



Remington

Community Newsletter

Twelfth Edition

January/February 2016

R Is For Remington

By Blaine Carvalho

Gustave Eiffel built the tower that bears his name in 1889, and it has become the symbol for Paris. Time will tell if Remington's "R" will become as iconic as the Eiffel Tower, but this vibrant, diverse, changing, and energetic neighborhood now enjoys a major piece of outdoor art.

Designed by Remington's Dominic Terlizzi—a professional artist, professor at Towson University and the Maryland Institute College of Art and soon-to-be Artist in Residence at the University of Tennessee—Remington's "R" was fabricated by New Arts Foundry in Hampden. Remington was the beneficiary of a PNC Bank transformative art grant, administered by Baltimore Office of Promotion & the Arts. The grant came with the stipulation that funds would go to art projects that benefited the community only; this effort was for art, and for art's sake.

The project started in February 2013, after residents expended many hours researching how Remington could benefit from such a grant. Those who initiated this grant proposal sacrificed sleep and met often before they went off to their jobs for the day or after work. Their efforts paid off. Remington received the full \$30,000 grant and the "R" transformed from a sketch to a 35-foot aluminum sculpture.

The "R" has received a largely positive reaction. But like all public art, it has also drawn criticism. "It's not for us, it's for people who don't live here yet," one 27th Street resident says. "Once my house becomes a high rise loft or a fancy shop it will make sense."

For more than a year, the "R" sat forlorn in nearly unidentifiable pieces in a warehouse while its space, and fate, was being decided. The sculpture was originally planned as a gateway to Remington from the south on Howard Street, in the traffic island at Howard and W. 26th Street. Problems with that location put the sculpture in limbo until it found a home on the corner of 27th Street and Remington Avenue. Seawall Development paid for installation, provided the land, and supported the project throughout its journey.



© 2015 Linda Johnson Photographer

Now the "R" has risen, and a walking path winds at its feet. And Remington gets to decide what this bold symbol will mean to the community. **R**

**Join the Faeries
for a free pre-St. Patrick's Day Party!**

**March 12, 6pm at Guardian Angel
(Kromer hall and Gym), 335 W. 27th.**

**Walk the Labyrinth, enjoy the music, check out
the crafts and vendors.**

**This event is hosted by the Baltimore Faerie
Festival, returning to Remington on May 14.**





Jerk Wings with beef brisket and tomato jam.

Blacksauce Kitchen To Move Into Former Sterling's Location

By Craig Bettenhausen

Biscuit specialist Blacksauce Kitchen will move into the W. 29th Street storefront where Sterling's Seafood used to be. The restaurant, which currently operates at farmer's markets, events, and as a catering business, is centered around handmade biscuits and other foodstuffs.

Rumors of the upcoming sale of Sterling's, which had operated at 401 W. 29th St. since 1949, had circulated for months after an ad for the property appeared on Craigslist.org. On July 7th, 2015, owners Steven and Dorothy Goff sold it at auction for \$280,000. The sale included the attached residence.

Maryland tax records list the property as 2832 Miles Ave and show a June 24th, 2015, sale price of \$170,000 to the current owner, Towson-based Lighthouse Point Advisors. Tax records also show Lighthouse purchasing 2830 Miles Ave. on the same day for \$75,000. The auction price would also have included the business and liquor licenses.

Blacksauce owners Damian Mosley and Vesnier Lugo have moved in and are currently using the space as a production kitchen. "We haven't exactly figured out the retail component, but it's a few months out. The building has some distinct features, and we're trying to figure out how best to use and honor them."

A look at the sample catering menus on the Blacksauce website gives a taste of what they offer. Spicy jerk crab & stone-ground grits, slow-roasted chicken with sticky rye whiskey glaze, collard greens simmered in coconut milk, sweet potato bread pudding with vanilla bourbon custard, potato & mussel skewers, and nectarine mint fruit salad are just a few of the meals they've served at weddings, brunches, and cookouts.

Mosley and Lugo started Blacksauce Kitchen in 2010 and can be found at the Waverly Farmer's Market 7am to 12pm, year-round. **R**

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GRIA Funds Newsletter Printer Purchase

An editorial by Craig Bettenhausen

The issue now in your hands is the first one printed on our very own printer. Let me explain why this is a big deal.

For years, this Newsletter was financed largely by the generous support of a handful of local nonprofits. Greater Homewood and the Episcopal Housing Corporation in particular gave, at various times, money to pay for printing and staff time to write, edit, and distribute the newsletter.

In the current incarnation of the newsletter, we don't rely on any such subsidy. The printing costs are covered by the advertising you see (quality local businesses that you should totally visit and say that the Remington Community Newsletter sent you). The ads cost \$40 per month, which is still a pretty good deal for the advertisers; we print 1,500 copies of each issue and hand-deliver them to the homes and businesses of Remington, and most of you open and read it when it comes (thanks!).

We have been printing at Uptown Press, a Remington business located on W. 23rd street. They have been a fantastic partner and if you need something printed, you should go to them without hesitation. Not just paper, they also print signs, faux stained glass, you name it. Seriously, they're cool.

In December, the board Greater Remington Improvement Association voted to fund the bulk of the purchase price of the Newsletter's new machine. The remainder came from donations by community members and from ad revenue. The Newsletter remains, however, editorially independent from GRIA. This is not the GRIA Newsletter. We welcome participation from anyone in the community, and the content you read here is not subject to the approval of GRIA or its board.

