



JULY 2025

The Spring 2025 Shepherd University Magazine is available now! From our inspiring alumni of the year to a record-breaking women's soccer season, read all about the amazing things going on with the Ram Fam.

Check out the 2025 Spring magazine!



MEMBERSHIP



**Did you know
Shepherd alums
can gain access to
special benefits?**

Memberships include game tickets, TravelPerks, retail discounts through Working Advantage & more!

LEARN MORE ABOUT MEMBERSHIPS

HEY RAMS!
The Alumni Association membership has a new look!

Now, any alum from any graduation year can choose either the Blue or Gold level of membership. Visit the [SUAA Membership webpage](#) to see all the details!

[Become A Member](#)

	RAM FAM	BLUE	GOLD
Scarborough Library Borrowing	✓	✓	✓
Discounted Wellness Center Membership	✓	✓	✓
Access to the Handshake Job Portal	✓	✓	✓
Bi-annual Magazine	✓	✓	✓
Bi-monthly E-newsletter	✓	✓	✓
Access to Freewill Services	✓	✓	✓
TravelPerks Services	STANDARD	PLATINUM SERVICE*	PLATINUM SERVICE*
Working Advantage Discounts*		✓	✓
10% Kaplan Testing Discount*		✓	✓
Ticket to the Homecoming Football Game			✓
Regular-Season Basketball Ticket Voucher			✓
Rental Discounts at the Shepherd University Student Center Games Zone and Event Rooms.**			✓
Special Pricing on New Cress Creek Memberships			✓
	Free to all Alumni, considered this level upon graduation	\$35 /YEAR	SINGLE \$50 /YEAR JOINT \$75 /YEAR

UPCOMING EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE FOR FALL 2025 EVENTS!

Visit the [SUAA Upcoming Events website](#) and social media pages for more details and updates on all of our exciting events!

Shepherd @ Frostburg Alumni Tailgate

Saturday, August 30

Frostburg State University

4 p.m. until game start

More details regarding location and game information to be released soon!

Athletic Hall of Fame Breakfast & Awards Ceremony

Saturday, Sept. 27

9 - 11 a.m.

Storer Ballroom

More details & RSVP information to come. Formal invitations to be mailed soon.

Alumni Emeritus Breakfast

Saturday, October 11

9 -11 a.m.

Storer Ballroom

Honoring the 5-year anniversary class of 1975. More details & RSVP information to come. Formal invitation to be mailed soon.

HOMECOMING WEEKEND

Outstanding Alum & Finest Under 40 Reception

Thursday, October 23

SUAA 34th Annual Golf Tournament

Friday, October 24

Alumni Breakfast on the Lawn & Homecoming Parade

Saturday, October 25

Phi Sigma Epsilon 50th Anniversary Reunions (classes of the 1970s)

Saturday, October 25

More details on all Homecoming events to be posted on the SUAA website and social media pages soon. Some events will be invitations only or require pre-registration.



2026 ROAMING RAMS TRIPS

January 30-February 5: Iceland's Magical Northern Lights

April 4-11: Caribbean & Antilles Cruise on MSC World America

May 20-28: Spotlight on Tuscany

July 18-28: Canadian Maritimes & Coastal Wonders

August 9-16: Alaska Cruise on Star Princess

November 7-15: Spain's Costa del Sol & Madrid

Visit the [Roaming Rams Travel Program website](#) for details on all available tours and Travel Talks information session dates!

Some trips for 2025 are still available. You can watch the Travel Talks information sessions for the 2025 trips on the [SUAA YouTube channel](#).

[Full University Calendar of Events](#)

[Special Athletic Events](#)

[Athletic Games Composite Schedule](#)

[Lifelong Learning Course Schedule](#)

ALUMNI HIGHLIGHT



June Highlight - Tricia Katebini '07, MBA '08

Tricia began her college journey at a university in Indiana, majoring in vocal performance, before ultimately obtaining her bachelor's in accounting and then her Master's of Business Administration from Shepherd. [Read Tricia's full story!](#)



July Highlight - Ethan Baker '23

Ethan discovered early on that he wanted to work in the film industry, and he wasted no time pursuing his passion. After graduating from high school at 16, he set his sights on a university that could help him hone his skills in communication and filmmaking, while offering a tight-knit community where he could stay engaged and make a difference. He found all of those things at Shepherd University. [Read about Ethan's journey!](#)

[LET US KNOW WHO WE SHOULD HIGHLIGHT NEXT!](#)

RAMS SUPPORTING RAMS



Ginger Snapshots® is where bold, cinematic storytelling meets a touch of magic. Led by Heidi—photographer, artist, and certified chaos coordinator—we capture weddings, portraits, boudoir, and more with equal parts precision and whimsy. If you want photos that feel like they belong in a storybook (or a dramatic movie trailer), you have come to the right place.

