Montgomery Senior Citizens June, 2023 Newsletter

Dear Fellow Members and Friends,

Our next meeting is on Thursday, June 8th. Again, as a reminder, our monthly meeting starts at 1:00pm. Our guest speaker for the meeting is Joshua O'Neal from the Office of Aging and Disability Services of Somerset County. He will discuss their nutrition and wellness programs, specific county services, most common applications they assist seniors, and referral agencies and services. Afterwards, there will be a Q&A session. Caitlyn Meador from Foothill Acres Rehab and Nursing Center will be hosting Bingo. There will be some wonderful prizes for the winners. Dessert, coffee and tea will be served.

The Executive Committee has decided to formally open the talks of our guest speakers to the public (usually 1:30 PM) as part of our concerted effort to serve the community. The topics we have chosen are not unique to our organization but of interest to everyone in the community. Our business meeting and activities afterwards such as Bingo, arts and craft, refreshment, etc. will continue to be restricted to members.

With the late surge in sign-ups for the picnic we easily surpassed the caterer's minimum of 48. Because of the cost, the picnic will be members only.

From the last meeting, many have expressed their displeasure of the Star Diner's service during the Birthday Breakfast in April. We complained to their management immediately after the breakfast and we intend to follow up with them on how the service can be improved. We have in the past considered other restaurants. If you want to join the task force to revisit the choice of restaurant, please contact us.

Another lively topic in the last meeting concerns buses. Are there less expensive bus options? In a discussion with the county since the last meeting, the county has a policy of not renting out buses. They are limited to providing bus service to individual residents for grocery shopping and healthcare appointments. This will be discussed further in the next meeting.

In closing, we have the following event activities during the next meeting:

1) West Side Story – Buy ticket for \$15. First come, first served.

2) Picnic – Sign up and pay \$5. Next meeting is the **last opportunity**. Otherwise, you will need make arrangement by calling or emailing by Friday, June 9th. (See below for contact information).

3) Bus Trip to Wind Creek Casino - Sign up and pay \$35 for member and \$45 for non-members

4) Bye Bye Birdie – Buy ticket (senior) for \$20. First come, first served.

5) Somerset Patriots - Sign up and pay \$35.

We will be polling to determine interest for the following:

1) All Shook Up - \$27 (group of 15-30)

2) Octoberfest - Cost is likely to be \$100 +/- \$10 for bus, entertainment and lunch.

3) Big Band Holiday Concert - \$27 (group of 15-30)

4) Fiddler on the Roof

5) Annie

The trips committee is still in its nascent stage. If you enjoy events/trips and can contribute, please let us know.

As with other recent newsletters, our latest calendar is attached for more information on all our programs and events/trips.

We hope to see everyone at the next meeting. There is really no substitute for meeting each other face to face and have a good time together.

Respectfully,

Montgomery Senior Citizens Executive Committee

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Montgomery Senior Citizens Calendar <u>Program Plan</u>

6/8/23	Joshua O'Neal from the Office of Aging and Disability Services of Somerset County will discuss their nutrition and wellness programs, specific county services, most common applications they assist seniors, and referral agencies and services. Caitlyn Meador from Foothill Acres Rehab and Nursing Center will be hosting Bingo. There will be some wonderful prizes for the winners. Dessert, coffee and tea will be served.
7/13/23	Dr. David Mostafavi (ophthalmologist) will be our guest speaker. We will also be having our annual ice cream social.
8/10/23	Guest speaker from the Health Department of Montgomery Township. Topic to be determined. Cris Brown from Foothill Acres Rehab and Nursing Center will be hosting Jeopardy game (1 hour)
9/14/23	Elizabeth Romanaux, founder of the Princeton Einstein Museum of Science, will be our guest speaker.
10/12/23	Guest speaker, Detective Chris Bleistine, will be talking on how to avoid scams. Afterwards, Lorri Woodward will be entertaining us for an hour with your favorite songs from the '50, '60 and '70.
11/9/23	Joshua O'Neal from the Office of Aging and Disability Services of Somerset County will discuss Medicare and Medicare Assistance programs.
12/7/23 or 12/14/23	Holiday Party – Cost=\$5 (try to coincide with when the Senior Center is closed)
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Montgomery Senior Citizens <u>Event/Trip Plan</u>

6/9-25/23 3 Weekends SVP "Murder by the Book" – All tickets distributed.

6/18/23 (Sun) 2:00 Father's Day "West Side Story" at Villagers Theatre at Somerset, about 14 miles away. Price is \$15 for members or non-members regardless of age. Regular price for seniors is \$20.00 for a musical. Transportation is not provided. We have a few extra tickets that you can purchase. These tickets will be sold on a "first come, first served" basis. We recognize that some will be busy with Father's Day activities. Unfortunately, there are only two matinees and the other matinee conflicts with SVP's "Murder by the Book". But the show would make a great Father's Day present and be fun for the entire family. This is easily the best bargain of all the shows.

