The Best of Times JANUARY 2024

UPPER MERION SENIOR SERVICE CENTER

431 W. VALLEY FORGE ROAD KING OF PRUSSIA, PA 19406 TELE: 610-265-4715 On the web at www.umssc.org



With 2024 making its entrance, let us take a moment to reflect on the many experiences we enjoyed in 2023. New friends and new adventures along with continuing to enjoy our time with families and longtime friends.

The new year is a time for new hopes and new resolutions. I hope you will include spending more time at the Center, enjoying our activities and becoming involved.

As your President, I would like to thank the new and returning Board members for volunteering their time, expertise and for their commitment to the Senior Center and our mission. Without volunteers, we would not be able to organize our special events, programs, and activities.

We are planning many activities, trips, and special presentations for 2024. If you have special interests, please feel free to offer suggestions to any Board Member, the office staff, or use the Suggestion Box in the Great Room. We want to hear from you. It is your organization.

Memberships for 2024 are being accepted. Please remember to renew your membership if you have not already. Encourage a friend who does not belong to join with you and enjoy our programs together.

Thank you for your allowing me to be your President again this year. If you wish to contact me, please call the Center. If I am not there, I will return your call. You may also email me at sbrzoska@umssc.org.

May the new year bring you peace, joy, and happiness.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Center in 2024.

Until next time,

Sharon Brzoska, President

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE CENTER

THE SENIOR CENTER WILL BE CLOSED FOR THE NEW YEARS HOLIDAY ON MONDAY, JANUARY 1. PLEASE REMEMBER NEW HOURS ARE 9:30 AM TO 3:30 PM.

ALL ACTIVITIES ARE CANCELLED ON MONDAY, JANUARY 15 FOR THE MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY OF SERVICE. VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO HELP SPRUCE UP THE CENTER.

Please refer to the monthly calendar for all *JANUARY* activities. Contact anyone in the office if you have questions. For activities conducted or available on *Zoom* please call the office and provide your email address to receive the zoom link.

SAVE THE DATE

TECH HELP: Sangeetha will be at the Center the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month @ 12:00 PM. (JANUARY 3 AND JANUARY 17). Meet in the Computer Room.

JANUARY 2024 "SEE THE GOOD IN ALL THINGS!"

