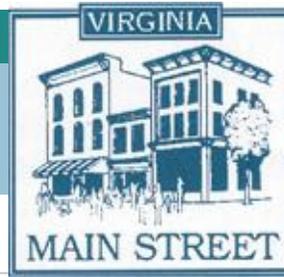


August 17, 2009

VIRGINIA MAIN STREET

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER



Training opportunities:

- Virginia Main Street Essentials Training: Economic Restructuring and Design
- VDDA Hot Topic Luncheon: Large Building Rehabilitation & Funding Options
- Economic Development Finance Professional (EDFP) Certification Program
- Entrepreneur Express Workshops
- VA-1 Conference
- Federal Reserve Bank Succession Planning Workshop
- Resource Workshop for Southwest Virginia Creative Economy Entrepreneurs
- Virginia SBDC Network trainings

Announcements:

- DHCD Change of Address
- On the Virginia Main Street Blog
- Virginia Main Street Communities Itinerary Online

Virginia Main Street community events:

- Bedford, *CenterFest 2009*
- Culpeper, *250th Anniversary*
- Harrisonburg, *Taste of Downtown*
- Marion, *Smyth County Patriot's Day Commemoration*
- South Boston, *Harvest Festival*
- Staunton, *Staunton Jams*

Training opportunities

Virginia Main Street Essentials Training: *Economic Restructuring and Design*

Sept. 16 - 17

Manassas, Virginia

So your community is known for a festival or two, and the commercial district is showing signs of life. It's time to take the next step. Design and economic restructuring strategies can not only improve the appearance and vibrancy of your downtown, but they can attract additional capital investment, create jobs and spark new businesses.

For two information-packed days in September, Main Street professionals and volunteers will come together for a back-to-basics revitalization boot camp on design and economic restructuring. The workshop will offer tools and resources for new and experienced leaders of both designated Main Street communities and those just beginning to explore new strategies.

For the agenda, more information, and registration, visit: www.dhcd.virginia.gov/mainstreet.

VDDA Hot Topic Luncheon: Large Building Rehabilitation & Funding Options

Aug. 26, 12 –2 p.m.

Danville, Virginia

With more than a million square feet of warehouse space available in the Tobacco Warehouse District, Danville was ripe for adaptive reuse projects. Former storage, industrial and corporate buildings now house high tech industry, residential units, retail and mixed use projects. This hot topic luncheon will explore the ins and outs of large building rehabilitation projects. More information and registration is available online at www.downtownvirginia.org.

Economic Development Finance Professional (EDFP) Certification Program

Charleston, West Virginia

The National Development Council's four-course comprehensive training series for economic development practitioners is being held over the next nine months. Participants will build the capacity they need to successfully create jobs and translate economic development opportunities into results. For more information, visit: www.bbtraining.com.

ED 201 – Business Credit Analysis

Aug. 31 - Sept. 4, 2009

ED 202 – Real Estate Finance

Jan. 11 - 15, 2010

ED 300 – The Art of Deal Structuring

Mar. 22 - 26, 2010

Entrepreneur Express Workshops

Aug. 19: Nottoway County

Aug. 20: Scott County

Sept. 09: Emporia

Sept. 17: Bristol VA/TN

Sept. 30: Surry

Oct. 14: Gloucester

Oct. 15: Dickenson County

Oct. 29: Galax

The series of free half-day Entrepreneur Express Workshops provides interactive discussions and exercises covering key elements of business practices. More information and registration is available online at: www.vastartup.org.

VA-1 Tourism Conference

Sept. 28-29

Alexandria, Virginia

Maximize your tourism marketing potential with information, strategies, and contacts gained at the Virginia Tourism Corporation's annual conference on Travel and Tourism. For more information and registration visit: <http://www.vatc.org/VA1/index.asp>.

Federal Reserve Bank Succession Planning Workshop

Sept. 10

Richmond, Virginia

This one-day workshop is designed to introduce community development organization executives, board leaders and staff aspiring to take on more responsibility to best practices in succession planning and executive transition. For more information visit: www.richmondfed.org.

Virginia Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Trainings

Aug. 18: Waynesboro: Your Business: Plan it/Start it

Aug. 26: Charlottesville: Understanding and Preparing Cash Flow Projections

Small Business Development Centers throughout the commonwealth offer 2 hour to 4 hour training programs and seminars on a variety of topics including business planning, marketing, management, legal considerations, accounting and bookkeeping, financial analysis, technology, access to capital, and business basics. For more upcoming events, visit: <http://www.virginiasbdc.org>.

Resource Workshop for Southwest Virginia's Creative Economy Entrepreneurs

Aug. 27: Abingdon

Sept. 10: Floyd

Sept. 17: Big Stone Gap

'Round the Mountain, The Crooked Road, and Wachovia Foundation will present a free, evening workshop for artisans, farmers, musicians, and other entrepreneurs tapping into the possibilities of Southwest Virginia's creative economy. The event will offer financial planning tips, marketing strategies, and networking opportunities for both experienced entrepreneurs and those considering taking the leap. For more information or to register email info@roundthemountain.org or call (276) 492-2079.

Announcements

DHCD's Change of Address

The Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) moved to its new office location in July. The agency's new address is:

*Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development
Main Street Centre
600 East Main Street, Suite 300
Richmond, VA 23219*

On the Virginia Main Street Blog

Have you checked the [Virginia Main Street Blog](#) lately? New posts are added each week. Recent posts include a look at [New York City's recent experiment](#) turning a busy street over to pedestrians, and the importance of [establishing a narrative of success for your downtown](#). Visit the blog often—mark it as a favorite or sign up for an RSS feed.

Virginia Main Street Communities Itinerary Online

The National Park Service has updated the [online travel itinerary for Virginia Main Street Communities](#). The resource, part of the Discover Our Shared Heritage program, features registered historic sites and now includes those in Virginia's three newest designated communities: [Abingdon](#), [Altavista](#), and [Blackstone](#).

Virginia Main Street Community Events

Bedford, *CenterFest 2009*

Friday-Saturday, Sept. 25 - 26

Celebrate Centertown Bedford with the CenterFest kickoff concert on Friday evening and the full festival the next day. For more information visit: www.CenterTownBedford.com.

Culpeper, *250th Anniversary*

Friday-Sunday, Sept. 18 - 20

Mark the 250th anniversary of Culpeper with an historic costume ball, old time games, a picnic in the park, the Coleman Street Parade, garden show, and an ice cream social. For more information visit: www.culpeper250th.org.

Harrisonburg, *Taste of Downtown*

Tuesday-Thursday, Aug. 18 - 20

See why Downtown Harrisonburg has earned the nickname, "Restaurant Row." For a list of wallet-friendly food specials at local restaurants visit: www.downtownharrisonburg.org.

Marion, *8th Annual Smyth County Patriot's Day Commemoration*

Friday, Sept. 11, 6:00 p.m.

Enjoy live patriotic music, guest speakers and a tribute to the troops, veterans, and

The e-newsletter is a monthly service of the Virginia Main Street office in the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development. To include an announcement of an upcoming training opportunity or local event, please contact Program Administrator Doug Jackson.

Doug Jackson
Phone: (276) 780-3244
douglas.jackson@dhcd.virginia.gov