



CITY OF PETERSBURG

COMMUNICATIONS

135 N. Union Street PETERSBURG, VIRGINIA 23803
(804) 347-3321
JWILLIAMS@PETERSBURG-VA.ORG

Week Ahead – December 8, 2013

AMC's Colonial Era Spy Series Begins Filming in Petersburg

Turn, a new series for AMC will begin filming in Old Towne Petersburg this week. Set designers and production crews are on-site transforming the Farmers Market, South Side Depot, Farmers Bank and the McIlwaine House into Revolutionary War period sets. "Petersburg is a natural setting for a Rev War film, with its many historical buildings and streetscapes. Filming here will give Petersburg national exposure as well as increase visitation" says City Manager William E. Johnson



III. The pilot for the film was shot in Virginia earlier this year and AMC ordered a ten-episode season of the show to premiere on AMC in 2014. *Turn* is based on the nonfiction book "Washington's Spies: The Story of America's First Spy Ring" by Alexander Rose. The story is centered on a band of young soldiers and civilians who were part of a top-secret spy ring that assisted George Washington and helped America to win the Revolutionary War. The film industry in Virginia plays a significant role in the state's economy. In 2011, total economic impact of the film and television industry in Virginia was \$394.4 million, a 14.5 percent increase over 2010. In addition, 3,817 jobs were attributed to the film industry in 2011, up from 2,651 jobs in 2010. In the past two years, *Lincoln*, *Killing Lincoln* and *The Abolitionist* have filmed in Petersburg. The economic impact of *Turn* shooting in Virginia is estimated to be \$45 million per season. Filming in Petersburg is expected to continue at various times during the winter months. Take a look at the first preview of *Turn*:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AnSmrfgs3EM>

Former Holiday Inn Coming Down

Entranceway revitalization is underway. The old Holiday Inn at exit 52 (the City's main entranceway from I-95/I-85 and Fort Lee) is coming down. Demolition began in mid-November and the building should be completely down by the end of January, 2014. City Council approved an ordinance in June declaring the structure as a blighted property and a nuisance to the community.



Ward 3 Meeting – December 9

Councilman Ken Pritchett and School Board Chairman Kenneth L. Pritchett will hold a Ward 3 meeting on Monday, December 9 beginning at 6:30 p.m. at Walnut Hill Elementary School located at 300 West South Boulevard. City leaders will be in attendance to discuss issues and concerns with citizens. Dr. Joseph Melvin, Superintendent of PCPS will present on Year-Round Schools. A tour will be given to see the brand new multipurpose building at Walnut Hill Elementary School. For additional information, please contact the Clerk of Council at (804) 733-2323 or School Board Clerk at (804) 862-7169.

Fall Leaf Collection

The Petersburg Public Works Department's annual Fall Leaf Pick-up program is underway. The City will provide one round of leaf vacuuming in each Ward. Vacuum of leaves dates are as follows:

Ward 3 December 9-13
Ward 7 December 16-20

During vacuum dates, residents are reminded to rake leaves into a pile between the sidewalk and the curb or shoulder of the road, and not into streets or ditches. Please place leaves out a week before your area's scheduled collection. Bulky materials such as brush and tree limbs shall not be mixed with leaves. Vacuum leaf collection services will be offered to citizens who miss the first round collection, or choose not to bag or drop-off their leaves for \$75 per load. Citizens should bag their leaves should they miss the vacuum leaf collection. Up to 30 bags of leaves (weighing no more than 50 pounds each) may be placed at the curb on the regular trash collection day. The City will **NOT** provide trash bags this year. For additional information, or to schedule a neighborhood leaf clean-up day or private leaf vacuum, please call Street Operations at (804) 733-2415. For additional information about bagged leaf collection, please call the Central Virginia Waste Management Authority at (804) 425-0500.

This Week at the Library

All programs are held at the William R. McKenney Central Library located at 137 South Sycamore Street. For additional information on all library events and seminars, please call (804) 733-2387.

Monday, December 9

3:00pm Basics of Microsoft Word 2010, Part 2 - Learn how to create a business letter. This

class is for beginners. The class is free and open to the public.

6:30pm Microsoft Office Publisher 2010, Part 1 - Learn how to create a yearly calendar. This class is for advanced learners. The class is free and open to the public.

Wednesday, December 11

10:00am Kim & Jimbo Cary-“Rhythms of the Season” - The Petersburg Public Library System and Virginia Commission for the Arts is proud to present Kim & Jimbo Cary. Kim & Jimbo Cary will share the rhythms of the season at Tabernacle Community Life Center. The event is free and open to the public. All groups plan to arrive 30 minutes before the performance.

Thursday, December 12

6:00pm Tai Chi

Friday, December 13

Noon Yoga

Petersburg City Council Meeting (Note Change In Location) – December 10

Petersburg City Council will meet on Tuesday, December 10 at the **Vernon Johns Junior High School** located at 3101 Homestead Drive beginning at 7:30pm, closed session 6:30pm. To view the agenda packet, visit www.petersburgva.gov. For additional information, please call (804) 733-2323.

