



A Life-Changing Journey

“It was unexpected . . . 47 years old with prostate cancer. Other than going to the bathroom more at night, I had no symptoms,” said Mayor Sam Parham.

During annual check-ups, Mayor Parham’s doctor noticed a concerning rise in his PSA levels, prompting further testing. These additional tests revealed that the Mayor had developed two types of aggressive cancer in both the upper and lower regions of his prostate.

“The first thing you think about is your family. You think about your wife and daughter. My daughter was 13, and I’m saying, ‘Wow, if I don’t treat it, I may not see her graduate from high school.’ That put life in perspective for me.”

“Sam had just left the doctor’s office, and I was at work. He called me. I lost my breath for a minute . . . I went through this with my father, who had prostate cancer . . . I was his caregiver, and through my father’s treatment, I met Sam,” said Maytee (MY) Parham, Sam’s wife and Petersburg Clerk of Circuit Court.

Mayor Parham and MY explored all available treatments, consulted with many doctors, weighed all possible side effects, and made an informed decision. That decision was the removal of the entire prostate.

“With prostate cancer, impotence is at the forefront of any man’s mind,” said MY. “That was part of understanding the different types of treatment and the best treatment. The choice Sam made was there would be a small chance of impotence and the spread of cancer. For him, that was the right choice.”

“When I went in for surgery, MY took my phone; she said ‘I got this now.’ She shut everything down. ‘He’s got to rest.’ I remember her saying to others, ‘You’ll have to figure it out.’ That was a very important time because we took vows when we got married, and we promised in sickness and in health. When the sickness comes, it’s like, wow, it’s amazing to have MY here.”

Following surgery came recovery, and for Mayor Parham, slowing down from his life of public service and heading his family’s business brought new discoveries.

“I had this procedure right before Christmas. Typically, Christmas is a blur for me. By staying home, I could see things I had never noticed during Christmas. I would say to MY, ‘This is pretty.’ And she would tell me, ‘Oh, that’s been there for years.’ Looking at the Christmas tree was humbling for me. It made me appreciate the small things that I probably would have missed. The support that MY gave me was so important because you have to realize the surgery is just the beginning of the journey.”

“Going through this made me understand that we are only here for a little while and that things in your life can change in the blink of an eye. You can go from being the strongest person on earth to the weakest and most vulnerable. And because of that, having family by my side to emotionally push me through has been a big part of the healing process.”

More than eight months later, Mayor Parham says he is cancer-free and at 85% full recovery. He wants to share his journey and the importance of early detection with others.



“By having prostate cancer and talking publicly about it, I have been approached by so many men and families who are going through the same thing, and they are scared. Bringing these conversations forward is difficult but needed. In Petersburg, we have challenges with health disparities, and early detection and health education are so important. The more we can talk about health and for me to show people that, ‘Hey, I’m vulnerable just like you,’ I hope this can help toward more positive health outcomes. It’s not right to be quiet when this is such a silent killer.”

“We need to talk more about health as families. My son now knows this is something in the family and needs to stay on top of it as he gets older. I want people to know that there is life on the other side, but don’t take it for granted and not go to the doctor to make sure that you are safe.”

“Cancer is not a death sentence,” explained MY. “There are ways to cope and understand. And there’s a community out there to help you.”

“Going through this journey together has made me appreciate my life much more,” said Mayor Parham. “I want to say to MY that I love you, thank you, and look forward to the rest of our lives together.”

Prostate Cancer by the Numbers:

Petersburg has the highest rate of prostate cancer deaths in Virginia

National Statistics

- 5-year survival rate is 97.5%
- 12.9% of men will be diagnosed at some point in their lives
- New cases: 116.5 per 100,000 men of all races per year, however the rate is considerably higher for African American men at 183.4 per 100,000
- The American Cancer Society recommends men begin screening for prostate cancer at 50 and by 45 if there is family history.

To find out more please visit:
<https://www.cancer.gov/types/prostate>

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Rolling Strong for 75 Years in Petersburg

2

Petersburg Fire Support 6

4

Welcome New Businesses

9

Upcoming Events

11

Rolling Strong for 75 Years in Petersburg



In 1949, the Whitfield family established Amsted Rail's Brenco® Bearings in Petersburg, producing bronze journal bearings for railroad freight cars. A decade later, Brenco achieved a significant milestone by obtaining conditional approval from the American Association of Railroads for its now-famous product in the global railroad sector - the tapered roller bearing. These bearings are essential for ensuring train wheels' smooth and efficient rotation while supporting substantial loads during travel.

Brenco dominates the market in the United States and is a global bearing supplier. "From our Petersburg facility, we ship bearings to Australia, India, China, Ukraine, and South America," explained Michael Mason, General Manager and Vice President of Operations.

