



# This Week in the Fan

## January 9, 2021

### What's Upcoming

- 1/11 & 14 - PPE kit pickup for small businesses at Convention Center
- 1/17 - Deadline to apply for the COVID-19 Municipal Utility Relief Program
- 1/18 - Last day to see Treasures of Ancient Egypt: Sunken Cities at VMFA

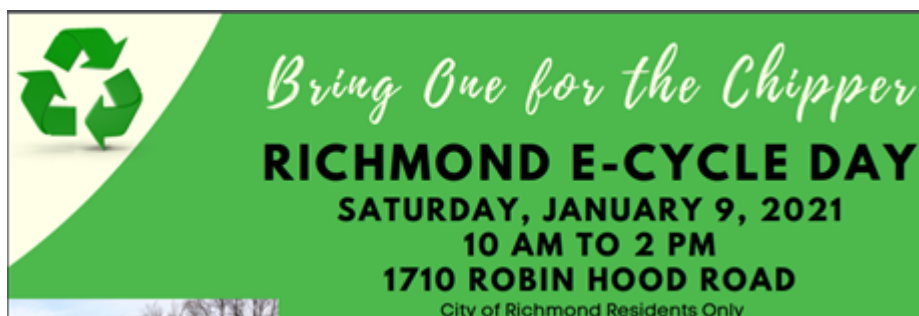
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## Around the Fan

### The FDA Needs You!

The FDA is looking for a few volunteers to fill the following roles:

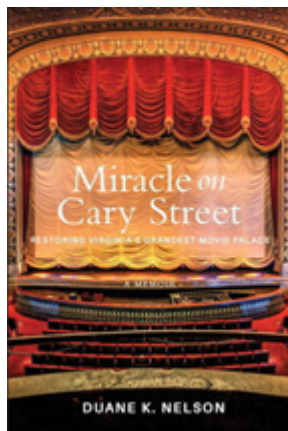
- park stewards to help care for all of our beautiful Fan parks. If you have an interest, please contact [Chris Morem](#).
- Fan Village Leaders to help your neighbors "age in place". If you have an interest, please email [fanvillage@fandistrict.org](mailto:fanvillage@fandistrict.org) to learn more about this way to help seniors in our community.



Includes Christmas Trees, Papers, Computers, Household Hazardous Waste

[Click here for details](#)

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### **Byrd Theater Memoir: Miracle on Cary Street**

“Miracle on Cary Street: Restoring Virginia’s Grandest Movie Palace,” a memoir by Duane K. Nelson tells the behind-the-scenes story of how the Byrd Theatre was saved by a handful of die-hard fans and turned into Richmond’s beloved movie palace. It is full of secrets, scandals and ghost stories.

Released in late November, signed copies of “Miracle on Cary Street” (\$14.99, Little Star) are available locally at the Fountain Bookstore at 1312 E. Cary St., Bygones Vintage Clothing at 2916 W Cary St., Chop Suey Books at 2913 W. Cary St. and Book People at 536 Granite Ave. It is also available from Amazon or Barnes & Noble.



### **Introducing Game Parties!**

Now booking for January and February.

You, your friends, and your gaming system playing on the BIG SCREEN! (up to 10 people)

Day & evening times available.

[Click for details](#)

## **New Historic Plaques Arriving Soon**

Plaques that have been ordered and paid for are tentatively scheduled to arrive mid-late January.

Haven't ordered one yet? It's not too late to get yours!

To purchase, [click here](#).



# Museums

## Virginia Museum of Fine Arts

Treasures of Ancient Egypt: Sunken Cities offers a rare opportunity to experience firsthand the material culture of Ptolemaic Egypt, a golden age of human creativity in science as well as the visual and literary arts. Exciting film footage and photographs illustrate underwater expeditions and dramatic rediscoveries, as deep-sea divers solve a thousand-year-old mystery through archaeological research and innovation. Visitors will encounter these findings firsthand and witness a story that continues to unfold through ongoing excavations. Treasures of Ancient Egypt: Sunken Cities tells a riveting human saga of grandeur, complexity, wealth, and power, reminding us of the potentially devastating effects of natural disasters and the vulnerability of even the mightiest of human civilizations. Now through January 18.

Please note that the museum will close at 5 pm New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

[Get Tickets](#)

## Children's Museum of Richmond

A visit to the Children's Museum isn't just fun (although it definitely is that!). It's an opportunity for the whole family to play and learn together.

From fundamental concepts to socialization skills, language development, and much more, recent research shows that play has a positive impact on a child's academic performance. To put it another way, when children play ahead, they get ahead!

[Get Tickets](#)

Looking for fun ways to enrich your kids this holiday season? [Sign up for socially distanced family classes!](#)



## **Richmond 300 Plan Adopted**

City Council adopted, by unanimous vote, Richmond 300: A Guide for Growth. This is the first comprehensive update to the City's Master Plan in almost 20 years and will chart the path forward over the next 20 years.

The Plan's Vision Statement: "In 2037, Richmond is a welcoming, inclusive, diverse, innovative sustainable, and equitable city of thriving neighborhoods, ensuring a high quality of life for all."

Thousands of Richmonders were instrumental in crafting the Plan, and doing it in a way that creates opportunities for many who are not normally involved in planning processes to see themselves as part of the new Richmond.

Click here for the [Executive Summary](#).