6/22/23 (Thurs) 12 Noon Picnic catered by Elmer Catering at Montgomery Veterans Park. Cost is \$5. Final sign up and payment at the June meetings so we have an accurate count for the caterer.

7/14-30/23 3 Weekends SVP "Guys and Dolls" - All tickets distributed.

7/20/23 (Thurs) 8:45am Casino trip to Wind Creek Bethlehem, PA. \$35 for members. \$45 for non-members. There is a \$25 voucher for the casino. Bus departs at the Princeton Elks Lodge at 8:45am. The Elks Lodge is located at 354 Georgetown Franklin Turnpike (Route 518), Skillman, NJ 08558. Bus departs the casino at 3:30pm and expect to return around 4:45pm. Sign-up and payment at June meeting. Checks are preferred, payable to "Montgomery Twp Senior Citizens". Non-members will need to sign a waiver form.

8/5/23 (Sat) 2:00pm "Bye Bye Birdie" at the Kelsey Theatre, located at 1200 Old Trenton Rd., West Windsor, NJ 08550, approximately 16 miles from the Montgomery Senior Center. Senior (60 or more)/ student/military ticket including service fee is \$20.00. For others, ticket including service fee is \$22.00. Transportation is not provided. For more information visit kelsey.mccc.edu/.

Members/non-members can sign up by phone or email until Tuesday, May 23th, for guaranteed seating. Payment and receipt of ticket will be at the June meeting. Checks are preferred, payable to "Montgomery Twp Senior Citizens". Purchase of tickets after May 23th is subject to availability.

8/13/23 (Sun) 5:05pm Somerset Patriots at Patriot Park in Bridgewater, 15 miles away. Baseball game and all-you-can-eat barbeque buffet is \$35. Buffet service is from 4:00pm to 5:30pm. Gates open at 4:00pm. In addition, first 1,500 adults and 500 kids will get a promotional T-shirt. Committed to 30 tickets. Transportation is not provided. Sign up at June meetings for guaranteed seating. Sign-up at a later date is subject to availability. Checks are preferred, payable to "Montgomery Twp Senior Citizens".

8/17/23 (Thurs) 10:00am Birthday Breakfast at the Star Diner in Hillsborough. Free for those with birthdays from May to August. Others pay \$10. Choices are from a select menu.

8/26/23 (Sat) 3:00pm [Proposal] "All Shook Up" at the Music Mountain Theatre in Lambertville, 16 miles away. Loosely based on Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*, in this hysterical musical comedy the town is under the rule of an ultraconservative mayor, with mixed up love stories and hijinks set to 25 of Elvis' greatest hits. \$30 for seniors, \$32 for regular. For group of 15-30, the cost is \$27. Transportation is not provided. Polling at the June meeting will determine viability.

10/3/23 (Tues) Oktoberfest – Bus trip to the Brownstone (351 West Broadway, Patterson, NJ) 30 tickets minimum. Cost is likely to be \$100 +/-

[Proposal]

\$10 for bus, entertainment and lunch. Polling at the June meeting will determine viability. Non-members will need to sign a waiver form.

11/16/23 (Thurs) 10:00am Birthday Breakfast at the Star Diner in Hillsborough. Free for those with birthdays from September to December. Others pay \$10. Choices are from a select menu.

12/1-17/23 3 Weekends SVP "It's a Wonderful Life" – All tickets distributed.

12/16/23 (Sat) 3:00pm [Proposal] Big Band Holiday Concert at the Music Mountain Theatre. A festive afternoon of song and dance combining quintessential holiday music in the style of Mariah Carey, Rosemary Clooney, Bing Crosby, Ella Fitzgerald, and more, played live by a 17-piece big band, and performed by some of your favorite MMT personalities. For group of 15-30, the cost is \$27. Transportation not provided. Polling at the June meeting will determine viability.

12/6/23-1/7/24 [Idea] "Fiddler on the Roof" at the Paper Mill Playhouse. Bus trip to Millburn, NJ. (Approximately 1 hr) 30 minimum to be viable for bus and insurance. Ticket pricing has not been posted. Cost is likely to be \$120 +/- \$10 for theater tickets and bus based on similar shows. Paper Mill Playhouse tickets sell out quickly. Polling at the June meeting will determine viability. Lunch TBD.

2/3/24 (Sat) 2:00pm or 2/4/24 (Sun) 1:00pm [Idea] "Annie" at State Theatre NJ. State Theatre NJ is located at 15 Livingston Ave, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 about 18 miles from the Montgomery Senior Center. Ticket pricing has not been posted. Group discount starts at 10+. Transportation is not provided. Ticket prices for similar shows currently running mostly range from \$85 to \$98 before any discount or handling fees. There are some less expensive tickets, but there are very few.