

THE BEST OF TIMES

MAY 2012

Published Monthly since 1997 by the Upper Merion Senior Service Center a Non-Profit 501(c)(3) Organization Serving the Senior Community

UPPER MERION SENIOR SERVICE CENTER 650 SOUTH HENDERSON ROAD KING OF PRUSSIA, PA 19406

TEL: 610-265-4715 FAX 610-265-4005

WEBSITE: www.umssc.org
EMAIL: info@umssc.org

HOURS: MONDAY THRU FRIDAY

9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

THE OBJECTIVE OF THE UPPER MERION
SENIOR SERVICE CENTER SHALL BE TO IDENTIFY AND
TO ASSIST IN MEETING THE NEEDS OF OLDER ADULTS
IN A MULTI-USE ENVIRONMENT FOR PHYSICAL,
EDUCATIONAL AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES.

OFFICERS:

Gerry Roth, President Mary F. McCree, Vice President Helen Cabrey, Secretary Harlyce Grossman, Treasurer

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD:

Paul Buce, Les Cohen, Ed Freudenberg, Pari Hoorfar, Ethel Hutchinson, Howard Lurie, Ruth Shand and Janet Sheehan

HONORARY MEMBERS:

Mary Meere, Arthur Powell, Constance H. Williams **STAFF**:

Jonathan Stanback, Executive Director Shirley Robey, Administrative Assistant Beth Cassidy, Receptionist

"Best of Times" Editors:

Mary F. McCree and Shirley Robey

GOALS

- Increase membership.
- •Work to increase funding for operational support: investigate new sources of funding in cooperation with local businesses and government agencies.
- Continue the development of innovative programming.
- Maintain our working partnership with the Upper Merion Area School District and Upper Merion Township.
- Explore the potential for new opportunities for services.
- Search for educational opportunities for members as part of our lifelong learning efforts.
- Help members remain healthy and active through participation in recreational, educational and leisure activities.

MONTHLY MESSAGE

Dear Members and Friends.

The request for me to write this month's message turned out to be quite a Mary-go-round. Took me four days to get the email; not bad for me but havoc for schedules. Well, it defined my topic...
Technology.

I played the technology game for years, but in spite of all the marvelous things that can be done with it, we must remember that its function is to serve us. We grew up without a whole lot of high tech stuff. Did fairly well without it if I recall, and lived happily in our "ignorance".

How many TV, video recorder, stereo or other controllers have you had? I know that many passed through the closet here at UMSSC awaiting recycling. Is getting a new TV an ordeal because it means learning a new set of controls?

Modern technology can make everyday life easier and safer. For those who live alone, a cell phone or whole house security system with emergency contact is a boon. The world is at our fingertips with Google and Wikipedia. Youngsters and seniors have adapted to texting, Facebook, Skype and such. Skype seems especially useful to keep in touch with grandkids. Want to learn how? Check the computer room and find a mentor or take a class.

For most folks just getting out to socialize matters more than technology. Stay active, learn, spend time chatting with old friends, meet new ones. The UMSSC provides a great opportunity to expand your horizons. We have a ton of activities. Keep your mind and body going strong. Enjoy life,

Paul Buce

Upper Merion Senior Service Center (UMSSC) is an equal opportunity institution that will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religious affiliation, national origin, sex, age, marital status or disabilities in its activities, programs or employment practices

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OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS



(NOT PICTURED BOARD MEMBERS LES COHEN, HOWARD LURIE AND JANET SHEEHAN)

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UPCOMING EVENTS

THE CENTER WILL BE CLOSED: FRIDAY, MAY 25, MONDAY, MAY 28 IN OBSERVANCE OF MEMORIAL DAY.

AM I WORRYING TOO MUCH? - Monday, May 7 at 10:00 AM: Presentation by Lauren Napolitano, Psy. D., Licensed Psychologist. Sponsored by Bryn Mawr Hospital/Main Line Health.

