Gray Matters
Newsletter of The Shepherd’s Center of Richmond
Fall 2018

McCracken Is Named to New Open University Position

This fall Open University will present a change of face. As Carol Harris, Art Gunlicks and Susie Wiltshire all retire from their roles at OU, (see inside for stories), The Shepherd’s Center extends a warm welcome to Rosemary McCracken in the new position of Lifelong Learning Coordinator. Rosemary, who was an elementary school teacher, is now an adjunct faculty member at local community colleges. She has a passion for volunteerism and lifelong learning. TSCOR looks forward to working with Rosemary and is eager for everyone to meet her the first day of OU!

From the Executive Director

Change is a lot of things: scary, exciting, unfamiliar, good. But one thing’s for sure - change is inevitable. Everything changes over time. Babies become adults, seedlings become trees, caterpillars become butterflies, and the list goes on. But nothing looks the same as it develops. TSCOR celebrates 35 years next March and our look, programs, services and people have changed. But, through its evolution, the heart of our mission has not changed - empower older people to be active, engaged and independent. Our continued work not only makes Richmond a more caring community for older adults, it honors those who came before

TSCOR Receives Pauley Family Foundation Grant

TSCOR has received a grant from The Pauley Family Foundation of Richmond to implement a plan to increase the number of volunteer drivers. “Our most pressing need is to recruit drivers to take older citizens to medical appointments and the grocery store,” says Hal Costley, Board president. With monies from the grant, TSCOR can focus on bolstering name recognition in the community through advertising, increasing presentations by the Speakers Bureau, creating a video about the volunteer driver experience, and enhancing the ride scheduling software.

TSCOR currently provides free transportation to those aged 60 and above. As the older population increases, the demand for services continues to exceed the number of drivers. Ride Scheduler, the transportation software, makes it easy for drivers to choose the date, time, and frequency of their service, making it almost effortless to give back.

For more information about driving, contact Paula Grimes, at 355-7282 or at pgrimes@TSCOR.org.

SAVE THE DATES!

Open University Fall Session:
September 17 - November 8

Travel with TSCOR:
• Fall in Nelson County
October 26

Celebrating our 35th Anniversary!
Retiring from OU Leadership!

For over ten years the Open University has been privileged to have two stellar lifelong educators at the head of the education committee. Art Gunlicks and Susie Wiltshire have served in many capacities in both the community and in The Shepherd’s Center, but it is in their role on this committee where they have spent literally thousands of hours recruiting teachers and speakers for the OU. Art has served as chairman of the committee for ten years. His other roles in TSCOR have included Board President and instructor where his classes and lectures are always well attended. He retired from the University of Richmond in 2005 where his focus centered on European politics. He served three terms as chairman of the department of political science and three years as assistant dean of faculty and dean of the graduate school.

Along with carrying out her duties as chair of the lunch speaker sub-committee, Susie was chairman of TSCOR’s Public Relations Committee for many years and also served as vice president. A very popular teacher, her students created a scholarship fund in her honor to assist with OU tuition, and they donate to it every year. Before her retirement she was an educator for 44 years, serving as an elementary school principal, director of studies and teacher of French, German and English. Thirty-eight of those years were spent at St. Catherine’s School. As Art and Susie step down from their leadership roles on the education committee, we give a heartfelt thank you for their expertise, the generosity of their time, and their commitment to excellence. These have been guiding factors in the Open University’s ability to continue to offer the very best in programs!

TSCOR Board Officers and Directors

Officers and new board members for 2018-19 are: President: Hal Costley; vice president: Bernie Henderson; secretary: Grayson Miller; treasurer: Sally Youngs; immediate past president: Betty Ann Dillon. Board members are Carol Harris, Jan Simmons and Ruth Blevins. New ex-officio member is John C. Clark III. Officers were reelected for a second term.

All Things Open University

You can’t avoid the wrinkles, but you can avoid the lines! Sign up for Open University on The Shepherd’s Center website and avoid those long lines the first week of classes. Visit our website at www.tscor.org, click on the Open University tab, pay in advance and go straight to the head of the class.

Mark your calendars! Winter OU session begins Monday, January 14, and runs through Thursday, March 7. Spring OU session begins Monday, March 25 and runs through Thursday, May 23.

OU Scholarships available. If you or someone you know would like to attend OU but are unable to afford tuition you may be eligible for the Wiltshire Scholarship Fund. For more information contact Julie Adams-Buchanan at 355-7282.

In Memoriam
Anne Baird
Marvin Banks
Ernie Neer
Losing and Keeping Carol Harris

When Carol Harris retired from her position as manager of historical programs at Maymont, she had in mind relaxing, doing some volunteer work, taking a few courses at The Shepherd’s Center of Richmond, and maybe finding a part-time job. Well, she wound up at the Shepherd’s Center, but not in the way she had originally envisioned.

In 2010 the Shepherd’s Center Board had just approved hiring a part-time coordinator for the Open University, and Carol found out about it. Former executive director Linda Frank was interviewing candidates for the position, and Carol was the final applicant she saw. “I snapped her up immediately,” board members recall Frank saying. “She had all the skills we were looking for, as well as a genuine commitment to lifelong learning.”

Carol did not prove Frank wrong. She developed and refined the brand-new position and for the past eight years has been a vital presence at all Open University locations. On a given day you could see Carol greeting members and newcomers, patiently answering questions, helping speakers set up equipment, responding calmly to emergencies, and even, on occasion, cutting and serving the cake of the day.

This spring Carol decided that she needed a more flexible schedule to visit family, pursue other interests, and even to go back to her original intention of being a student again. That meant retiring from her post as OU site coordinator. The Shepherd’s Center Board, in its wisdom, decided that Carol’s knowledge of the Open University was too valuable to let go entirely, so it elected Carol as a new board member for a three-year term effective July 1, 2018. “I am delighted that I can maintain close ties with my Shepherd’s Center friends and can actually attend some of those courses I’ve longed to take,” comments Carol.

The Shepherd’s Center is delighted, too, Carol - and lucky to keep you a while longer.

Executive Director

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us and their many contributions.

We have changes happening this coming year: A new Lifelong Learning Coordinator will lead the way at the Open University and Lunch and Life; grant money will fund background checks allowing us to expand our call for much needed volunteer drivers; and our “Member Get a Member” campaign encourages active recruitment of new participants. All for the benefit and growth of our organization.

And speaking of benefit and growth, there are committee vacancies that need to be filled. With your assistance, we can continue to do our good work. Remember, this is your organization and your participation shapes all that TSCOR offers.

Embrace change and give something new a try!

- Julie Adams-Buchanan
Executive Director
We would like to thank St. Mary Catholic Church for its continued support of The Shepherd’s Center of Richmond and the Lunch and Life program.

www.TSCOR.org
Like us on Facebook:
Shepherd’s Center of Richmond

Upcoming Group Travel
Travel to the Blue Ridge Mountains and experience Fall in Nelson County
Friday, October 26
Don’t miss out!
Register by September 21.
Visit www.TSCOR.org and click on the Travel tab or call 355-7282.

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