This year marks Brenco's 75th year in Petersburg. Brenco, an anchor industry in the City, has employed thousands of local workers throughout the decades. The company promotes a workplace environment where loyalty and dedication are valued

and rewarded. This is best exemplified by Brenco continuing to be an Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP) company, meaning employees receive company stock as part of their compensation.

Today, Brenco employs around 300 people. Many employees are long-term residents who have been living and working here for decades. "Brenco has stayed in Petersburg because we have a stable market with stable people," said Cathee Andrews, Director of Human Resources. "You don't find companies today that have the tenure we have. Finding the right people with the right talent has been instrumental in Brenco's success for 75 years. We have people who genuinely care about our organization and are loyal."

One of those many loyal employees is Charles "Chip" Nesmith. He has worked for Brenco for 52 years. "I couldn't think of another place I would like to work," said Nesmith. "There's something new every day, something different."

"Today, I see the same opportunities I saw when I first came here. I saw opportunities to learn about things I didn't know anything about. If you work hard, you're going to be rewarded. That value is still at Brenco."

"What's kept Brenco in Petersburg all these years is the people," said Michael Mason.

We're able to find the talent we need. And as long as we continue to find that talent and great people, Brenco will stay here."

Cathee Andrews has been with Brenco for over three decades. She started as a temp employee, left, and then returned. "I got a phone call offering me a full-time job. So, I returned with the sole purpose of taking advantage of the tuition reimbursement program. I was young and could not afford to go to college. So, I thought I would probably leave as soon as I got my degree. I won't want to work for some manufacturing company for the rest of my life. Fast forward 34 years later, I'm still here. I earned my degree, and Brenco paid my tuition. The people are what makes this company such a fun place to work. There's not been a day that I've dreaded coming to work."

"Anyone can apply here, whether you have a degree or not. Brenco still has the same tuition reimbursement program. We've had a big push lately on the importance of skills trades."

"We have that family atmosphere here," said Michael Mason. "We hand out turkeys and hams and have family days. We watch out for each other."

"Brenco has a fantastic Park," said Andrews. "What employer in the area has a park with a swimming pool and a beautiful

pavilion that our employees can enjoy with their families.”

“I think the number of challenges keeps many people here,” said Mason. “We’re a vertically integrated business where we’re not focused on just one thing. If you are interested in one area, change your mind, and then want to move to a different manufacturing process area, you can. I started at Brenco as a young, curious engineer. And I think everything we do here keeps you interested in the job.”

Chip Nesmith said he is often asked why he likes Brenco. “I tell people that Brenco bought me two houses, sent my three kids to college, bought my groceries every week, and I can’t tell you the number of cars they have bought me. I can’t think of any other company that does that.”

Will Brenco remain in Petersburg for another 75 years? “Petersburg has been good for us because it’s a good location, with 95 right here,” said Mason. “You have access to good workers. Petersburg is business-friendly because of all the investment it’s putting into the area. Petersburg’s downtown is changing, and the infrastructure is improving, which helps our business. And it’s appealing to folks to move into the area and help us produce bearings.”

Petersburg thanks Brenco for its commitment and service as a premier employer and community partner over the past 75 years. Throughout its journey, Brenco has provided valuable employment opportunities and enriched the lives of thousands of families while advancing economic growth and stability within Petersburg and the region. Thank you, Brenco, for your outstanding contributions. Here’s to celebrating this milestone and looking forward to many more decades of success and collaboration!

To view job openings at Brenco, visit: <https://www.amstedrail.com/careers/>



Congratulations and best wishes to Rick Louthan, the Chief Operating Officer of Amsted Rail, who will retire on October 1, 2024!

Mr. Louthan started as a Metallurgist with the company in 1989. He was immediately recognized as a future leader and joined what is now called Amsted Rail’s Leadership Program. He went on to hold several leadership positions before becoming the Vice President and General Manager of Bearings in 2010, and ultimately the Chief Operating Officer in 2012.

The City of Petersburg thanks him for his dedication to business and industry here and wishes him well in this next chapter!



Petersburg Fire Support 6 - Our Heroes



Heroes in Service: Petersburg Fire Support 6 started in 2017 when retired Fire Sergeant Gene Beemer drove past Petersburg firefighters responding to a fire. Beemer realized the firefighters had been there for some time, so he stopped to speak with the Fire Chief and ask if there was anything he could do to help. The Chief asked Beemer to bring them snacks and drinks, which Beemer did. Following the fire, conversations began between retired firefighter Robert Puryear, who was inspired by Beemer's story, and the Fire Chief regarding continuous support for Petersburg's first responders. All agreed, and Puryear brought together a group of six volunteers to start Petersburg Fire Support 6 and became president of this non-profit organization. Later, Petersburg Fire & Rescue provided them with a bay in Station 6, also known as Fort Cross.