"TEA & TULIPS": Friday, May 18 from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Join us at the Annual Tea Party for an afternoon of entertainment, door and cash prizes. Don't forget to wear your favorite or most unusual hat. Entertainment will be provided by the Upper Merion Area High School Chamber Group. Also, this year we are changing our menu. We will be serving cheese strata. Bring your own Cup, Saucer and Spoon. COST: \$6.00. Reserved seating limited to 100. Tickets on sale from April 25 to May 11 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

HOW DIABETES AFFECTS YOUR FEET AND SUMMERTIME FEET ISSUES: Wednesday, May 23 at 10:00 AM. Presentation by podiatrist, Charles M. Langman, DPM.

CURRENTLY SOLD OUT BUT WAITLIST IS
AVAILABLE FOR THOSE INTERESTED:
HUNTERDON HILLS PLAYHOUSE:
Wednesday, May 30. Bus departs at 9:00
AM. "A Bench in the Sun" is a comedy by Ron
Clark about life in a senior residence. Cost:
\$51.00 per person - includes transportation, meal
and show. Meal selection must be made at time
of sign up. No refunds will be given after
April 30. (Trip partially funded by DCED grant.)

HYDRATION: Monday, June 4 at 10:00 AM. Lecture presented by Mary J. Gilliford, Health Educator, MLH Community Health Services. Sponsored by Bryn Mawr Hospital/Main Line Health.

DRUG INTERACTION: Monday, June 11 at 10:00 AM. Debbie Laspas, Pharmacist, R.Ph will give a presentation on interactions between a variety of medications.

AARP DRIVER SAFETY COURSE: Tuesday, June 19 and Wednesday, June 20 from 9:30 AM to 2:00 PM (8-hour course). Registration forms available at the center. Checks, \$12.00/AARP members or \$14.00/non-AARP members are to be sent directly to the AARP course instructor, Buzz Ordonio (address is on form).

JEOPARDY RETURNS: JULY 9 IS THE DATE SET FOR THE NEXT ROUND OF JEOPARDY. GET YOUR TEAMS READY AND WATCH FOR DEAILS – IT WILL BE HERE BEFORE YOU KNOW IT!

COMMUNITY OUTREACH DONATIONS TO UMSSC

Upper Merion Senior Service Center is now a member of the *United Way Donor Program*. Anyone wishing to make a donation to the UMSSC can designate UMSSC as the recipient of their donation. (Reference UMSSC ID #45796, UW Agency #8229767.)

Please consider a tax-deductible donation to the Upper Merion Senior Service Center. **As a non-profit organization 501(c)(3) we rely upon outside donations and gifts to help finance some of our programs, activities and services to our members.**

UPPER MERION EMERGENCY AID

Dried goods donations collected for families in the community. Donation box is outside of the lounge. The Upper Merion Emergency Fund is requesting donation of gloves and socks for any age. As always, we thank you for your generosity.

PUT BOOKS IN THE HANDS OF CHILDREN WHO NEED THEM

Book donations to the Bridgeport Elementary School children (grades K-4th) are still being collected. Collection box is on the table outside of the lounge. Members might keep in mind how valuable these books are to young readers. Thank you notes have been received from the children and they were posted on our bulletin board. *WE CAN ALL PUT BOOKS INTO THE HANDS OF CHILDREN.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

GRACIAS! THANKS! DANKE! MERCI! ARIGATO! GRAZIE! OBRIGADO!

★Thank you to **Angelo's Pizza** - Birthday Hoagie every month, to **★ LeBus Bread** - Member Raffle every month and to **★ Sun Joe** - who generously donates the baked goods we put out for snacks. We also thank **★ Sicilian Delight** for their great discounts on pizza (**Everyone raves about their pizza!!!**).

