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For Immediate Release

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**Public Invited To Again Enjoy RVA Fireworks on the James
At Virginia War Memorial on July 3**
Memorial Announces Extended Evening Hours and Free Patriotic Concert

(Richmond, Va.) The Virginia War Memorial will be again be open extended hours on Friday evening, July 3 for those who wish to view *RVA Fireworks on the James* from the Memorial grounds. The public is invited to bring a picnic basket and a blanket or lawn chairs for an evening of patriotic family fun.

With its vantage point overlooking the James River Valley and downtown Richmond, the Virginia War Memorial has become one of the city's most popular locations to view the annual *RVA Fireworks on the James* event. The Virginia War Memorial is located at 621 South Belvidere Street (U.S. Rt. 1) just north of the Robert E. Lee Bridge.

The Memorial's Paul and Phyllis Galanti Education Center will be open extended hours from 9 a.m.-9 p.m. on July 3. The Richmond Brass and Percussion Consort will present a "Concert Honoring America" at 7 p.m. on the Memorial grounds. Fireworks are scheduled to begin at sundown or around 9:15 p.m.

There is no admission charge for this event but donations to the non-profit Virginia War Memorial Educational Foundation will be gratefully accepted.

Food and beverages including hot dogs, tacos, frozen yogurt and more will be available for sale on site. Tents, pets, alcohol, glass and metal containers will not be permitted on the Memorial grounds.

Parking in and around the Virginia War Memorial will be extremely limited and those planning to view the fireworks are advised to arrive early. Entrance to the Memorial's parking lot will

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Virginia War Memorial Open for RVA Fireworks on the James, Page 2

close at 7 p.m. or earlier if necessary. There will also be temporary street closings in the area and restricted parking in surrounding areas prior to and during the fireworks exhibition.

RVA Fireworks on the James on Brown's Island is a presentation of the City of Richmond and VentureRichmond and is sponsored by Dominion and MeadWestvaco. For more information on this event, please visit www.fireworksonthejames.com .

For more information about the Virginia War Memorial and this event, please visit www.vawarmemorial.org, www.facebook.com/virginiawarmemorial or call 804.786.2060.

About the Virginia War Memorial

The mission of the Virginia War Memorial is to *Honor Veterans, Preserve History, Educate Youth and Instill Patriotism in All*. Dedicated in 1956, the Memorial includes the names of the nearly 12,000 Virginia heroes who made the ultimate sacrifice during World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Persian Gulf and the Global War on Terrorism. The Virginia War Memorial is a division of the Virginia Department of Veterans Services and serves as an integral part of its mission in support of all Virginians who served in our military forces.

Situated on over four acres overlooking downtown Richmond and the James River at 621 South Belvidere St., the Virginia War Memorial also includes the Paul and Phyllis Galanti Education Center which houses military-related exhibits, programs and theaters showing the award-winning *Virginians At War* video series and the multi-dimensional film, *Into Battle*.

The Galanti Education Center is open Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. and Sunday, 12 noon- 4 p.m. The Shrine of Memory and grounds are open from 5 a.m. – 12 midnight daily. All events at the Virginia War Memorial are free unless otherwise noted. For more information, call 804-786-2060 or visit www.vawarmemorial.org or www.facebook.com/virginiawarmemorial.

.About the Virginia War Memorial Educational Foundation

Created in 1999, the Virginia War Memorial Educational Foundation (VWMEF) is the non-profit 501 (c) (3) corporation dedicated to the sole financial support of the educational outreach, historical exhibits, documentary films and patriotic programs of the Virginia War Memorial. Donations to the Foundation from individuals, corporations, military and veterans groups, and other organizations are tax-deductible and appreciated. For more information, call 804.786.2060 or go to www.vawarmemorial.org and click on "Get Involved."

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