For the past seven years, Petersburg Fire Support 6, or as firefighters like to refer to them, "Seal Team 6," has provided essential support services to all Tri-City first responders. "We provide tents, chairs, fans, heaters, ice, food, water, and other re-



freshments for our first responders," said Puryear. "During the summer months, we set up tents then blow the cool air from our fans into the tents to provide the first responders with a comfortable rest environment." Puryear also expressed how some calls the first responders must address can take ten or more hours and that first responders do not usually have adequate food or water with them. So, Support 6 steps up and ensures they are equipped with relief supplies.

Heroes in Commitment: When speaking about the volunteers' careers, Puryear highlighted that "all our volunteers have first responder experience, and most of us are between the ages of sixty and eighty. We have former police officers, firefighters, and

other EMS professionals in our ranks, and some of our volunteers' spouses work with us, too." In response to what keeps them committed and motivated to continue helping the community, Beemer expressed "You can leave firefighting, but firefighting never leaves you."

Heroes Throughout: The Petersburg Fire Support 6 members chose to serve the community in their careers and continue to serve through their volunteering endeavors. Many volunteers of the Petersburg Fire Support 6 expressed that while they are responding to a fire, rookie firefighters often seek their advice on how to best handle the more difficult situations. Thus, this organization not only provides relief services, but also extends invaluable mentoring to new firefighters.

Petersburg Fire Support 6 needs dedicated volunteers with first responder experience to join their team. Donations are also welcomed. For details on getting involved, contact Robert Puryear @ (804) 291-7820 or robertpuryear@hotmail.com.



Farmer Street Park

The City of Petersburg's Office of Recreation, Special Events & Volunteerism held a ribbon-cutting ceremony in July at Farmer Street Park to mark the completion of a comprehensive renovation project.

At Farmer Street Park, recent upgrades, which were made possible with Community Development Block Grant funds, include the transformation of two basketball courts with new goals and markings, revamped tennis courts equipped with fresh markings, nets, and poles, and the introduction of Petersburg's first Pickleball courts. This park will provide additional recreational opportunities for residents and is located by the Farmer Street Pool.

"I am excited to see the transformation of



Farmer Street Park, a place that holds unforgettable memories from my childhood," said Councilwoman Annette Smith-Lee. *"These upgraded sports facilities will improve our community by offering amazing recreational experiences for all residents. My heartfelt gratitude goes out to everyone involved in completing this amazing project."*



Renovation of Albert Jones Field



The Petersburg Department of Recreation, Special Events & Volunteerism has been busy this year! Have you seen the latest updates to Albert Jones Field?

Here's what has been done:

- Fresh Stained and Wooded Football Press Box complete with a new awning
- Fresh Field Goal Post Painting

- Fresh Paint in Concession Stand and Bathrooms
- New/refreshed signage and scoreboard
- New field lights
- Recultivated playing field by Turf Management Division

Youth Winter Basketball

Registration:

October 7 - November 15

Late Registration:

November 18 - until filled

Ages:

Co-Ed: 4 - 6, 7 - 8

Boys: 9 - 10, 11 - 12, 13 - 15

Girls: 9 - 11, 12 - 15

Registration fee:

\$30 Resident rate | \$40 Non-Resident rate

For more information, contact:

recreation@petersburg-va.org or (804) 324-4015



TRUNK-A-TREAT

Date:

Saturday, October 26, 2024

Time: 4:00 - 7:00 pm

Location:

Petersburg Sports Complex
Vendor Registration

Deadline:

Friday, October 18, 2024 - call (804) 324-4015

for more information



The Senior Program will be heading to the State Fair on October 2! Tickets are \$12 and must be purchased by September 27. Those wishing to go must be enrolled in our program.



If you'd like to join the Senior Program, you must be a City resident to enroll OR a member of Tabernacle Baptist Church. Please reach out to the Office of Recreation, Special Events & Volunteerism for additional information: (804) 324-4015 or recreation@petersburg-va.org.

Phlow Opening & Campus Unveiling

Phlow has opened its new advanced pharmaceutical manufacturing facility in Petersburg that produces ingredients for essential medicines.