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS FRIENDS OF VALLEY FORGE

Speaker Series Programs are held on **Tuesday evenings** at **Washington Memorial Chapel at 7:00 PM. Admission is free to members and the public.**

May 1 – Park Theater - Dean Malissa: Portrays George Washington at Mount Vernon; seen on film, TV, commercials, and stage presents: *General George Washington as interpreted by Dean Malissa.* Spend an evening with George Washington, who, more than anyone else in our nation's history, was central to the formation of the United States and the American character. *This program will be held in the Park Theater.*

NEUMANN UNIVERSITY ART GALLERLY EXHIBIT PROGRAM

One of our members and art instructor, Millie Becker, will have some of her work exhibited now through May 14 at the Neumann University Art Gallery, Library Gallery in the Bachmann Main Building, One Neumann Drive, Aston, PA. Admission is free.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SENIOR GAMES

The 27th annual Montgomery County Senior Games will be held the week of May 7 - 11, 2012. Events will be held throughout the week at various locations in Montgomery County, culminating with an awards luncheon on Friday, May 11, 2012. **REGISTRATION**

DEADLINE was APRIL 23RD but if space allows, walk-in registrations will be accepted.

Montgomery County Senior Games combines sports and recreation with fellowship among everyone involved. Events include basketball (foul shooting & hot shot), stationary bicycle races, billiards, bowling, darts, golf, par 3 golf, horseshoes, running, swimming, and more. Any Montgomery County resident 50 years of age or older is eligible to participate. There are seven age categories.

For more information please call the Upper Dublin Parks and Recreation Department at (215-643-1600 Ext. 3443) during the business day or by email jlevy@upperdublin.net. To download the information point your browser to www.upperdublin.net and click on "Parks and Recreation" and then "Seniors".

NEWSWORTHY WELCOME TO NEWLY APPOINTED BOARD MEMBERS

Please join us in welcoming our newly appointed Board Members Les Cohen and Howard Lurie. They will both serve through December 31, 2012 and after that time can run for election for a three-year term. We look forward to working with them in the coming year.

THANK YOU AARP!

We want to say a special thank you to the three AARP volunteers who prepared taxes at the senior center. They were: Jon Elliot, Harold Scott and Larry Sheffield. So many took advantage of this free service and were very grateful to these three very nice guys!

NEW TAI CHI INSTRUCTOR

Well, maybe not so new... our original instructor, Peter, has returned as of April 25. Welcome back Peter! Hope more members will consider joining Tai Chi.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BENEFITS VETERANS WITH DISCOUNT PROGRAM

Montgomery County's Recorder of Deeds, Nancy Becker, has announced a new program to benefit active and inactive veterans who reside in the county to thank them for their service to the country.

The county is providing any interested veterans with a photo ID card that, upon presentation at

participating businesses, will entitle them to a discount. The discount offered by businesses will be based on either a percentage of sales or on a specific dollar amount. A <u>list of all participating businesses</u> will be made available to veterans and updated on a monthly basis.

For more information on this program, call 610-278-3294.

STUDENTS SPEND SPRING BREAK HELPING OUT AT SENIOR CENTER

Did you notice how you can now see through the windows along the ramp at the back door? If you did, you saw the end results of a visit from students of the Junior High Ministry of the Harvest Bible Chapel. The kids spent couple of hours of their Spring Break with us on Thursday, March 29. They came all the way from Rolling Meadows, Illinois to take on several projects in



the Philadelphia area. At our center they washed windows (inside and out) and helped to clean out our storage shed. They were referred to us by Kathy Marinick our facilities contact person at the school district. We are very thankful to have had them visit. It's a good reminder that there really are some great kids in the world who do a lot of good.



Volunteer students from Illinois help out at UMSSC

UPPER MERION 2012 Recycling Events

Montgomery County has released their 2012 Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection schedule and their Electronics Collection Schedule. Upper Merion Middle School will host a HHW event on Saturday, May 12 and Norristown Area High School will host an Electronics Collection event on Saturday, May 5. Please note that the county is holding 6 HHW ONLY events and 8 electronics ONLY events. They will not accept HHW items at electronics events and vice versa. Additional information on our bulletin board.

