

# GRAY MATTERS

NOVEMBER 2023

OLDER ADULTS ACTIVE & ENGAGED

## SHEPHERD'S CENTER OFFICE MOVING TO MONUMENT AVENUE



### 5101 Monument Avenue

We have exciting news! The Center's administrative office is moving into the historic Retail Merchant's Association building at 5101 Monument Ave. Our suite is currently undergoing renovations. We hope to be moved in by the beginning of January, 2024.

Located in the near West End at the intersection of Willow Lawn Drive and Monument Avenue, the new office is easy to get to, has ample parking, and a handicapped entrance adjacent to our suite.

The space features a reception area, an open office floor plan, a break room, a multi-purpose room, and two walls of

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bright windows that highlight the building's unique architectural outer wall.

The multi-purpose room is especially exciting in that it can be used not only to hold meetings, but small classes and events as well. (Movie screenings? Book clubs? Yoga?) The possibilities are already being explored.

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## **OFFICE MOVING, CONTINUED**

Susie Wiltshire's "Ooh-La-La Intermediate French" class will be offered in the multi-purpose room in the 2024 winter session of Open University, and a lecture by Mimi Sadler about the history of the building we're moving into will be given there as well. Stay tuned for announcements!

Another benefit of the move is the large parking lot behind the building which is surrounded by sidewalks and trees. It will be a great place to meet up for local group trips or perhaps start a walking club.

But our biggest hope for the Center's new space is that it becomes a hub for volunteers, students and members to come together for activities, meet with other volunteers to promote the work of the Center, or just drop in and talk with the staff!

Do YOU have any ideas for our new space? Drop us a line or give us a call. Because coming January, 2024, we will be able to gather together and co-create the Center's future in style!



**The rear entrance and ample parking lot at 5101 Monument Avenue. The Center's suite will be on the first floor to the right as you enter.**



## RICHMOND FREE PRESS ARTICLE FEATURES PRESIDENT PETTIT



Shepherd's Center President, Peter Pettit, was featured in the November 9th issue of the Richmond Free Press in its Personality section. Many thanks go to the Shepherd's Center PR committee members, Nancy Finch and Susie Wiltshire, for making this happen!

An excerpt is printed here:

*"For Richmonders who want to stay active in their older years, Peter Christian Pettit is helping them access avenues for exploration and growth.*

*As president of The Shepherd's Center of Richmond board of directors, Mr. Pettit is part of the decision-making process that provides older residents new ways to stay active and engaged. And while the circumstances to him leading the organization were unfortunate,*

*Mr. Pettit believes that he has had a positive experience so far.*

*"It's been busier than I'd thought it would be, but it's been good," Mr. Pettit says. "We're getting some things done and I enjoy the role."*

*Since its founding in March 1984 as a branch of the larger Shepherd's Center of America, The Shepherd's Center of Richmond has helped older adults in the area continue to grow and live full lives through education, discussion, friendship and travel programs.*

*It was such activities that drew Mr. Pettit to The Shepherd's Center in 2016 when he sought to explore his interest in German language.*

*He participated in a German language program through the organization's Open University program. During the program, Mr. Pettit learned about The Shepherd's Center's transportation service for older adults, and began working with the organization as a volunteer driver. He later served on the board's client services committee.*

*Tragedy struck The Shepherd's Center late last year when the board's then-president Stephanie Churchill died. Hal Costley, the board's past president, filled Ms. Churchill's role on an interim basis until Mr. Pettit was selected as board president last July."*

**To read the complete article, plus a Q&A with Peter, click the button below.**



## ANNUAL APPEAL

As you know, March, 2024, marks the 40th anniversary of The Shepherd's Center of Richmond.

We are currently in the middle of our Annual Campaign and looking to raise \$40,000 so that we can better serve you, the members of the Center, and the Richmond community.

In honor of the Center's 40th anniversary, we are asking you to help us achieve our goal by donating to our annual appeal campaign in any multiple of 40, be it \$40, \$80, \$120, \$140...\$400, \$4,000 (you get the picture).

You can donate now by clicking the button below or by visiting our website at [tscor.org](http://tscor.org). Thank you!



## GIVING TUESDAY IS NOVEMBER 28

Tuesday, November 28th, is Giving Tuesday. What is Giving Tuesday, you ask? It is a global generosity movement unleashing the power of people and organizations to transform their communities and the world.

Your donations made to the Shepherd's Center on Giving Tuesday will help us further our mission to serve older adults in RVA.

You can donate now by clicking the button below, or by visiting our website at [tscor.org](http://tscor.org). You can also call the office at 804-355-7282. Thanks very much!

*Peter Petitt, president,  
The Shepherd's Center of Richmond*



## NEW EVENTS COMMITTEE FORMING

The Center is forming a new Events committee! The absence of our long-time Travel committee has left a void in our lifelong learning programs - one that fulfills the need to gather together, break bread, socialize, meet new people, and see or learn something new. Sounds like fun, right?

This new Events committee will provide local group events in RVA for members and their friends, such as a walking tour, visiting a museum, seeing a play, trying a new restaurant or some combination thereof!

Stay tuned for updates!

It's gonna be fun!



## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

### EVENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Plan and organize group events in RVA such as history tours, museum outings, restaurant trips, lunch get-togethers, go to a play....there's so much to see and do right here in Richmond!

To volunteer or learn more, contact the office. 804-355-7282  
[tscor@tscor.org](mailto:tscor@tscor.org)



Volunteers are the beating heart of the Center. Give volunteering some thought. You're sure to make a difference and you'll definitely meet some interesting people along the way!



# DRIVERS MEETING

The Annual Drivers' meeting (the first one we've been able to hold in-person since before the pandemic started), was held Friday, November 3rd, at Lakeside United Methodist Church. 18 drivers plus staff and a few board members attended. We had a great time seeing familiar faces, welcoming new drivers, sharing stories from the road, and munching up the yummy snacks and sipping Starbucks coffee. Here are a few pics from this great meeting.



Arriving and checking in....



Getting coffee and refreshments....



Greeting new drivers...



Settling in for the meeting...



Group photo! "Everyone smile and say, "I love driving for the Shepherd's Center!"

## The Shepherd's Center of Richmond

Encouraging older adults to remain active and independent through lifelong learning and volunteer service to their peers.

Made by, for and about older adults.