Owner and photographer Heidi Blanchard graduated from Shepherd in 2012 with a Regents Bachelor of Arts concentrating in English literature, and again in 2016 with a master's degree in college student development and administration.

Find her online at gingersnapshotsmaryland.com, or on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)!



CAMPUS & ATHLETIC NEWS

Shepherd University breaks ground on new dining hall and multipurpose facility

Shepherd University broke ground on a new dining hall and multipurpose building on Wednesday, May 14. Faculty, staff, and students gathered with community members, business leaders, and elected officials to celebrate the start of construction on the facility that is part of an investment in Shepherd's campus made possible through a \$30 million investment from the West Virginia Legislature last year. The new building on West Campus brings the University's main dining hall to the same side of campus as the residence halls. [Read more »](#)

Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education names new director

The Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education, located on the campus of Shepherd University, welcomed Zach Dougherty as the center's new director. Dougherty brings extensive experience in government affairs. He most recently served as a registered lobbyist and community organizer for the League of Women Voters of New Jersey, where he led efforts to advance good-government reforms and built statewide coalitions focused on youth political engagement. [Read more »](#)

Shepherd University announces new Director of Career Services

Shepherd University announced Andrew Shultz as the new Director of Career Services last month. Shultz, who began working at Shepherd in 2023 as the Academic Retention Specialist for the TRIO Student Support Services program, said he recognizes the importance of his new role. [Read more »](#)

Hoekstra, Odell honored at PSAC Board of Directors meeting

Two Shepherd University coaches received recognition during the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (PSAC) Board of Directors meeting this week. Alex Hoekstra, head volleyball coach, and Sam Odell, head women's soccer coach, were both named the PSAC East Coach of the Year in their respective sports last season. Hoekstra led the Rams to an unbeaten 14-0 conference record (24-6 overall) to win the PSAC East. Odell and his team finished a record-setting 18-2-4 season with a 13-1-2 record in the conference and brought home Shepherd's first-ever PSAC Championship. [Read more »](#)

Norris named Shepherd defensive line coach

Shepherd University head football coach Ernie McCook recently announced that Elijah Norris has been named defensive line coach. Norris replaces Bryan Murray who resigned to take the outside linebackers coaching position at Brown University. [Read more »](#)

Shepherd adds three to the Athletic Hall of Fame

The Shepherd University Athletic Hall of Fame will induct three new members at the annual induction ceremony on Saturday, September 27 at the Storer Ballroom on the Shepherd campus. Football player Terry Corbin joins Georgia Karr Garten '15 (women's lacrosse) and Katie Warehime '09 (women's basketball) as the 39th class to be inducted. The "terrific three" bring the total number of inductees in the Shepherd Athletic Hall of Fame to 173. [Read more »](#)

[More Campus News](#)

[More Athletic News](#)



Celebrate Your Successes!

Nominate fellow alums for special recognition awards.

[SEND YOUR NOMINATION](#)

DO YOU HAVE GOOD NEWS?

We want to know!

Share your career achievements, life changes, and other good news for the alumni updates in the magazine.

[SHARE YOUR NEWS](#)



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SHEPHERD
UNIVERSITY

**CAREER OPPORTUNITIES
FOR ALUMNI & STUDENTS**

Follow us on LinkedIn for internship and
job postings, and more information about
the Shepherd University Career Center!



#SHEPHERDSTUDENTSSUCCEED

Visit the [Shepherd University Career Center webpage](#) for more helpful tips and
links, or to set up a meeting with our Director of Career Services!



**Find your Ram Fam no
matter where you go!**

Look for your regional community and keep up
with the Ram Fam anywhere you go!

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Standard service available to all.



Available only to [Blue & Gold Level Members](#)!

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