That said, we really appreciate GRIA's partnership; thanks for buying us a printer! We'd also like to thank the Colligan family, Aaron Helmbrecht, Kim Bryson, Tony Wiebking and Kelly Lennox, and Bryan Taylor for their contributions.

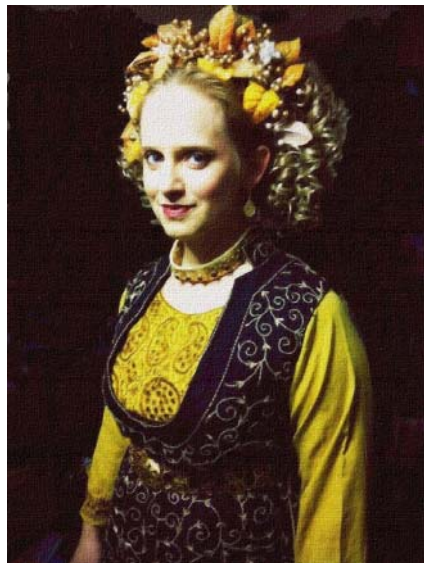
We will continue to have ads because paper and ink still cost money. If you would like to advertise with us, just shoot me an email at craigbettenhausen@gmail.com.

The mission of this newsletter is to build community by providing Remington with a reliable, trustworthy, common source of information. If you'd like to get involved, we'd love to have your help. We need folks to write articles, snap photos, draw cartoons, help with editing, and distribute the print edition. **R**

Business Showcase: Trinket's Costume and Sundry

By Whitney Treseder

Trinket's Costume and Sundry is a vintage boutique in Remington that you may not have heard of! Lisa Oberg sells beautiful clothing mostly through her Facebook account, but she is also open by appointment and for seasonal open houses. She says "I'm a borderline hoarder so I decided to turn it around. I find all this cool stuff and want to recycle it. I mostly choose natural fibers and tactile materials because if I don't want to wear it, I don't want to have it in my shop."



Many of her customers enjoy cosplay such as the Renaissance Faire and the Faerie Faire. Oberg also rents clothing for photo shoots and stage productions. Trinket's style is Old World and elegant—she has vintage pieces and also many from other countries; she finds that the qualities she wants are hard to find in general American retail. "I find everything in thrift stores. Baltimore and DC have a great cultural mix, like a stained glass window." At the moment there are Afghani, Indian, and Tibetan clothes in her shop.

Oberg grew up in Staunton, Virginia, and received a BS in Fine Art from James Madison University with a focus in screen printing. After college, she worked as an actor, both in film and on stage. She often needed costumes but couldn't sew, so she started creating her own look from her thrift shopping. People would ask about her outfits, and gradually she started selling them. In 2013, she moved her shop into the parish house at Guardian Angel. Oberg also works at Faerie Magazine (faeriemag.com) and is starting a folk music band.

Oberg lived in Remington from 2006 until 2014, when her rental apartment needed renovation and a friend in Hamilton wanted a housemate. She misses living in Remington, where she enjoys the local restaurants and loved being able to go to work even during snowstorms.

Trinket's Costume and Sundry accepts PayPal and works primarily through mail-order, but you can also contact

Sav-It Liquors Closes



After 30 years in the community, Sav-It Liquors, located on W. 29th St. just before Huntingdon Avenue, closed in January. The store was owned and run by father-and-son team Mike Brewer and Mikey Meyers. Brewer, aka Big Mike, passed away unexpectedly in May. "I worked alongside him for 30 years," Meyers says. "It's a fun business and 99% of the people who come in here are great, but it's not the same without him. It's time for me to let it go."

Meyers and Brewer purchased the property and business in 1995. They previously owned the Open House diner, where Meyers won best breakfast 10 years in a row. Paper Moon Diner is now in that location. "I'm really a breakfast cook," says Meyers, who has not yet decided what he'll do next.

Sav-It enjoyed a close-knit team. Reggie Glascoe came with Meyers and Brewer from Open House. Nancy Mulligan has been there 30 years, and Nancy Sherman "came with the building," Mulligan says.

Brewer's estate is putting the business up for sale. It includes the store, adjacent parking lot, and 6-day-per-week liquor license. The price will be high, Meyers says, because they want to price out anyone who would run a shoddy operation. Someone who's investing a large sum of money will take care of the place and run it right, he reasons.

Sav-It was a staple of the community where neighbors would chat as they waited to be served. They knew their regular customers by name and would make special orders. The shop closed earlier than it had to at night, declined to stock grain alcohol, and took a relaxed attitude toward their parking lot. Remington will miss Sav-It Liquors not only because it was a convenient place to pick up a six-pack after work, but also because Brewer, Meyers, Mulligan, Sherman, and Glascoe were good neighbors. **R**

Oberg at www.facebook.com/TrinketsCostumes and get an appointment to see the shop in person.

In addition, she is having an open house on March 12 at 6pm during the Baltimore Faerie Faire St Patrick's Day Party. Come support a fun group and buy some beautiful clothing! **R**

This newsletter is produced for the residents and businesses of Remington in partnership with GRIA and the Church of the Guardian Angel. Distribution by Julie Dael. All are welcome to contribute about activities and events in Remington. Contact the editor at (443) 650-8733 or CraigBettenhausen@gmail.com.