Once we finish roll call at the precinct, the rest is a mystery. In sector 311, you can handle calls from a simple parking complaint to a violent offense. The anticipation of the upcoming calls keeps me on my toes. At the end of each day, I feel I have made a difference. There are very few employment opportunities that can afford you that feeling.

Why is it important to report suspicious activity?

By alerting us of this type of activity, we can increase our presence to reduce the chance of criminals taking advantage of the residents and visitors in the communities.

How does it help?

By identifying the suspicious individuals, we assist in locating offenders to crimes committed in the areas. We can also

show the criminals that together, we are not going to allow their behavior to go unpunished.

What is something citizens can do to prevent/deter crime?

Do not allow yourself to be a victim. Practice behaviors like securing any valuables you have in your trunk and lock all the doors. Do not leave valuables in plain view for the criminals to see. When walking alone, walk in well-lit areas. Keep the window treatments on the street level of your homes closed, so criminals cannot look in and be tempted to break in to steal your personal property. If you see suspicious activity, please call us.

Fun fact about you or anything else you would like to add?

I have taken the discipline instilled in me from the Marine Corps and used it to have a successful career with the department. This discipline also spills over to my personal life. I have raised two well-mannered boys, one of whom has joined the Richmond City Fire Department. That makes a dad proud.



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!

Annual Meeting Sees Strong Attendance



The MDA Annual Meeting took place Wednesday, November 11 at Temple Beth-El. The 135 attendees were treated to a lively meeting presided over by 2015 MDA President Steve Thompson. Special thanks go to Temple Beth-El for the meeting space, and Josephine for the wonderful food she prepared onsite for our enjoyment.

Highlights of the meeting include:

- Membership has steadily risen since 2010
- Crime is down 32% from 2010 and 10% from 2014
- The 2015 Mother's Day House & Garden Tour brought in over \$15,000
- Attendance at annual events was robust, with 150 members at the popular Spring Fling
- *Style Weekly* Senior Contributing Editor Edwin Slipek provided a rousing narrative of the Museum District

Several presentations were made:

- \$2,500 check to Albert Hill Middle School Principal La Shante Knight and PTA Treasurer Anne Ewald for meeting the MDA two-to-one grant challenge to assist in funding a marquee sign in front of the school
- Richmond Police Department Sector 311 Lt. Michael Stith received the Museum District City Star Award
- Museum District resident Joe Crane received the Museum District Volunteer Star Award

How to stay in touch with us

We enjoyed seeing so many new faces along with all of the regulars at the annual meeting. Please be sure to connect with us and join in the fun for 2016.

Email: MuseumDistrict.org - sign up on the home page
 Facebook: Museum District – Richmond, VA
 Twitter: @museumdistrict
 Instagram: Museumdistrictrva





Construction Starts on Floyd Avenue Traffic Circles



Have you seen the construction on Floyd Ave? A project to improve biking and pedestrian safety in the Museum and Fan Districts has begun. Part of the city's Bike Master Plan, the project is the first of several multi-modal improvements that will take place in Richmond. It will stretch from VCU to Thompson St.

The project has been in the works for some time. During

the planning stage, multiple public meetings were held, including one last year at the Virginia Historical Society. Input from the public helped to shape the direction of the project.

In the Museum District, traffic circles are being placed at the intersections of Floyd and Dooley, Auburn, and Belmont. Raised crosswalks and bump outs will be installed at certain intersections, as well. Upon completion, the speed limit will be reduced to 20 MPH.

The Museum District Association has committed to maintaining the landscaping inside the circles once the circles are completed.



The Museum District now has an Instagram account!


Follow us at
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Joining the MDA Helps Support the Community

By Clair Sanderson, MDA Membership Chair

The start of a new year is a time for setting goals – you may have made new year’s resolutions to be more active, save more, or get more organized. But did you know one of the most important resolutions you can make this year is to be more involved in your community?

Being involved in your neighborhood offers many benefits. You will get to know your neighbors better, make your voice heard on important community issues, and make our neighborhood a safer and more beautiful place to live.

The Museum District Association is a volunteer organization and relies on the support of our members to fulfill our mission:

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.