Architectural Review Board Meeting – December 11

The Architectural Review Board will meet on Wednesday, December 11 at 7:00pm in Council Chambers located on the 3rd floor of City Hall. To view the agenda, please visit www.petersburgva.gov. For additional information, please call (804) 733-2308.

Join a Focus Group on Health & Wellness – December 12

The Wellness Engagement (WE) Project is recruiting parents from Petersburg who want to participate in focus group discussions on how to improve health in your neighborhoods. The focus group will be a one-time group discussion lasting 60-90 minutes. A \$25 honorarium and dinner will be provided. The focus group will be held on Thursday, December 12 from 5:30pm to 7:30pm at Pathways located at 1200 West Washington Street. If interested, please call (804) 862-1104 x322 or email wepetersburg@gmail.com.

Premier Membership at Dogwood Trace

Dogwood Trace Golf Course is running its Premier Membership program for the 2014 Golf season. If you join before the end of the year, the membership fee is \$900. This is a \$300 savings off the regular yearly price of \$1,200. For additional information, please call (804) 732-5573.

Enjoy Golf & Giving

Get a discounted game of golf and help those in need. Dogwood Trace is partnering with the CARES Food Bank and offering discounted rates through the end of February 2014. Bring in a bag of non-perishable canned goods and get a round of golf for \$30 on weekdays / \$40 on weekends.



Prepare for the Scare: Petersburg Haunts – December 13

Find out about the city's permanent, otherworldly residents with Petersburg Haunts, a ghost walk through historic downtown. Tours will be Friday evenings, beginning at 7:00pm. The leisurely one-hour tour takes you through 400 years of history, legends, untimely deaths, and—of course—ghosts. Tours begin at the Courthouse, 7 Courthouse Avenue, just off Sycamore Street. Visit www.petersburghaunts.com to reserve a spot on the tour. Walkups are welcome. The cost is \$15.

Petersburg Farmers Market – Fall/Winter Hours – December 14

Petersburg Farmers Market is continuing on Saturdays from 9:00am to noon. The Market is located under the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Bridge. For further information, call (804) 733-2352.

Yard Sale & Toy Drive at Vernon Johns Junior High – December 14

There will be the Annual Indoor Yard Sale, which will be held in the gym from 9:00am to 2:00pm. Smiley's Concession will be on hand along with several other vendors. Siaani will also have a table setup for her Shoe Drive Fundraiser, so please bring shoes to donate. Jaguars C.A.R.E.S. will present a Toy Drive & Dance-a-Thon in the gym from 1:00pm to 6:00pm. This is a student-based organization at Vernon Johns that desires to give back to the community and promote the well-being of the citizens in Petersburg. All events are coordinated and planned by the students. The acronym C.A.R.E.S. stands for Children, Aware, Ready, and Eager to Serve. Vernon Johns is located at 3101 Homestead Drive. For additional information, please call (804) 861-4688.

“God’s Eye – The Musical” Performance – December 14

A performance of “God’s Eye - The Musical” will take place on Saturday, December 14 at 5:00pm at New Millennium Studios located at One New Millennium Drive. The play was written by Virginia native April Marcell. The story is of Minister Jones, who is faced with making a life changing decision. He finds himself falling in love with a woman who is trying to overcome the pitfalls of single parenthood. They are both brought to the judgment seat as the unspoken has been revealed. As the world is watching, will the church forgive or condemn? Tickets are \$25 in advance online at www.godseye-theplay.com, or \$30 at the door. Military members and spouses are \$20 with ID. For additional information, please call (804) 454-5060.

No Personal Property Filing Requirements

Petersburg citizens are no longer required to file a personal property return with the City of Petersburg by March 31, 2014. The City has adopted the “File By Exception” procedure. In other words if you have not changed vehicles, purchased a new vehicle, boat, trailer or motorcycle or disposed of a vehicle or had a change of address, you are no longer required to file a return every year.

You must file a personal property form with the Commissioner of Revenue within 30 days if:

- (a) Recently purchased vehicle or moved into the city
- (b) Dispose of vehicle (donate, junk, sell or trade)
- (c) Move vehicle out of the city
- (d) Address change.

The “file by exception” will not apply to Business Tangible or Machinery and Tools filing. The 2014

Business Tangible Equipment and 2014 Machinery and Tools Equipment forms must be filed every year by March 31.

For further information contact: Pamela Hairston, Commissioner of Revenue at (804) 733-2317 or via email, phairston@petersburg-va.org.

Understanding Procurement – December 17

Duc Truong of the Virginia Department of Business Assistance will be at the Crater Procurement Assistance Center on Tuesday, December 17, conducting one hour long one on one sessions.