“Petersburg is the number one place to do business right now in pharmaceuticals,” said Mayor Sam Parham. *“AMPAC, Civica, and Phlow operate in the City. We have educational partners, including VCU, VSU, and Brightpoint. This industry is creating hundreds of new high-paying jobs, and we expect the campus to grow.”*

A new logo has been introduced to support the Pharmaceuticals in Petersburg—Campus for Advanced Manufacturing Pharmaceuticals in the United States, CAMPUS. This logo brands the industrial park and



efforts to attract Supply Chain industries to Petersburg.

“Sixty metric tons of the ingredients for medicines critical to the health of citizens in Virginia and the United States will be manufactured in Petersburg because Petersburg has the best facilities and workforce,” explained Governor Glenn Youngkin.

“Petersburg is the heartbeat of the East Coast,” said Mayor Parham. *“Our location*

is perfect for distributing essential medicines and other products.”

The Pharmaceutical Campus in Petersburg is a hub for producing affordable, high-quality medicine. It represents a transformative era in health, wellness, and economic development. This initiative heightens Petersburg’s status as a business destination.



Honoring Heroes At The American Cancer Society’s Relay For Life



Early detection saves lives. I urge our citizens to keep up with their routine medical screenings so that we can prevent more serious cancer diagnoses. It is also important not to ignore any unusual symptoms that you may be experiencing. Unfortunately, cancer affects so many families and we must continue to come together as a community in the fight against this disease.

Vice Mayor Darrin Hill



Cancer survivors, caregivers, families, and supporters gathered at Good Shepherd Baptist Church for Relay for Life, an annual event dedicated to honoring those the community lost, celebrating survivors, and appreciating the dedication of caregivers.

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

According to the American Cancer Society, one in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer during their lifetime. The median age of diagnosis is 62. Early detection is key. Breast cancer is sometimes found after symptoms appear, but many women with breast cancer have no symptoms. This is why regular breast cancer screening is so important.

The following American Cancer Society recommendations apply to women of average risk:

- **Women between 40 and 44** have the option to start screening with a mammogram every year.
- **Women 45 to 54** should get mammograms every year.



• **Women 55 and older** can switch to a mammogram every other year or choose to continue yearly mammograms. Screening should continue if a woman is in good health and expected to live at least ten more years.

If you are an uninsured, low-income woman concerned with the cost of screening, please check out the program *Every Woman’s Life* as you may be eligible for free screenings and if diagnosed, treatment through Medicaid: <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/every-womans-life/>



Getting Out the Vote - 2024



Through the Early Voting period, September 20 - November 2, and on Election Day, November 5, the City of Petersburg will have seven items on the ballot.

IMPORTANT DATES:

September 20 - Early Voting opens - Office is open 8:00 am - 5:00 pm for 45 days, bring ID or complete a confirmation statement of ID

October 15 - Voter Registration and/or change of address closes out

October 25 - Deadline to request an Absentee By Mail ballot (application first required)

October 26 & November 2 - Saturday Absentee Voting open 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

October 29 & 30 - extended voting hours to 7:00 pm

November 2 - Last day to Early Vote

November 5 - Election Day polls open 6:00 am - 7:00 pm

Federal Elections:

Position	Candidate (Incumbent)	Candidate	Candidate
President/Vice President	-	Donald J. Trump & J. D. Vance	Kamala Harris & Tim Walz
Senate	Tim Kaine	Hung Cao	-
Congress District 4	Jennifer McClellan	Bill Moher	-

City Council Elections:

Ward	Candidate (Incumbent)	Candidate
2	Darrin L. Hill	Belinda Baugh
4	Charlie H. Cuthbert Jr.	Michael S. Edwards
6	Annette Smith-Lee	Tonya R. Brown

School Board Elections:

Ward	Candidate (Incumbent)	Candidate	Candidate	Candidate
2	Hal B. Miles, Sr.	-	-	-
4	Celeste L. Wynn	Linda "Latifah" Muhammad	Marcus O. Squires	Taccarri L. Tucker
6	Bernard J. Lundy, Jr.	-	-	-

Constitutional Amendment Referendum:

Exact language:

ARTICLE X. Taxation and Finance.

Section 6-A. Property tax exemption for; certain veterans and their surviving spouses and; surviving spouses of soldiers killed in action who died in the line of duty. Yes or No

(A "yes" vote would allow the surviving spouse of a soldier who died in the line of duty to claim the same real property tax exemption on their principal place of residence that is currently only available to the surviving spouses of soldiers who are killed in action.

A "no" vote will not allow such additional surviving spouses to claim the real property tax exemption)

If you are interested in finding out more about this referendum, please use this QR code:



Local Referendum:

Exact language:

Shall casino gaming be permitted at a casino gaming establishment in Petersburg, Virginia located on an approximately 92.5-acre development site located off Interstate-95 at Wagner Road along Brasfield Parkway in the City of Petersburg as may be approved by the Virginia Lottery Board? Yes or No

Please use the QR Code below to access sample ballots and other voter registration information for the City of Petersburg.

