

**Spring
Volunteer
Appreciation
Event on
March 25.**



On the afternoon of March 25, a group of our volunteers gathered at Lewinsville Presbyterian Church to enjoy each other's company and savor some special homemade cookies from one of our Board members, Sally.

Our Board Chair, Jan Auerbach, provided interesting statistics about the rides we have provided and some updates on what the Board is currently focusing on. Several volunteers shared some helpful tips on driving and another Board member shared information on upcoming events to help raise awareness for our center and the ongoing need for more volunteers.

If anyone would like to help with an event, please contact Carol Edelstein at carol.edelstein@verizon.net or 703-627-5013. We have booths most months at the Falls Church and Arlington farmer's markets.

If you missed the March 25 event and you are a driver, consider attending our next luncheon to occur in June. You will meet fellow volunteers and share successes and challenges. You will get answers to questions you may have and learn more about what our Board is focusing on. Check your email for news on the next event. If you have suggestions for a restaurant you think could comfortably host our group, contact Carol Edelstein (contact information above).

— Carol Edelstein

Ride Coordinators

Jan Auerbach	Christine Byrne
Lisa Dickerson	Jan Gordon
Mary Highsmith	Dawn Massey
Rob Osberg	Kathy Peroff
Judy Rudman	Mark Turco

New Volunteers

January—March

Kristina Scholten	David Updike
Yvonne Maja Lee	Jack Hinden
Victoria Hoiles	

CLIENT PROFILE: DIANE BROWN

Diane agreed to be interviewed so she could be given an opportunity to express her gratitude and appreciation to the Shepherd's Center for all the dependable, friendly and caring rides she has received since 2021.

Spending her childhood in Indiana, as a teenager her father's career brought the family to Yonkers, a suburb of New York City. There she attended Hunter College and earned her master's degree at Columbia University.

Living on Manhattan's Upper East Side, she worked for many years as an editor at women's magazines like Good Housekeeping and Ladies' Home Journal. When she moved to the D.C. area—Falls Church—she began working as the books editor for AARP The Magazine, where she interviewed many leading authors.

In retirement, she has volunteered for Inova hospital as a cuddler for premature babies, a satisfying activity she would love to resume. She has volunteered for political causes. She currently enjoys her book group and an on-line meditation group.



--Ed Groark

REMEMBERING FRANK TROTTA

Frank Trotta was an amazing Shepherd's Center client. Selfless, kind, thoughtful, and easy to communicate with. During our rides he would talk about life in general to include health and wellness. He was a very generous man and extremely appreciative of Shepherd's Center and all the drivers that provided great service to him over the years.

Though health complications got the best of Frank, he was always kind to everyone and repeatedly gave monetary donations and would always give drivers the highest praise and thanks.

Frank will be missed, rest in peace.

—Lee Ebert

Clients: Please don't call your drivers directly

We understand that over time many of our clients develop a fondness for their favorite drivers. And sometimes these clients find it easier to call their drivers directly to arrange rides.

If you are a client who calls your drivers directly, please don't continue to do that. A direct request to a driver puts the driver in an uncomfortable position since the driver knows he/she should not accept rides requested directly. The request also puts pressure on the driver to accept a ride that may not fit easily into his/her schedule. As a result, a relationship that had been friendly and comfortable could become strained.

You must remember that the service is being provided through the Shepherd's Center and not with a particular driver. You need to call or email all ride requests to Shepherd's Center where our large pool of drivers has a much better chance of accommodating your need.

We ask drivers to let the Ride Coordinator know if they receive a direct call from a client. Repeated direct calls to drivers can result in a client no longer being eligible for our service.

--Jan Auerbach

Help your driver park closer to your appointments

If you're a client with a handicap placard, remember to bring it along on your rides. That way your driver can park more conveniently for you in a handicap parking space.

If you don't have a placard, but could qualify for one, you can download an application for it from the VA DMV site (just Google 'Med 10 VA DMV'), have your doctor sign it, and mail it to the address on the form.

If you're a driver with a client who can qualify for the placard, you could help them by downloading the form for them and mailing it for them when it's completed and signed.



Driver Profile –

Linda Aono

Linda Aono has been a very active driver for Shepherds Center since last June and recently started assisting in recruiting drivers.

Linda was born and raised in Honolulu, Hawaii where she attended the University of Hawaii. She moved to Los Angeles for a few years where she met her future husband. His career brought them to Washington and they settled in McLean, where they continue to live with their Persian cat. She worked for most of her career as a legal secretary for a law firm in Washington.

Linda has found Shepherds Center to be a very satisfying way to spend some of her time in retirement. She also enjoys swimming at a county recreation center and reading with her Book Club.

She and her husband travel to Hawaii regularly to visit family. They also enjoy traveling in Europe. We appreciate Linda's kind and gentle manner and her eagerness to contribute her time to Shepherd's Center.

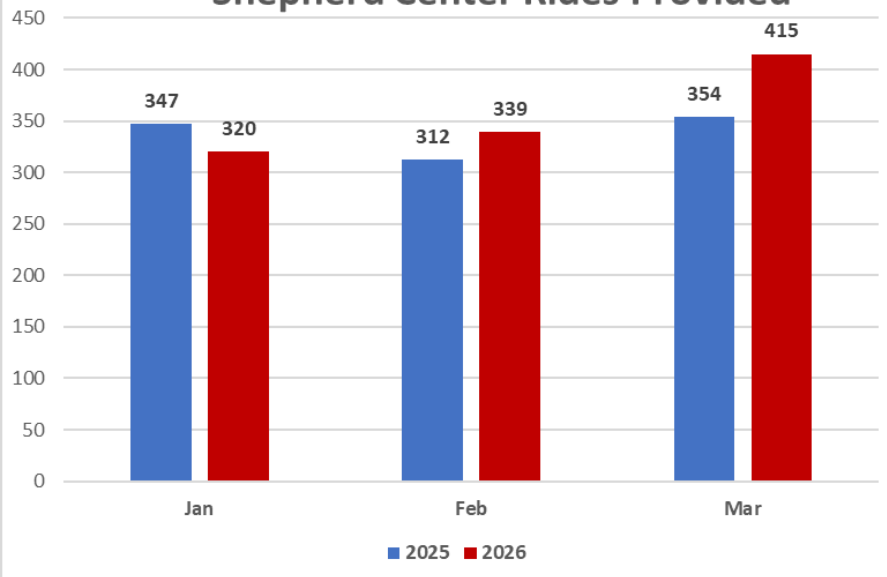
—Ed Groark



Ride Statistics

- **6% increase in rides provided vs Q1 2025**
- **18 new clients rode for the first time**
- **5 new drivers drove for the first time**

Shepherd Center Rides Provided





shepherd's center

OF MCLEAN-ARLINGTON-FALLS CHURCH
1205 Dolley Madison Boulevard
McLean, VA 22101-3109

SHEPHERD'S HERALD: Volume 12, Issue 2

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/>

Special thanks to **Suellen Skocki** of the McLean Baptist Church for formatting and printing the newsletters.

Shepherd's Center of McLean-Arlington-Falls Church is a nonprofit 501c(3), licensed in Virginia.

Donations may be mailed to SCMAFC, 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd, McLean, VA 22101.

Contact the Center by phone at 703-506-2199, through its Website <http://scmafc.org/>, by email to contact@scmafc.org, or Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/SCMAFC>.

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