We are an active organization with almost 600 members. Some of the things that we do are:

- Create open communication with the city and surrounding neighborhoods
- Design and coordinate beautification projects to improve the overall appearance of the neighborhood
- Provide input on zoning issues
- Work closely with law enforcement officials

- Publish *The Columns*, a quarterly newsletter that is hand-delivered to every residence and business in the district
- Communicate with our members via emails and social media to notify them of important community events and safety concerns

We work hard, but we have fun, too! We host a variety of events throughout the year that encourage neighbors to engage in their community, such as: Mother’s Day House & Garden Tour, summer picnic, National Night Out, Spring Fling, annual meeting, alley clean-ups in the spring and the fall, and town hall meetings.

Becoming a member is a great way to give back and be a part of the community. Whether you are picking up this newsletter for the first time or are a longtime member and considering renewing, we hope that you will make the choice to join the organization and get involved in 2016.

There are three different ways to join:

- Complete and mail the enclosed envelope
- Complete and mail the form on the back of this newsletter
- Go to MuseumDistrict.org, where you can also sign up for our email communications.

An MDA membership is just \$15, with senior and household discounts available. This just may be the best deal you find all year!



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Front Porch

Richmond SPCA Dog Jog and 5K Run

Date: Saturday, April 16

Time: 9 AM to 1 PM

Location: 2519 Hermitage Road

Join area animal lovers at the Richmond SPCA's 14th Annual Dog Jog and 5K Run, presented by Holiday Barn Pet Resorts. The family and pet-friendly event supports the lifesaving work of Central Virginia's oldest full-service, no-kill humane society. The day begins at 9 PM with the opening of the Concours Auto Detailing Vendor Fair at the Robins-Starr Humane Center, featuring a Kids' Fun Zone and Pets' Fun Zone. Runners and walkers take to the streets at 9:30 AM in the chip-timed 5K (for people only), followed at 11 PM by the leisurely one-mile Dog Jog for all the dogs and their families. Register at www.richmondspca.org/dogjog.

Children's Museum of Richmond

Date: Saturday, Feb. 6

Time: 11 AM- 1 PM

Location: 2626 West Broad

Elijah Coles-Brown is a local middle school student and motivational speaker. Elijah will perform at 11 AM as Frederick Douglass and again at 1 PM to recite Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s, "I Have a Dream" speech. To learn more about Elijah, visit his website at www.dreamersimagine.com/.

Byrd Theater

Date: Thursday, Feb. 18

Time: 7 PM

Location: 2808 West Cary Street

For one night, the Byrd Theater is screening an award-winning documentary about ultra-marathoner Micah True, aka Caballo Blanco. True was a major character in the best-selling book *Born to Run – A Hidden Tribe, Super Athletes and the Greatest Race the World Has Never Seen* by Christopher McDougall. The documentary tells the story of True's effort to create an ultra-marathon race in Mexico's Copper Canyon to preserve running culture in the region.

Virginia Historical Society

Date: Thursday, February 4

Time: 12 PM—1 PM

Location: 428 North Boulevard

The Rev. Benjamin P. Campbell will deliver a Banner Lecture entitled "Richmond and the American Dream: Revolution and Reality." The cost of the lecture is \$6, free for members.



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Meet Our New Board Members

Sharon Considine, MDWC Liaison



Sharon was raised in Chicago, but her Southern roots lead her back to Virginia, where most of her family lives. She has lived in Richmond for over 30 years, nine of which have been in the Museum District with her husband Mark.

Sharon and her husband love living in the Museum District and enjoy all the friends they have made and the amenities the community has to offer.

Casey Fleming, Advertising Manager



Casey was born in South Korea and came to the US when she was four months old. She has a twin sister who was adopted with her.

She grew up in Canandaigua, N.Y., a small Finger Lakes town in Western New York. She attended American University and began working

for IBM right out of college.

IBM moved her to Milwaukee, Wisc. for two years, and she was transferred back to Washington, DC. Her husband also works for IBM, and they have lived in Richmond together for about eight and a half years.

Picture Yourself Here - Board Opening

The MDA Board has a current opening for secretary. This three-year board position is a good way to become involved if you are new to the Museum District. Primary responsibilities include recording minutes at the monthly board meetings which take place on the third Monday of each month at 7:00 PM. Time commitment for position and related board involvement is about five to six hours per month, including the board meeting.

Contact MDA Board President, M.A. Powers for more info: MDAPresident@MuseumDistrict.org

Matt Hogan, Environment Chair

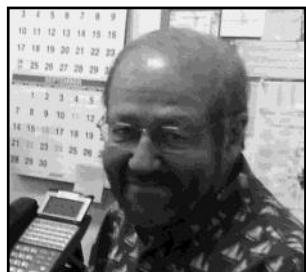


Matt is a Virginia native who has lived in Richmond for the past three years. After spending some time in the Pacific Northwest, Matt moved to Richmond with his wife, Emily, and bought a 1926 house on Roseneath.