<http://www.petersburg-va.org/291/Voter-Registration>

Or visit www.vote.virginia.gov to register, make address/name changes, check your status or request an Absentee Ballot.



100-Day Strategy for Petersburg Public Schools



Petersburg City Public Schools welcomes Interim Superintendent Yolonda C. Brown and her new 100-Day Priority Plan that outlines key areas:

1. Engage Stakeholders, Foster Relationships, and Build Trust
2. Reinforce Teaching, Learning, and Performance
3. Evaluate Division Leadership Capacity
4. Assess Division Finances, Operations, and Facilities

5. Analyze Student and Staff Safety and Wellbeing

These priorities are set to improve the school division's performance by uniting stakeholders, enriching leadership, and nurturing excellence among educators and learners.

Action steps for these priorities include:

- Conducting a public perception survey to grasp community needs
- Assessing curriculum alignment with standards and student outcomes
- Addressing leadership vacancies through structured recruitment

- Collaborating with the Board and VDOE for department audits
- Improving feedback mechanisms for students, staff, and parents to enhance school climate and safety

Brown brings over thirty years of experience from the Atlanta Public School system, where she served as Chief Academic Officer. She earned a master's degree in education from Mercer University and a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from Clemson University.

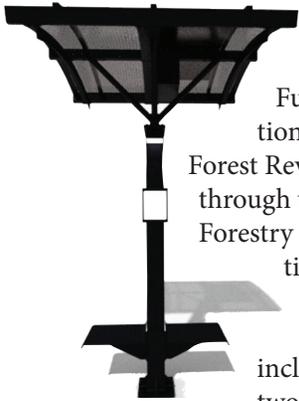
For details on the 100-Day Plan, scan the QR code provided.



An Update from Planning and Community Development

With a fully staffed team of nine, to include Community Development Block Grant administration, zoning and zoning enforcement, historic preservation, and planning staff, the Planning and Community Development team has been working on several projects to realize the community's vision as captured in the recently adopted Comprehensive Plan 2044 - <https://tinyurl.com/PetersburgPlan>.

Some of the highlights include: A grant award of over \$400,000 to install three bus shelters along Crater Road and 30 benches with canopies (pictured here) throughout the city with associated access improvements.



Fully funded participation in the Community Forest Revitalization Program through the Department of Forestry to create tree regulations as well as a tree master plan for the city of Petersburg to include the selection of two communities for a focused planting effort. To get involved, please attend our upcoming event on September 23rd at 5:00 pm at the Petersburg Library (see below).

The Department has kicked off its Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance Update. These ordinances guide the shape of development in the community such as how tall your house can be or if you can open a business on a particular property. Ordinance updates can help implement many of the Comprehensive Plan's strategies like supporting diverse housing options, increasing safety through design, and promoting compatible development. To get involved, please join us at our meeting with the Planning Commission and City Council on September 25th at 6:00 pm at the Petersburg Library or take the online visual preference survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PetersburgZOSO>.

[surveymonkey.com/r/PetersburgZOSO](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PetersburgZOSO).

The Department also just completed a Homeowner and Renter Resources guide, that you can view here - <https://tinyurl.com/OwnRentGuide>.

Several new policies have been adopted through text amendments to the Zoning Ordinance, including allowing sandwich board signs on public sidewalks, permitting certain noncomplying structures to be used for the purpose they were built, and introducing new standards for architectural treatment of new construction, site plan review, and recreational substance retail uses in the City.

To Keep in Mind

Historic Districts: If you are completing work on your historic home, you will need approval from the Architectural Review Board (ARB) for ANY exterior improvements. You can find out if your home is in a local historic district here: <https://tinyurl.com/LocalHistoric> and find the application to go before the ARB here: <https://tinyurl.com/ARBHistoric>.

Zoning Permits: The Planning Department is now requiring permits for certain items to confirm zoning compliance, including fences, sign refacing, and accessory structures less than 257 square feet.

Lastly, see the graphic provided for information on sign permits requirements and the recent allowance of sandwich board signs with an approved permit.

Petersburg Planning Department
Effective from – April 10th, 2024

Sign Fact Sheet

When and How to Apply
Sign Permits are required before you erect, structurally alter, relocate, or replace any sign within the City. If you're planning to install a sign, it's essential to understand the process for obtaining a sign permit. The following steps will guide you through the application procedure:

Steps to Sign Permits

- 1 See if your Sign is Allowed**
Signs of certain types are prohibited. There are also limits to signage size in certain districts. Please see the Sign Ordinance at Article 21 Section 6 for Prohibited Signs
- 2 See which Signs Don't Require a Permit**
Most signs need permits; however, some select signs do not. Please see the Sign Ordinance at Article 21 Section 5 for exemptions.
- 3 Fill out a Sign Permit**
You will need to know the type, size, location, and materials of each sign. Sign permits can be found on the City website under the Planning Tab or by using the Search function.

