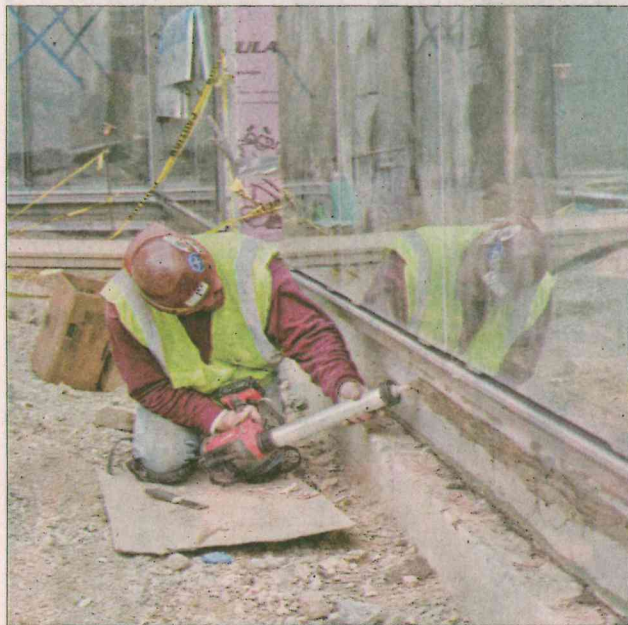


Local News



Photos by Sandra Sellars/Richmond Free Press



The new Institute for Contemporary Art at Virginia Commonwealth University continues to take shape on the southwest corner of Belvidere and Broad streets.

Crews are working to complete the interior of the unique landmark, called the Markel Center after a major donor.

Left, Fred Cueller works on the space where a café will be located. Right, workers install ductwork on the second floor of the building designed by Stephen Holl Architects, a New York-based firm.

Cityscape Slices of life and scenes in Richmond

The \$41 million, three-story building is set to open Oct. 28 and will feature a 240-seat auditorium for film screenings and live performances, an outdoor garden, a learning lab and flexible space for displays of modern paintings, sculpture and other works.

The opening will happen about three years after big machines began digging up the 1-acre site to prepare the ground for construction. The institute is being financed with private donations. To date, the institute has raised about \$35 million. The planned opening exhibition, Declaration, will feature new work by artists from Richmond and around the globe.

