

SHEPHERD'S HERALD: Volume 7, Issue 3 — Summer 2021

The Shepherd's Center of McLean-Arlington-Falls Church is indebted and most grateful to the following individuals for their financial support in 2020. Their contributions helped the Center continue its core mission — especially during the pandemic — of driving our senior citizen clients for medical appointments and grocery shopping.

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***William Merrigan, Volunteer Driver
Retires After Long Service to SCMAFC***

Bill was born in 1934 in a farm house in Conception Junction, Missouri and lived there through high school. His house was across the road from a Benedictine Monastery where Justice Clarence Thomas was a student. Bill received a BA degree from Creighton University in Omaha. He subsequently served in the U.S. Naval Air Corps and later graduated from Georgetown University law school while working for U.S. House of Representatives Missouri Congressman W.R. Hull, Jr. After admission to the Missouri and Virginia Bar Associations Bill lived in Asia for about 16 years working as Counsel for various CIA-connected airlines, including Civil Air Transport, Air America, and Southern Air Transport. At the end of the Vietnam War Bill returned to Washington as an attorney for the Department of Defense, representing DoD in such areas as the Civil Aeronautics Board, the Interstate Commerce Commission, and several hearings before Congress. After retirement he worked with Congress for several years to develop legislation that would grant civil service retirement benefits to former employees of companies. Ironically, after 18 years Bill expects this legislation to be passed within the next few days. There are now more than 120 representatives in the House that have signed on as cosponsors of the bill with an equivalent proportion of Senators sponsoring an identical Senate version (H.R, 1297 and S.407).

Bill has been married for more than forty years to Sandra Whipple Merrigan, who was formerly of Seattle and who lived many years abroad.

Audrey Levin, a Nonagenarian Client

Audrey Lapp Levin has been riding with us for 10 years and is one of our drivers' favorites, always in good cheer with a smile on her face. She grew up on Long Island and attended the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, where she studied the arts. This led her to a position as a fashion copy writer in New York for Montgomery Ward's catalog. A few years after WWII she became reacquainted with a friend, Stan Levin, who she had met at age 12, and married him. In the war Stan flew as an Air Force navigator in the Pacific. The two initially lived in Westbury, Long Island, where they raised two children. Later they lived in Williamsburg, VA, for 15 years and then moved to McLean to be closer to their children and four grandchildren. In August, Audrey will visit for the first time her new great-granddaughter in California.

***Faith Groups and Organizations
2020 Financial Contributors to SCMAFC***

Lewinsville Presbyterian Church, McLean
Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, McLean
McLean Baptist Church, McLean
The Falls Church Episcopal, Falls Church
Trinity United Methodist Church, McLean
Women of Temple Rodef Shalom, Falls Church
AmazonSmiles
The Original Pancake House, Falls Church

Ride Statistics for the Second Quarter 2021

From April through June 2021, SCMAFC volunteer drivers provided 484 rides. Of these, 285 were for medical and dental appointments, 108 for grocery shopping, 5 for Handy Helpers, and 66 for therapy sessions.

Ines Chamorro, Featured Client

Ines was born in the 1930s as one of eight children in Pasto, Colombia, near the border with Ecuador. Her father, a concert violinist, moved the family to Bogota where she attended Javeriana University, studying human relations and economics. In 1962, Ines attended a Pan-American Union violin concert in Washington, D.C. that led to a job in the Music Division of the Organization of American States (OAS). While working Ines also attended George Washington University, graduating with a degree in Anthropology. OAS promoted Ines to be head of the Cultural Heritage Division, with projects in many parts of the U.S., North and South America, and Europe. In 1990, as part of the 500th year celebration of Columbus' arrival in the New World, the King of Spain presented Ines with a coveted Premio Tenerife award for her contributions to arts and crafts in the Americas and Spain. Ines lives in McLean with her sister Marina and Ines has a nephew, Adrian Chamorrow, who lives in Paris working as a concert violinist and conductor maintaining the family tradition.

Remembering Client Barbara O'Brien

Barbara O'Brien of McLean was a client of Shepherd's Center of McLean-Arlington-Falls Church since 2019. We recently learned of her death from her sister, Carol Donovan of Boston. Barbara grew up in Albany, NY and in 1964 graduated from The Academy of the Holy Names, and later received a BA from SUNY Albany and an MA from the University of Virginia. Her subsequent career as a speech pathologist began in Fairfax County public schools and continued later in the Loudoun County school system. She retired from Loudoun County in 2008, but continued working as a volunteer and as a private consultant to a small group of cherished clients. She enjoyed world travel and keeping current with politics. Barbara's sister, Carol, said that the rides from the SCMAFC volunteers were greatly appreciated by Barbara and her family. The Center is pleased to have been able to provide transportation to Barbara and we send our sympathies to her family.

In Memory of Client Judith Ann Regner

Judy Regner of Falls Church was a client of Shepherd's Center of McLean-Arlington-Falls Church for the past four years. Sadly we learned that she recently passed away. In the words of a good friend "Judy was a very giving person." Originally from Rochester, NY Judy received an undergraduate degree from Western Reserve University in Cleveland and a Master of Social Work from Sacramento State. For 12 years Judy worked for the State of California in Berkeley as a psychiatric social worker. She then moved to Washington, D.C. where she was employed by the Commonwealth of Virginia as the Director of Social Work at Northern Virginia Mental Health Institute and later at the Northern Virginia Training Center. Judy retired in 2003 and enjoyed volunteering with Hospice, Family Friends, and Whitman Walker where she received the coveted "Buddy of the Year" award in 1993. Judy also volunteered for SCMAFC as a Friendly Caller during the pandemic, providing comfort and communication to those unable to leave their homes. Judy enjoyed travelling and had just returned from a trip to Virginia Beach before her passing. We enjoyed having Judy as a client and extend our deepest sympathy to her many local friends.



shepherd'scenter

OF MCLEAN-ARLINGTON-FALLS CHURCH

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The Shepherd's Center invites you to follow our Facebook page by "liking"
<https://www.facebook.com/SCMAFC> as well as visiting our website <http://scmafc.org/>

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Shepherd's Center of McLean-Arlington-Falls Church is a nonprofit 501c(3) licensed in Virginia. Donations may be made to SCMAFC, 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd, McLean, VA 22101. The Center can be contacted through its Web-site www.SCMAFC.org, by email to info@scmafc.org, on Facebook at SCMAFC, or by phone at 703-506-2199.