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
NEW UMSSC HOURS 9:30 TO 3:30 STARTING JANUARY 2	HAPPY Cew Cear 2024 CENTER CLOSED	2 9 -3 WALK THE TRACK 10:00-11:30 RUMMIKUB 11:30 FUN & FITNESS 12:30 PINOCHLE 12:30 BAND PRACTICE (CANCELLED FOR TODAY)	3 9-3 WALK THE TRACK 12:00 TECH HELP 12:00 NEIGHBORS ON ZOOM 12:30 CANASTA 12:30 LINE DANCING	4 9 - 3 WALK THE TRACK 10:00 BOARD MEETING 10:15 BINGO 11:30 FUN & FITNESS	5 9-3 WALK THE TRACK 10:30 SING-A-LONG 12-30-2:00 TRIVIA	6
7	8 9-3 WALK THE TRACK 11:00 CURRENT EVENTS (ALSO ON ZOOM) 11:30 MONDAY MATINEE "THE WHALE" 12-3 PAINTING GROUP 12:30 MEXICAN TRAIN	9 9 -3 WALK THE TRACK 10:00-11:30 RUMMIKUB 11:30 FUN & FITNESS 12:30 PINOCHLE 12:30 BAND PRACTICE	10 9-3 WALK THE TRACK 12:00 NEIGHBORS ON ZOOM 11:00 MLH PRESENTATION "BOOST YOUR NUTRITION" 12:30 CANASTA 12:30 LINE DANCING	11 9 - 3 WALK THE TRACK 9:30-12 NURSE 10:15 BINGO 11:30 FUN & FITNESS	12 9-3 WALK THE TRACK 10:30 SING-A-LONG 12:30 -2:00 TRIVIA	13
14	15 MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY OF SERVICE AT THE SENIOR CENTER 9:30 to 11:30 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ALL ACTIVITIES CANCELLED	9 -3 WALK THE TRACK 10:00-11:30 RUMMIKUB 11:30 FUN & FITNESS 12:30 PINOCHLE 12:30 BAND PRACTICE	9-3 WALK THE TRACK 12:00 TECH HELP 12:00 NEIGHBORS ON ZOOM 12:30 CANASTA 12:30 LINE DANCING	9-3 WALK THE TRACK 10:15 BINGO 11:30 FUN & FITNESS 12:45 UM LIBRARY PRESENTATION BY SANGEETHA	19 9-3 WALK THE TRACK 10:30 SING-A-LONG 12:30 -2:00 TRIVIA	20
21	22 9-3 WALK THE TRACK 11:00 CURRENT EVENTS (ALSO ON ZOOM) 12-3 PAINTING GROUP 12:30 MEXICAN TRAIN 1:00 BOOK TALK (also on ZOOM)	23 9 -3 WALK THE TRACK 10:00-11:30 RUMMIKUB 11:30 FUN & FITNESS 12:30 PINOCHLE 12:30 BAND PRACTICE	24 9-3 WALK THE TRACK 12:00 NEIGHBORS ON ZOOM 12:30 CANASTA 12:30 LINE DANCING 1:00 -2:30 KNIT & CROCHET GROUP	25 9-3 WALK THE TRACK 10:15 BINGO 11:30 FUN & FITNESS 1:00 QUILTING	26 9-3 WALK THE TRACK 10:30 SING-A-LONG 12:30 -2:00 TRIVIA	27
28	29 9-3 WALK THE TRACK 11:00 CURRENT EVENTS (ALSO ON ZOOM) 12-3 PAINTING GROUP 12:30 MEXICAN TRAIN	30 9 -3 WALK THE TRACK 10:00-11:30 RUMMIKUB 11:30 FUN & FITNESS 12:30 PINOCHLE 12:30 BAND PRACTICE	31 9-3 WALK THE TRACK 12:00 NEIGHBORS ON ZOOM 12:30 CANASTA 12:30 LINE DANCING 1:00-2:30 KNIT & CROCHET GROUP			