## **Virtual Second Semester**

RPS has officially announced that schools will remain completely virtual for the second semester beginning on February 8, 2021. Further updates will be shared in [RPS Direct](#) and posted to the [#ReopenWithLove section of our website](#).

## **Support Our Schools**

There are many ways to support RPS and #ServeWithLove! RPS needs volunteers to support [meal distribution](#), [technology distribution](#) and [school supply kit packing](#). You can also learn more about how to [Donate to RPS](#).

Need help? Call the RPS Family Support Helpline at 804-780-6195 and learn more about [other resources available to families](#).



**RPD**

## **Police Advisories**

When the FDA Board receives a Police Advisory or Electronic Update from the RPD, the notification is posted on the [FDA Facebook page](#). Additionally, it typically appears in the Richmond Times-Dispatch the next day.

A complete, up to date listing of [Advisories](#) is available on the RPD [website](#).

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## **VCU COVID-19 Updates**

### **Sign Up for VCU Alerts**

Being an informed member of the community is essential to staying safe. Take a moment to [read about what you should \(and shouldn't\) do](#) during specific types of emergencies, [familiarize yourself with the different types of alerts](#) that Virginia Commonwealth University sends out and [learn about the Clery Act's role](#) in campus emergency communications.

Information [for parents of VCU students](#) and [members of the local community](#).

### **Join the Friends of VCU Libraries**

Join the Friends of VCU Libraries and receive borrowing privileges with convenient [front-door pickup](#) at your neighborhood library -- James Branch Cabell Library! More information about the Friends is [available here](#).

[Free online programming](#) at VCU Libraries continues: [Community Zooms](#) on a wide variety of topics, [Friends of the Library Book Club](#) meetings, lectures, and workshops. All are welcome.

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### **Covid-19 Dashboard**

### **Covid-19 Testing Sites**

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## **City Distributes 500 PPE Supply Kits to Small Businesses**

Any business within the Richmond city limits is eligible to sign up to pick up a kit on Monday, January 11 or Thursday, January 14. from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. On both days, city staff will be outside the 5th Street entrance to the Convention Center to distribute supply kits to business owners.

The kits will include three bottles of spray disinfectant, a gallon jug of disinfectant, a disinfectant wipe dispenser, 1,800 disinfectant wipes, a gallon jug of hand wash, two gallon jugs of hand sanitizer, two boxes of nitrile gloves and 100 masks. The kits are specifically designed for small businesses to provide an experience as safe as possible for employees and customers.

To facilitate seamless and quick pickup, [interested parties are asked to preregister here](#). Supplies are limited, and those who fail to preregister are not guaranteed a supply kit.

Upon pickup, small business representatives must verify that their business is located in the City of Richmond by providing a copy of their business license, receipt of application for a business license, utility bill statement, tax invoice or payment, or other similar documentation that provides a City of Richmond address.

Purchase of the supply kits is made possible through the city's federal CARES Act allocation. The value of all 500 kits is roughly \$250,000.

For more information, [visit the program page on RVAStrong](#).

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## **Good to Know**

### **Phone Down, It's the Law**



Effective January 1, 2021, it is illegal to hold a handheld personal communications device (e.g., your smartphone) while driving a moving motor vehicle on Virginia highways.

Violations are subject to a fine of \$125 for the first offense and \$250 for the second and subsequent offenses.

## **Richmond Department of Public Utilities offers Utility Relief Assistance**

RICHMOND Department of Public Utilities is currently accepting applications from customers who have fallen behind on their utility bills as a result of an economic hardship due to COVID-19.

Funding is designed to be a one-time opportunity, with one payment per household or business.

This assistance is in addition to the moratorium suspending disconnections issued by the City in early March, which remains in effect.

Extended payment plans have been established as well as automatic payment plans for eligible customers. As always, customers experiencing economic hardships are encouraged to contact DPU at (804) 646-4646 to discuss their payment options.

To be eligible for funding under this Relief Program, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Be a customer of the City of Richmond Department of Public Utilities with active utility service;
- Have experienced/been impacted by an economic hardship due to COVID;
- Have fallen behind on their City water, wastewater, or natural gas utility bill for services during the period of March 1, 2020 through December 30, 2020;
- Have not received any other forms of local relief or financial assistance for their City utility services; **AND**
- Submit a completed application where all information is valid and legible. Please read instructions carefully.

Your [application](#) must be received by midnight Sunday, January 17, 2021.

- City Hall | 900 E. Broad Street, Room 115
- East District Initiative | 701 N. 25th Street
- Southside Community Services Center | 4100 Hull Street

### **City of Richmond Real Estate Tax Exemptions**

The city of Richmond currently has two exemption options available for citizens who are either age 65 or older or who are permanently and totally disabled. Both of these exemptions apply only to real estate taxes. Qualification for either of these exemption programs is based on the income and net worth of the property owner, plus the income of others living in the household.

[Click here for complete details.](#)



## **Important Links**

- [Fan District Association Website](#)
- [Museum District Website](#)
- [Richmond City Government](#)
- [Richmond City Health Department](#)
- [Richmond City Public Schools](#)
- [Virginia Commonwealth University](#)

## **Questions? Suggestions? Comments?**

Please reach out to [news@fandistrict.org](mailto:news@fandistrict.org). We want to hear from you!

- Like us on [Facebook](#)
- Follow us on [Twitter](#)

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