- Learn how to locate RFPs/Bids and look up NIGP codes
- Learn how to download and review RFPs/Bids
- Learn how to review a Quick Quote
- Learn how to respond to Quick Quotes, RFPs, Bids
- Learn how to understand the award of a Quick Quote
- Learn how to target your market for State of Virginia opportunities

Register: Lisa Parks at (804) 861-1667 or via email at lparks@cpd.state.va.us.

“Experience Petersburg” During the Holidays

School Holiday Concert – December 11

The Petersburg High and Vernon Johns Junior High School Choirs will present their annual joint Christmas Concert on December 11, starting at 6:30pm. Everyone is asked to bring at least one non-perishable canned food item as the PTSAs will be donating the food to the needy.

Petersburg Holiday Gifts Sale

Petersburg Museums and Visitor Services is celebrating the holiday season with special sales in the gift shops of the Siege Museum, Centre Hill Museum, and Blandford Church. Gift items include stocking stuffers, in addition to note cards, cocktail napkins, Petersburg playing cards, Petersburg golf umbrellas, picnic blankets, brass ornaments, candlesticks, candle pin decorations, decorative lamp finials, Virginia Tea Towels, and more. Some old favorites, such as the brass ornaments of various historic buildings within the City (Courthouse, Blandford Church, Battersea, Centre Hill), and the reprinted *Petersburg's Story - A History* by James G. Scott and Edward A Wyatt are also available. Select items on sale will be deeply discounted. For additional information, call (804) 733-2402.

Friday for the Arts! - December 13

Join in the fun on Friday, December 13 for Petersburg's monthly (2nd Friday) celebration of the arts. This is the 10th year for *Friday for the Arts!* Activities begin in Old Towne/Downtown Petersburg at 6:00pm. Stroll, shop, and dine in beautifully decorated historic buildings. Listen to music, take a carriage ride and visit the galleries showcasing wonderful art.



The Trees of Christmas at PAAL Opening – December 13

See a multitude of Christmas trees decorated using a variety of themes and styles by artists, as well as businesses and people in the community – certain to put you in the holiday spirit! Opening, Friday, December 13, in conjunction with “Friday for the Arts!” at the Petersburg Area Art League (PAAL) located at 7 East Old Street. The Trees will be on display through the end of the year. PAAL is open Wednesday through Friday, 11:00am – 5:00pm, and Saturdays, 10:00am – 4:00pm. For additional information, please call (804) 861-4611 or visit www.paalart.com.

A Concert by Candlelight – December 13

St. Paul’s Episcopal Church will have a special Annual Christmas Holiday Concert at 6:30pm, on Friday, December 13. The program will feature Charles Lindsey, Jr. on the organ and soprano, Abbie Haynes. Many vocal favorites and organ pieces will be the highlight of the evening while the singing of Christmas Carols by the audience will fill us all with the Christmas spirit. Historic St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, Bristol Parish, is located at 110 North Union Street. A freewill offering will benefit the Downtown Churches United Walk against Hunger and the Joseph A. Whittle Music and Arts Fund. For additional information, please call (804) 733-3415.

A Reading of *The Night Before Christmas* – December 13

Santa and his elves will be the host for children who gather to hear Santa read *The Night Before Christmas*. There will be an opportunity to chat with Santa, and the elves will provide the entertainment. Santa may even give out some surprises! The event begins at 5:00pm and is free. Santa’s Parlor at the Petersburg Little Theatre is located at 306 North Sycamore Street. Information: (804) 748-4601 / unaharrison@yahoo.com.

Petersburg Festival Chorus Holiday Concert – December 14

Enjoy holiday favorites as the Petersburg Festival Chorus performs on Saturday, December 14 beginning at 7:30pm. The concert will be held at St. Mark’s United Methodist Church located at 225 Claremont Street. Tickets are \$10 at the door. For additional information, please call (804) 862-3706.

Week in Review

Petersburg Christmas Parade

Hundreds lined Crater Road to see The Annual Holiday Parade “Celebrating a Healthy Holiday Season” that was held on December 7. Hometown Hero, P.T. Taylor was the grand marshal. Parade prize winners included: Commonwealth Dance Academy
Imani Hair Design & Advanced Academy
Vernon Johns Junior High School
Buffalo Soldiers Historical Society
Hopewell High School Band



Greenville County High School Band
Special thanks to Tammy Yerby and Parks & Rec for a great parade!

Volunteers Decorate Freedom Support Center

Many thanks to volunteers from Dominion Power for decorating the Petersburg Freedom Support Center for the holidays.

Petersburg Youth Takes Boxing Title

Eleven year old Rashaad Thomas from Petersburg is the 2013 USA Boxing -Virginia State Silver Gloves Champion. Thomas attends Peabody Middle School and is one of the first members of the Petersburg Boxing Team coached by Marlow Jones.
Congratulations Rashaad!