RECORD YOUR FAMILY HISTORY

We all have a story to tell about our family. For a donation of \$10.00, we are planning to have someone record as you talk about your families' history. If interested, please put your name on the list at the reception desk. Final details are in the works and we will let you know when this will start.

DID YOU KNOW . . .

Older Americans Month is celebrated each May to honor and recognize older Americans for the contributions they make to our families, communities and society. This year's theme "Never Too Old To Play" encourages older Americans to stay engaged, active and involved in their own lives and in their communities.

When Older Americans Month was established in 1963, only 17 million living Americans had reached their 65th birthdays. About a third of older Americans lived in poverty and there were few programs to meet their needs. Interest in older Americans and their concerns was growing, however. In April of 1963, President John F. Kennedy's meeting with the National Council of Senior Citizens served as a prelude to designating May as "Senior Citizens Month."

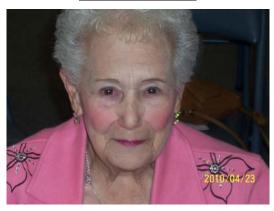
Thanks to President Jimmy Carter's 1980 designation, what was once called Senior Citizens Month, is now called "Older Americans Month," and has become a tradition.

Historically, Older Americans Month has been a time to acknowledge the contributions of past and current older persons to our country, in particular those who defended our country. Every President since JFK has issued a formal proclamation during or before the month of May asking that the entire nation pay tribute in some

way to older persons in their communities. Older Americans Month is celebrated across the country through ceremonies, events, fairs and other such activities.

The Centenarian Committee of Aging and Adult Services is sponsoring a special event for Montgomery County residents who are 100 years of age or older as of 12/31/12. It will be held on Wednesday, May 16 from 10:30 am to 1:30 pm at the Dock Woods Community, 275 Dock Drive, Lansdale, PA. Join them as they celebrate and honor these Centenarians and remember . . . "You're never too old to play".

SPOTLIGHT ON . . . ROSE KAMINSKI



Everybody knows Rosie Kaminski. She comes often to the center and participates in a lot of activities. Rose loves music and she especially loves to dance. You have probably seen her get up with the other Line Dancers at the Christmas Party or at the Valentine Social. Rose is also involved in the UMSSC Band and has learned to play the xylophone. Rose enjoys playing cards with her friends every Thursday after Bingo – even though she claims she never wins. Maybe she wins when she goes along on one of the casino trips.

You will also see Rose every Wednesday afternoon volunteering at the Reception Desk. There she greets people, answers the phone and helps visitors fill out forms for trips or special events. She is always friendly and outgoing. Rosie certainly enjoys life and we enjoy having her at the center. Thank you Rose!

ACTIVITIES

APPRISE COUNSELOR: Assistance with insurance and Medicare concerns. Call 610.265.4715 and give your name and telephone. The APPRISE counselor will contact you directly to set up an appointment.

ART INSTRUCTION: Will begin again in June. Watch for details in June Newsletter.

BINGO: Thursdays at 10:15 AM. Coordinator: Evelyn Cavaliere. Cash prizes!

BOOK TALK: Monday, May 21 at 1:00 PM. Coordinator: Patricia Ackah (610.265.4290). Meets on the third Monday of the month. This month's book is "Red Mist" by Patricia Cornwell. Determined to find out what happened to her former deputy chief, Jack Fielding, murdered six months earlier, Kay Scarpetta travels to the Georgia Prison for Women, where an inmate has information not only on Fielding, but also on a string of grisly killings. Due to its length we will be discussing this book in two parts; part one this month and part two in June.

BRIDGE CLUB: Tuesday's at 10:00 AM.

CASINO TRIP: MONDAY, MAY 21. Bus departs from Center to Showboat Casino at 9:00 AM and returns approximately 6:15 PM. Bus Captain: Harry Bailey. *Cost: \$25.00* per person. Limit 47 passengers. No telephone reservations. *MINIMUM 30 PASSENGERS REQUIRED. CUT-OFF DATE FOR TRIP IS WEDNESDAY, MAY 16.*

CHAIR EXERCISE: Every Tuesday and Thursday from 12:30 PM to 1:15 PM. Coordinator: Jim Parvin. \$3.00 per class.