NEW Ordinance
Effective April 10th, 2024, sandwich board signs are now legal. Please contact the Planning office to receive a FREE permit.

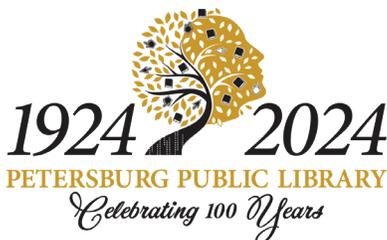
Sign Ordinance:

Contact

Should you have any questions about the content provided here or any additional questions, please reach out to the Planning Department at PCD@petersburg-va.org or (804) 733-2308.

Greening Petersburg: Healthy Trees, Healthy Lives Open House

Monday, September 23, 5:00 – 7:00 pm at Petersburg Public Library
Presentations from 5:30 - 6:30 pm | Family-friendly event for all – free to attend!
Come vote on which tree planting strategies get prioritized in Petersburg, and on which communities will receive a focused tree planting effort!



Petersburg Public Library is celebrating 100 years of service!

Save the date for a Gala Celebration on Thursday, November 7, 2024!

On this date in 1960, The Petersburg Public Library was reopened, the first municipally operated facility in Petersburg to be desegregated.

Petersburg Appoints New Fire Chief

The City of Petersburg has appointed Wayne Hoover, a highly respected Fire and Emergency Services leader, as its new interim Fire Chief. With a remarkable 35-year career, Hoover brings extensive experience and expertise to his new role. Previously, he served as the fire chief and emergency management coordinator for the City of Colonial Heights, where he managed firefighting,

emergency medical services, emergency communications, and emergency management. He began his career as a firefighter in Petersburg.

Hoover is recognized for his strategic planning, operational excellence, and commitment to service optimization through careful budgeting and staffing.

“I am excited to join the dedicated team of firefighters and



emergency service providers in Petersburg,” said Chief Hoover. *“The city is positioned for significant economic and residential*

growth. Together, we will work towards building a premier fire, rescue, and emergency management department.”

Petersburg Welcomes New Director of Social Services

The City of Petersburg is pleased to announce William D’Aiuto as the newly appointed Director of Social Services. With a wealth of experience and a proven track record in social service programs, D’Aiuto joins Petersburg from the Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS), where he most recently served as the Eastern Regional Director supporting 23 local Department of Social Services.

Prior to his tenure with VDSS, he served as the Associate Commissioner for Operations for the Texas Health and Human Services Commission. During his tenure in Texas, D’Aiuto provided

executive-level leadership to a team of over 7,000 professionals dedicated to supporting eligibility operations for crucial programs such as SNAP, TANF, Medicaid, and in-home support services for the elderly and disabled. He brings a career spanning 27 years with the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF), where he held various roles, including Chief Innovation Officer.



Petersburg Welcomes New Businesses!



Market St. Coffee
111 N. Market Street
(804) 774-8189



Potros Mexican and Italian Restaurant
1910 E. Washington Street
(804) 203-4721



The Antique Garden
224 N. Sycamore Street
@theantiquegardenpva

Register Now For The Fall Citizen’s Police Academy

Join your neighbors and community leaders for an informative and interactive opportunity to learn more about the Petersburg Bureau of Police! The Fall Citizen’s Police Academy will take place on Wednesdays, from October 2 thru November 13, 6:00 – 8:30 pm. Participants must be at least 21 years old and successfully pass a criminal background check.

For more information, please email Sergeant K. Waldron at Petersburgpolicecares@petersburg-va.org.



2024 City of Petersburg Summer Internship Program

The City of Petersburg hosted its Summer Internship program for the third consecutive year, welcoming 84 high school and college students. This initiative owes much of its success to Ken Miller and the City's Human Resources Team, whose efforts have given participants invaluable work experience. Beyond professional development, interns experienced field trips and educational seminars.

Meet 7 of the 84 interns who worked in the city this summer!



PARIS MASON: City Clerk's Office College Intern (3rd year in the internship program)

Sophomore at Old Dominion University studying Biochemistry

Career goals: Research Scientist

"My favorite part this year has been witnessing the growth of this program, and I know it will continue to improve each year. I've learned a lot about my city, wards, and city council, and built skillsets readying me for the workforce. I've come out of my shell, gained customer service skills, and supervised and mentored high school interns."