Matt's favorite things about the Museum District are its walkability, bikeability, and access to the bus system. When the weather's nice, he can be found walking his dog, Emma, or playing volleyball at Humphrey Caulder Community Center. Matt is an architect at Walter Parks Architect in Jackson Ward.

As the new Environment Chair, he's looking forward to maintaining and improving the appearance of the Museum District's public spaces!

Ron Russ, Public Safety Chair



Ron has owned a home on Grove Avenue since 1979. Over the years he has rented the home and used part of it as a home office. Four years ago, he made the house his permanent residence and has been enjoying the varied amenities of the neighborhood.

He enjoys attending jazz evenings at the VMFA and is an avid golfer April thru November. He has four adult children and three grandchildren who reside in the area. Ron has worked in contract furniture manufacturing and sales his entire life and currently serves as a product development manager for a national furniture company.

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

- Open Your Home**
- Volunteer**
- Become a Sponsor**
- Advertise Your Business in the Tour Guide**
- Attend**

Museum District Set to See Several Capital Projects

By Jason Dufilho, MDA Capital Projects Chair

As the first person to hold the position of capital projects chair, I've initially been tasked with ushering through three projects from our community's wish list. These projects include: the Blue Street Sign Project, the Roseneath Median Project, and the Neighborhood Banner Project. While each project is distinct, they share a common focus on maintaining the character of our streets west of the Boulevard.

Blue Street Sign Project:

All of the street signs within the Museum District have been surveyed to identify and evaluate levels of disrepair or locations of missing signs. In cooperation with the City of Richmond, these signs will be repaired or replaced to keep our streets easily identifiable, distinguished, and presentable. Our neighborhood's upkeep and safety remain top priorities.

Roseneath Median Project:

The Roseneath Project's main goal will be to preserve and beautify the median on Roseneath Road while at the same time addressing some of the practical issues and safety concerns that the median presents to residents, city maintenance service vehicles and passers through. Although the project is extensive, some general improvements you can expect to see are:

Alley Crossings – Repair the turf and look at the possible use of bollards adjacent to the alleys. Residents in the area brought to our

attention the difficulty of large city service trucks navigating out of the alley onto Roseneath without driving onto the median.

Landscaping – New trees and shrubs will be planted to maintain a unified and consistent appearance, with consideration towards their health and successful growth.

Sidewalks – Paving will be installed on the median at the cross streets. This is intended to provide a more secure and clean place for pedestrians to stand as they traverse Roseneath Road. The paving will also protect the plantings and turf from potential damage from turning vehicles.

A special thanks to Museum District resident, Karen Kelly, for her help assembling the landscape drawings, and to VHB Incorporated for their assistance with the engineering. Expect to see construction activity soon!


Neighborhood Banner Project:

Museum District pole mounted banners, similar to those found in Carytown, are planned for key entry points throughout the Museum District. This is intended to provide an inclusive feel and inviting gateway into our community. Museum District banners will also distinguish our unique Richmond community from other districts in the area. The design for the banners are underway, and we hope to have them flying soon.

Our committee will be busy as we move in to 2016.

If you are interested in joining this effort, please contact me at MDAcapitalprojects@museumdistrict.org.

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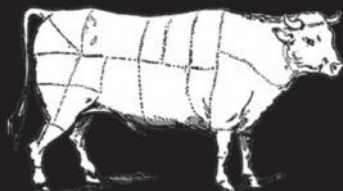
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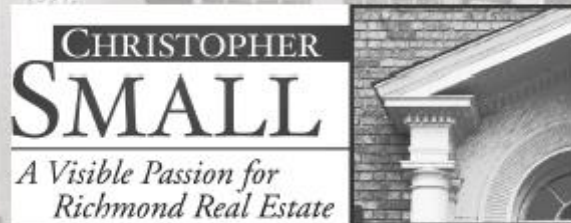
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City

Mayor Dwight Jones
646-7970

Chief Administrative Officer
Selena Cuffee-Glen
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

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911

Fire Non-emergency
646-6640

Police Non-emergency
646-5100

Crime Stoppers
780-1000

3rd Precinct
646-1412

City Council

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

General Assembly

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

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

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



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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.

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 \$ _____

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West of Boulevard Historic District Plaque Order Form



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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.

NOTE: 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.