

How long have you lived in the Richmond Region? Seven years. I've lived in the south now for 24 years, about half of my life. As the saying goes, "I wasn't born in the South, but I got here as fast as I could."

Where are you originally from?

I grew up in the suburbs of Rees Station, Illinois.

What do you see as one of the Region's best assets?

Visitors know Richmond for its history, but then they discover all our amazing dining, shopping and entertainment options, plus our museums and a growing craft beer industry. Very few cities have what we can offer, plus all the assets of a Capital-City Region.

What are some of your favorite places to take out-of-town guests?

St. John's Church, Tobacco Company and all the restaurants and shoppes on Shockoe Bottom; Short Pump Mall; Monument Avenue; and The Boathouse at Sunday Park and Rockett's Landing.

What is one of the biggest changes you've seen in the Region over the last few years?

We are building an identity for the Richmond Region - one that showcases us as a great tourism and event destination. We also have a great story to tell about what a great place this also is to live and raise a family.

What has been one of the RRT Board's greatest accomplishments during your tenure?

I joined the board recently and have a lot to learn about the organization, but it's clear we have a talented, hard-working staff in place. Tourism is an economic engine for the Region and important to corporations as we attract and retain professionals.

What makes the Richmond Region so easy to love?

Great restaurants, shopping, entertainment, history and a great quality of life here. As Frommers noted, "while you weren't looking, Richmond got cool."