FEBRUARY 2024 BE THE RAINBOW IN SOMEONE'S CLOUD

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
TENTATIVE AS OF DEC 20, 2023				1 9 - 3 WALK THE TRACK 10:15 BINGO 11:30 FUN & FITNESS	2 9-3 WALK THE TRACK 10:30 SING-A-LONG 12-30-2:00 TRIVIA	3
					GROUNDHOG DAY	
4	5 9-3 WALK THE TRACK 11:00 CURRENT EVENTS (ALSO ON ZOOM) 12-3 PAINTING GROUP 12:30 MEXICAN TRAIN	6 9 -3 WALK THE TRACK 10:00 BOARD MEETING 10:00-11:30 RUMMIKUB 11:30 FUN & FITNESS 12:30 FUN & FITNESS 12:30 BAND PRACTICE	7 9-3 WALK THE TRACK 12:00 TECH HELP 12:00 NEIGHBOR ON ZOOM 12:30 CANASTA 12:30 LINE DANCING 1:00 KNIT & CROCHET GROUP	8 9-3 WALK THE TRACK 9:30-12 NURSE 10:15 BINGO 11:30 FUN & FITNESS	9 12 TO 2:30 VALENTINE HOAGIE SOCIAL	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	9-3 WALK THE TRACK 11:00 CURRENT EVENTS (ALSO ON ZOOM) 11:30 MONDAY MATINEE 12-3 PAINTING GROUP 12:30 MEXICAN TRAIN	9 -3 WALK THE TRACK 10:00-11:30 RUMMIKUB 11:30 FUN & FITNESS 12:30 PINOCHLE 12:30 BAND PRACTICE	9-3 WALK THE TRACK 12:00 NEIGHBORS ON ZOOM 12:30 CANASTA 12:30 LINE DANCING 1:00 KNIT & CROCHET GROUP 12:30 TAI CHI 1:45 HEALTY STEPS IN MOTION	9-3 WALK THE TRACK 10:15 BINGO 11:30 FUN & FITNESS	9-3 WALK THE TRACK 10:30 SING-A-LONG 12:30 -2:00 TRIVIA	
	LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY		Day			
18	19	20	ASH WEDNESDAY 21	22	22	24
	9-3 WALK THE TRACK 11:00 CURRENT EVENTS (ALSO ON ZOOM) 12-3 PAINTING GROUP 12:30 MEXICAN TRAIN 1:00 BOOK TALK PRESIDENT'S DAY	9 -3 WALK THE TRACK 10:00-11:30 RUMMIKUB 11:30 FUN & FITNESS 12:30 PINOCHLE 12:30 BAND PRACTICE	9-3 WALK THE TRACK 12:00 TECH HELP 12:00 NEIGHBORS ON ZOOM 12:30 CANASTA 12:30 LINE DANCING 1:00 KNIT & CROCHET GROUP 12:30 TAI CHI 1:45 HEALTY STEPS IN MOTION	9-3 WALK THE TRACK 10:15 BINGO 11:30 FUN & FITNESS 1:00 QUILTING WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY	9-3 WALK THE TRACK 10:30 SING-A-LONG 12:30 -2:00 TRIVIA	
	26	27	28	29		
	9-3 WALK THE TRACK 11:00 CURRENT EVENTS (ALSO ON ZOOM) 11:30 MONDAY MATINEE 12-3 PAINTING GROUP 12:30 MEXICAN TRAIN	9 -3 WALK THE TRACK 10:00-11:30 RUMMIKUB 11:30 FUN & FITNESS 12:30 PINOCHLE 12:30 BAND PRACTICE	 9-3 WALK THE TRACK 12:00 NEIGHBORS ON ZOOM 12:30 CANASTA 12:30 LINE DANCING 1:00 KNIT & CROCHET GROUP 12:30 TAI CHI 1:45 HEALTY STEPS IN MOTION 	9-3 WALK THE TRACK 10:15 BINGO 11:30 FUN & FITNESS 12:45 MLH -HEART HEALTH PRESENTATION		

MONDAY MATINEE: Monday January 8 at 11:30 AM. Movie is "The Whale". A reclusive, morbidly obese English teacher attempts to reconnect with his estranged teenage daughter. This Oscar winning movie stars Brendan Frazer.

MAIN LINE HEALTH PRESENTATION: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10 AT 11:00 AM. "BOOST YOUR NUTRITIION".

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECK: Thursday, January 11 from 9:30 to 12:00 PM. Have your blood pressure checked by MLH Nurse Tracey.

VOLUNTEER FOR MLK DAY OF SERVICE: Monday, January 15 from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM. We are in need of members to volunteer to spruce up the Senior Center. Hope you will consider helping out.

UM LIBRARY PRESENTATION: Thursday, January 18 at 12:45 PM. Sangeetha Sirnivasan will be here to discuss the library and the many services they have to offer.

BOOK TALK: Monday, January 22 at 1:00 PM. Group will be

reading "Mad Honey" by Jodi Picoult. A soul-stirring novel about what we choose to keep from our past, and what we choose to leave behind.

NEW ACTIVITY KNITTING & CROCHETING GROUP: Wednesdays at 1:00 PM starting January 24. This will be an informal weekly get together for members who would like to knit or crochet with other members.

DO YOU PLAY AN INSTRUMENT? The UMSSC Band is looking for some new members who enjoy playing jazz and big band music. The band meets on Tuesdays at 12:30 PM. Please stop by any Tuesday to listen or to ask about joining.

THANK YOU FOR THE CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR VETS

Just a quick thank you to members who signed the packs of Christmas cards going to the veterans. We sent a total of 275 cards to 275 well deserving veterans. They will surely be appreciated by veterans who might not receive any cards at all if not for what our members contributed.



MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

It is time to renew your membership for 2024. We encourage you to have your friends renew or have a new friend who might be interested in joining. The 2024 Membership Form and UMSSC Code of Conduct are attached to this month's Newsletter. They are also available our website <u>www.UMSSC.org</u>. or stop in the Center to renew. Membership cost is only \$25.00, and we have a lot to offer in the way of activities, special events and programs. Memberships for the calendar year 2024

can be renewed now. Don't forget to acknowledge receipt of UMSSC Code of Conduct with your signature on the membership form.