CO-ED BASKETBALL: Wednesday's from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM in the gym. FREE.

COMPUTER CLUB: Tuesday's 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM. Coordinators: Herman Natanblut and Howard Lurie. No fee; no class limit. Meetings are open to all *members*, all ability levels.

CRAFTS: Monday's and Tuesday's at 1:00 PM. Coordinator: Dot Price. Instruction provided. Hand-made items are for sale and all proceeds benefit the Center.

CURRENT EVENTS DISCUSSION GROUP:

Monday's at 10:30 AM in the Lounge. Coordinator: Joan Shaw. The Sunday paper supplies with plenty to talk about, but we read other papers and magazines, and even listen to the radio.

FRIDAY FLICKS: Friday, MAY 11, (Pizza at 11:15 AM, Movie at 12:00 PM.) Coordinator: Don McCree. This month we will be showing "MONEY BALL" starring Brad Pitt and Jonah Hill. Oakland A's general manager Billy Beane's successful attempt to put together a baseball club on a budget by employing computer-

generated analysis to acquire new players. Cost: \$5.00 for movie and pizza or \$2.00 for the movie only. Sign up and pay at the Reception Desk.

GARDEN CLUB: Meets the second and fourth Wednesday at 1:00 PM. Chairperson: Paul Buce. We're off to a roaring start for 2012. This month we will visit the Jenkins Arboretum, for a docent led tour on May 9th at 2:00PM. We meet at Jenkins, in Devon. Then we follow that up with a visit to Mt. Cuba, down in Delaware, on May 23rd. For that trip we will carpool from KoP, leaving at 8:00 for a 10:00 tour.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: Monthly meeting open to all members on the 2nd Wednesday at 10:00 AM. Any member who wants to be put on the agenda at the meeting should contact Gerry Roth, President.

GOOD FOOD/GOOD HEALTH WITH PARI:
Monday, May 21 at 10:30 AM. Instructor: Pari
Hoorfar will be making Greek Spinach Pie. Cost:
\$6.00. Minimum of 10 - limited to 15. ADVANCE
SIGN-UP AND PAYMENT IS REQUIRED SO THAT
ENOUGH FOOD CAN BE PREPARED.

LIBRARY: Open Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. An excellent selection of large print books, tapes and videos are available to borrow.

LINE DANCING: Every Wednesday at 1:00 PM in the gym. Coordinator: Loretta DeLucca. \$1.00 fee per lesson.

MAH-JONGG: Monday's and Friday's at 10:00 AM. All level players are welcome. Interested in learning Mah-Jongg? *We have some members who are willing to teach new players at any time.* Coordinator: Lynne Boroch.

MUSIC INSTRUCTION: Tuesday's at 1:30 PM. Instructor: Ed Hickman.

NURSE: Every 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month from **10:00 AM to 12:00 PM**. Have your blood pressure checked by our favorite Nurse Lori Gnacek from Bryn Mawr Hospital/Main Line Health.

OUTREACH: Representative Tim Briggs' aide is here the second Thursday of the month - 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Senator Daylin Leach's aide is here the last Thursday of the month - 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

PINOCHLE LADIES AND GENTS: Monday's at 9:30 AM.

POKER CLUB: On hiatus until further notice.

QUILTING: Fourth Wednesday of the month at 9:30 AM. Instructor: Ethel Hutchinson. All levels welcome!

SING-A-LONG: Friday's at 10:00 TO 11:30 AM. Coordinators: Theresa M. Smith and Dot Morio.

STAND-UP YOGA: Monday's at 1:30 PM. Certified Instructor: Dr. Christine Grad. \$3.00 per class. Limited to 8 members per class.

TAI CHI: Every Wednesday from 12:00 PM to 12:45 PM. Coordinator Louise Bailey. \$3.00 per class.