TATIANA WALKER: Office of Recreation, Special Events and Volunteerism High School Intern

Senior, Petersburg High School, Dual Enrollment at Richard Bland College

Career Goals: Pediatric Nurse

"I've grown a lot this summer. One of the biggest lessons has been perspective. I worked with kids in the city's free summer camp and then at our Senior Program. It's been interesting observing how kids look at life compared to seniors. Our seniors have a lot to teach us, and it's important to listen to them open-mindedly. They have reinforced not being negative but staying positive and the importance of continuing my education. They also taught me how to crochet, and I love it!"



CLARENCE CLAIBORNE, JR.: Office of Recreation, Special Events and Volunteerism College Intern

Junior, Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, studying Public Health

Career Goals: Director of Parks and Recreation or the equivalent

"I want to see the advancement of the younger generations, especially those who have grown up in Petersburg. Not everyone has had the chances and support I have been blessed with. When supervising the younger high school interns, I'm mindful that you don't necessarily know what they might be going through, so I try to be a positive mentor."



BREANNA CRENSHAW: Petersburg Bureau of Police High School Intern

Senior, Petersburg High School

Career Goals: Studying Psychology at NC Central University, Acting

"I'm very shy, so learning public speaking skills through introducing speakers at the Power Summit was a big challenge for me to overcome. This summer has boosted my confidence, given me greater insight into police work, and taught me about remaining calm in a crisis, organization, and different technology."



MIRIAM MUHAMMAD: Petersburg Public Library STREAM Program College Intern

Sophomore, Virginia State University, studying Psychology

Career Goals: Therapist or School Counselor

"Children with different needs or abilities shouldn't always be treated as different because we all want to feel equal. Working with children during the internship has reinforced this and is something my mother taught me growing up. This summer I've also become more disciplined, gained real job experience and supervisory skills."



BRITTANY SMITH: Dogwood Trace Golf Course High School Intern

Senior, Petersburg High School

Career Goals: Professional Golfer and IT/Game Designer

"Interning at the golf course has given me the opportunity and exposure to different people who share their wisdom with me. It's a great environment to learn life lessons and the business side of golf, which includes merchandising, inventory, customer service and day-to-day business operations. I also understand how it helps the city, bringing in revenue."



Z'VAYE FLOWERS: Public Works High School Intern

Junior, Petersburg High School

Career Goals: Computer and Coding Engineer

"I typically take my time when working on tasks, but I've learned to respond more quickly this summer as many emergency calls that Public Works get require a quick response and action to keep others safe. I also learned how vital this department is because, without them, the City would be in shambles. I've also learned the importance of teamwork, communication, and a good work ethic."

UPCOMING EVENTS

Grapes and Hops Festival

Saturday, September 21

This annual event showcases the area's best wine and beer along with music, vendors, and food trucks at the Petersburg Harbor from 11:00 am – 6:00 pm. To find out more and to purchase tickets, visit www.grapesandhopsburg.com.

FOLAR's Annual Paddle Battle

Saturday, September 21

Race or leisurely paddle downstream from Rotary Park in Petersburg to the Hopewell Marina at this great annual event from 7:00 am – 1:30 pm. Register to participate here: www.folar-va.org.

Artoberfest

Sunday, October 6

(Rain Date: October 13)

Fun, food, art, & music... a free and family-friendly community event! Appomattox Ironworks, from 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm at 30 W. Old St. in Old Towne.

Friday for the Arts!

Every second Friday evening of the month

Stroll around Old Towne exploring and enjoying the arts at galleries such as Petersburg Area Art League, Arte X Change and Capiku Cultural Performing Arts Center. Stay to shop, dine and enjoy entertainment too. Visit www.visitpetersburgva.org for more information.



All Hallow's Eve

Saturday, October 26

This popular annual event at Blandford Cemetery features costumed interpreters who tell their stories about the spirits who rest there. Tours occur every 20 minutes beginning at 6:00 pm, with the last tour at 8:00 pm. Learn more and buy tickets at www.visitpetersburgva.org.

A Commemoration of the Bicentennial of Lafayette's Farewell Tour Visit in 1824

Saturday, October 26

A day full of free activities from 10:00 am – 5:00 pm based at Petersburg Public Library: self-guided tours and free entrance to Revolutionary War sites from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm, talks and an exhibit from 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm. Ticketed celebratory dinner in the evening at Appomattox Event Center. Hosted by Battersea Foundation, Historic Petersburg Foundation, Petersburg Battlefields Foundation and City of Petersburg. For more information visit www.visitpetersburgva.org.