PROJECT LINUS – YARN NEEDED

We are asking for donations of 4-ply yarn (any color) to be used by our knitters for the Project Linus knitted squares. If you have any that you would like to give, please put it in the yarn bin on the blanket table in the lobby area. A TOTAL OF 73 BLANKETS WERE DONATED THIS SUMMER! THIS MEANS WITH EACH BLANKET 73 PEOPLE HAVE BEEN SHOWN THEY ARE CARED ABOUT. WAY TO GO KNITTERS!



VETERANS CARE PACKAGE DONATIONS

In association with the Norristown Veterans Affairs Office, we are collecting donations for care packages to give to veterans. Here is a list of the preferred donation items. *If donating any food or drink or drink mixes, please be sure these items have not expired.* ITEMS REQUESTED: MENS/WOMENS FLIP FLOPS FOR SHOWERS - MENS/WOMENS SOCKS (BOOT OR CALF SIZE ONLY)- TOOTH BRUSHES/TOOTH PASTE- KLEENEX (INDIVIDUAL SIZE WRAPPED PACKAGES)- COMBS- SMALL WRITING TABLETS & ENVELOPES- PENS/PENCILS- GUM - PEANUT BUTTER CRACKER PACKS- BEEF JERKY OR SLIM JIMS- COFFEE OR TEA BAGS - GATORADE- DRINK MIXES - KOOL AID OR ICED TEA. *Place items in assigned box in lobby area. Thank you in advance to those who give.*

EXCURSIONS FOR 2024 (TENTATIVE)

MARCH 2024 - BUBE BREWERY MURDER MYSTERY THEATER (VIA BUS) APRIL 2024 - LITITZ & WOLF SANTUARY (CAR POOL)

MAY 2024 - WEST LAUREL HILL CEMETERY (CAR POOL) JUNE 2024 - ANDALUSIA HOUSE & GARDENS (CAR POOL) OCTOBER 2024 - JIM THORPE (CAR POOL) NOVEMBER 15, 2024 - DUTCH APPLE DINNER THEATER (VIA BUS: "WHITE CHRISTMAS" Bacchi Funeral Home & Crematory, Ltd. 805 DeKalb Street • Bridgeport, PA 19405 610-272-1941 • Fax: 610-278-6683 www.bacchifh.com • info@bacchifh.com Heather M. Hughes, Supervisor Szpindor-Meyers Funeral Home, P.C. 101 North Park Avenue • Trooper, PA 19403 610-539-8010 • Fax: 610-635-0284 www.meyersfh.com • info@smfhpc.com James T. Meyers, Supervisor

1/1 Eleana Panarello 1/2 Neila Jordon

1/2 Shelah Luber
1/3 Dorothy Carter
1/4 Javed Iqbal
1/4 Eva Maria Wynn
1/6 Lisa Lerman
1/6 William Schwegel
1/8 Janet Atkinson
1/11 Jung Kim

1/11 Richard Shur 1/13 Sharon Brzoska

1/13 Claire Carson 1/13 Dorothy Gordon 1/13 Joseph Olexy 1/16 Joanettia Grier 1/18 Ruth Giera 1/18 Jean Scintilla 1/20 Bernadette Wesler 1/21 Richard Nasielski 1/21 Lauretta Zimmer 1/22 Effie Samios

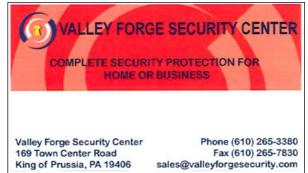
BIRTHDAYS IN JANUARY

- 1/23 Shawn Schmid 1/24 Phyllis Petrolina 1/25 Nancy Cerio
- 1/25 Debbie Neuschwander
- 1/26 Anthony Balsano
- 1/27 Susan Johnson
- 1/28 Elizabeth Maddalo
- 1/30 Howard Rosenblum
- 1/31 Marion Wilkinson

DID YOU KNOW? THE BENEFITS OF KEEPING <u>A PERSONAL JOURNAL</u>

Journaling is the simple process of writing down your thoughts, feelings, daily events, or accomplishments. The benefits of keeping a journal are many.