TRAVEL TALES AND TIPS: 11:00 AM on the first Thursday of each month in the Computer Room. Join this discussion group to share inexpensive travel tips and adventures.

Coordinator: John Desko.

THANK YOU TO OUR FLEA MARKET SPONSORS!

As you walk down the hall you may have noticed the gold, silver and bronze medals we have posted on the "Flea Market Bulletin Board". Businesses and individuals who were approached by the center have made generous donations to the center and this is our way of acknowledging their generosity. We thank all of our sponsors for their kindness and support and hope that our members will return the favor by supporting these businesses.



UM RAMBLER Free service to UM **Township Seniors** (Visit GVF Transportation for pass) You can ride back and forth to the Center. the Malls, and other destinations! **GVF Transportation** Dept. 1012 W. Eighth Ave., Suite A King of Prussia, PA 19406 Phone: 610-354-8899 www.gvftma.com

Note:
Information
submitted following
April 4 will be
posted on the
UMSSC Bulletin
Boards and listed on
UMGA-TV (Comcast
Channel 22 or
Verizon FiOS
Channel 33)
Visit the Center's
web site at:
www.umssc.org

REMINDERS FOR MAY 2012

- * FRIDAY FLICKS: FRIDAY, MAY 11 PIZZA AT 11:15 AM MOVIE AT 12:00 PM. THIS MONTH'S MOVIE IS: "MONEYBALL"
- * AM I WORRYING TOO MUCH? Monday, May 7 at 10:00 AM
- * "TEA AND TULIPS" ANNUAL TEA: FRIDAY, MAY 18 AT 11:00 AM
- * CASINO TRIP: MONDAY, MAY 21 AT 9:00 AM
- * GOOD FOOD/GOOD HEALTH WITH PARI: MONDAY, MAY 21 AT 10:30 AM
- * BOOK TALK: MONDAY, MAY 21 AT 1:00 PM
- * PODIATRIST PRESENTATION-HOW DIABETES AFFECTS YOUR FEET & SUMMERTIME FEET ISSUES: WEDNESDAY, MAY 23 AT 10:00 AM
- * CURRENTLY SOLD OUT BUT WAITLIST AVAILABLE FOR HUNTERDON HILLS PLAYHOUSE: WEDNESDAY, MAY 30 BUS DEPARTS AT 9:00 AM
- * HYDRATION: MONDAY, JUNE 4 AT 10:00 AM. MLH COMMUNITY HEALTH PRESESNITATION
- *DRUG INTERACTION: MONDAY, JUNE 11 AT 10:00 AM
- *AARP DRIVER SAFETY COURSE: TUESDAY JUNE 19 AND WEDNESDAY JUNE 20 FROM 9:30 AM TO 2:00 PM (8-HOUR COURSE)
- *JEOPARDY IS COMING IN JULY! GET READY!

THE CENTER WILL BE CLOSED ON FRIDAY, MAY 25 AND MONDAY, MAY 28 IN OBSERVANCE OF MEMORIAL DAY.

NOTE:
THE UMSSC
IS CLOSED
WHEN THE UM
AREA SCHOOL
DISTRICT CLOSES
DUE TO
INCLEMENT
WEATHER

UMASD SCHOOL CLOSING NUMBER IS "307"

NOTICE IS ALSO BROADCASTED ON COMCAST CHANNEL 28 OR VERIZON FIOS CHANNEL 32

OR CALL
SENIOR CENTER
AFTER 7:30 AM
(610-265-4715)
AND LISTEN TO
VOICE MAIL
RECORDING

OR CALL
KYW-1060 RADIO
(215-925-1060)
FOLLOW
INSTRUCTIONS
AND ENTER
UMASD SCHOOL
CLOSING
NUMBER "307"

UPPER MERION SENIOR SERVICE CENTER650 SOUTH HENDERSON ROAD KING OF PRUSSIA, PA 19406

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TO: RESIDENT or OCCUPANT