Battersea Oyster Roast & Barbecue

Saturday, November 2

This annual event always sells out! Enjoy Oysters and Barbecue on the lawn at Battersea from 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm. For more information and tickets, visit www.batterseafound.org.

Faith in Blue

Saturday, October 19
(Rain Date: October 27)

Hosted by the City of Petersburg Sheriff's Office, Bureau of Police, Commonwealth Attorney's Office, and Faith leaders, this annual event aims to create safer and stronger communities by connecting law enforcement officers with the residents they protect and serve. All are welcome to enjoy a great afternoon of entertainment, food, and fun at the Petersburg Sports Complex from 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm. For more information, call (804) 733-2369.

City Council Meetings

Petersburg City Council meets twice a month on the first and third Tuesdays. There are no regular meetings in the month of August. All are welcome to attend in person at the Petersburg Public Library, or the meetings can be viewed at: <https://www.petersburgva.gov/1177/Live-Meetings>

Public Meetings

The following public meetings are all held in the Multipurpose Room of Petersburg Public Library:
Architectural Review Board – 2nd Wednesday of the Month at 6:00 pm.
Planning Commission – 1st Thursday of the Month at 6:30 pm.
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Advisory Board – 3rd Thursday of the Month at 6:00 pm.
Economic Development Authority (EDA) – 4th Thursday at 6:00 pm.



CITYWIDE CLEANUP

October 5, 2024

It's that time of year! Do you have old appliances, trash or other bulky items you would like to get rid of during the Citywide Cleanup? YOU have an opportunity to DUMP YOUR JUNK for FREE on October 5, 2024.

UPCOMING OBSERVED HOLIDAYS

Petersburg Area Transit offices are closed on holidays; however, PAT buses operate on regular schedules on the below holidays, except for November 28 and 29, when there will be no service in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

If the Thanksgiving holiday occurs on or before your scheduled trash or recycling collection day, services will be delayed one day for the remainder of the week. On the remaining holidays listed, collections will be on a regular schedule. For more information regarding recycling collection, visit <https://cwma.com/>, and for trash collection, visit <https://www.meridianwaste.com/>.

Dogwood Trace Golf Course is open daily year-round, only closing on Christmas Day.

**Columbus Day/Yorktown Victory Day – Monday, October 14 | Election Day – Tuesday, November 5
Veterans Day – Monday, November 11 | Wednesday, November 27 – City offices open until noon
Thursday, November 28 – Thanksgiving Day | Friday, November 29 – Thanksgiving Break**



CITY OF PETERSBURG
135 N. Union Street
Petersburg, VA 23803
www.petersburg-va.org

Amazon EBT Program

Who is eligible to use SNAP EBT on Amazon?

Amazon is part of a pilot run by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to accept SNAP EBT online. Currently, customers with a valid SNAP EBT card can use their SNAP funds on Amazon. They accept SNAP EBT nationwide.

How do I sign up to use my SNAP EBT benefits on Amazon?

To use your SNAP EBT card, visit www.amazon.com/snap and follow the instructions on the screen. If you are not already an Amazon customer, you will need to create an account. There are also opportunities to add an EBT card during checkout or in your wallet.

Do I need a Prime membership to use my SNAP EBT card on Amazon?

No. Shopping with a valid SNAP EBT card issued by an eligible state allows you to access Amazon Fresh and Whole Foods Market on Amazon without Amazon Prime.

Want the benefits of a Prime Membership? Income-verified and SNAP, Medicaid, or other qualifying government assistance recipients can save more with Prime Access, a reduced cost membership which is \$6.99/month.

Petersburg City Council



Left to right

- Annette Smith-Lee Ward 6 - alee@petersburg-va.org
- Arnold Westbrook, Jr. Ward 7 - awestbrook@petersburg-va.org
- Vice Mayor Darrin Hill Ward 2 - dhill@petersburg-va.org
- Mayor Samuel Parham Ward 3 - sparham@petersburg-va.org
- W. Howard Myers Ward 5 - whowardmyers@petersburg-va.org
- Charles Cuthbert Ward 4 - ccuthbert@petersburg-va.org
- Marlow Jones Ward 1 - mjones@petersburg-va.org



Visit our new Tourism Website!
www.VisitPetersburgVA.org
to keep up with events, places
to visit, eat, and shop!



FOLLOW US!

Facebook: [Visit Petersburg VA](https://www.facebook.com/VisitPetersburgVA)
Instagram: [@VisitPetersburgVA](https://www.instagram.com/VisitPetersburgVA)

Check out all of our city
videos on YouTube at:
[@PetersburgVirginia](https://www.youtube.com/@PetersburgVirginia)