Keeping a journal can help with your memory and in dealing with stress and anxiety. Going through something challenging in your life can be overwhelming and cause emotions to run high. Journaling can help release these overwhelming feelings by writing them down.



Some other topics you may like to write about:

- A list of things and people you're grateful for
- Small things that bring you joy throughout the day
- Your activities and what you've done and experienced
- A recent situation that challenged you

There's no hard-and-fast rule on what you should write. Some may prefer to write only if something is bothering them or some may find a sense of well-being by writing down positive things going on in their life. Do what feels right for you. Whether you choose to keep a journal handwritten or on a computer, the act of journaling can be a calming and rewarding experience. *You should start today!*

UM LIBRARY PROGRAMS FOR JANUARY 2024

(Call the library at 610-265-4805 or check <u>www.umtownship.org/library</u> to register for all their programs and for latest updates and online access.)

ONGOING PROGRAMS AT THE LIBRARY:

Tech Night -First Monday of every month from 6:00 pm to 7:30 PM.

ESL Class (English as a Second Language Conversation Group) every Tuesday at 12:00 PM.

Meditation Series: Meditation Workshop - Falun Dafa Meditation second Tuesday of every month at 6:00 PM.

Public Speaking Class for adult, every Wednesday at 6: 30 PM.

Art, Games and Chit Chat for Adults with Disabilities, second and fourth Thursdays at 12:30 PM.

Book Discussion: Third Saturday of every month at 2:00 PM.

Virtual Career Series: 3rd Monday of month at 6:00 PM.

Knit Nite: 4th Monday at 6:00 PM.

UPPER MERION MARTIN LUTHER KING COMMUNITY DAY OF SERVICE Upper Merion Township Library in partnership with GSEP Troop 7940 is proud to present Upper Merion Martin Luther King Community Day Of Service **on Monday, January 15 from 9 AM to 12 noon in Freedom Hall.** Walk-ins are welcome

HERBAL TEA PRESENTATION & DEMO: Monday, January 22 at 6:30 PM in Henderson Room: Infusions and decoctions offer a natural way to ingest herbs, and herbal teas can be used in several therapeutic methods. Come, learn in detail, and enjoy making them at home! There will be a live demo as well!!

HOME BUYING SEMINAR: Wednesday, January 31 at 6:30 PM in Valley Forge room: Purchasing a house is one of the largest purchases you will ever make. Making sure you are educated on the process will save you time and money. Our knowledgeable presenters will walk you through the process.



JUST FOR LAUGHS



"Hurry! Our New Year's resolutions start in ten minutes."

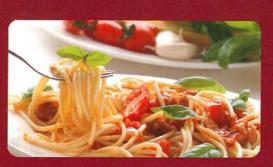




Italian Restaurant and Bar Live Music Thursday-Sunday

Corporate Meetings Private Parties Trivia Nights

Happy Hour **Class Reunions** Funeral Luncheons

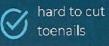




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Fireplace Snowflakes December Ski Resort Snowsuit Vacation Winter Eggnog Hockey Snowmobile Snow Boots Frozen Snowfall Pine Tree Icicles Holiday Scarf Cold Bello Reilley McGrory & DiPippo

- **Personal Injury** 9
- Real Estate
- Bankruptcy
- Robert J. Reilley, Jr.* Salvatore F. Bello, Jr.* Daniel T. McGrory* Gregory P. DiPippo*
- Criminal Law
- **Domestic Law/Divorce**
- Estate Planning
- Taxation
- **Workers** Compensation
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hope for tomorrow.





GRACIAS! THANKS! DANKE! MERCI! ★ Special thanks to SALVATORE'S TRATTORIA & PIZZERIA for delicious Monday Matinee pizza! ★ Thank you to the UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP LIBRARY for all they do for the Senior Center including large print books and Monday Matinee movies. Thank you to COSTCO for gift cards.