



# Senior Focus

## January 2026



## Monroe Township Office of Senior Services & Senior Center

12 Halsey Reed Road, Monroe Township, NJ 08831  
Monday thru Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

609-448-7140

[www.mtseniorcenter.com](http://www.mtseniorcenter.com)

Happy New Year! The Senior Center staff wishes all of our members a new year filled with good health, joy, and laughter!

And the Senior Center can help in that effort with an exciting calendar of programs beginning with the first **Senior Social Hour** of the year, **Friday, January 2nd at 2:00 p.m.** Sign up with a friend (Senior Center members only) or come solo and enjoy a light snack, meet other members, and discover a neighbor or two.

**Monday, January 5th** marks the start of the **Winter 2026 Exercise Class Session**. Each week, 15 different exercise classes are held right here at the Senior Center. These classes are fun, affordable, and appeal to all fitness levels, from *Chair Yoga* to *Cardio Blast* and everything in between. Registration starts **Tuesday, December 23rd at 9:00 a.m.** These classes are a great way to keep active, meet new friends, and avoid the winter blues!

On **Wednesday, January 7th from 9:30 a.m. to noon**, **Blood Pressure & Blood Sugar Screenings** will be held by appointment at the Senior Center. In-person registration only. Not available on Community Pass.

Here are some more exciting and important programs coming to the Senior Center in January:

**Tuesday, January 13th at 1:30pm**  
"Ask the Attorney"

Get answers to your specific questions from an Elder Law attorney.

**Friday, January 16th at 2:00pm**  
"Falcon Jazz Ensemble"

The finest musicians from the Monroe Township Middle School return for another outstanding performance.

**Tuesday, January 20th at 10:30am via Zoom**  
"Martin Luther King and the Civil Rights Struggle"

Historian Paul W. explores the extraordinary life of King and the broader Civil Rights Movement in honor of Dr. King's birthday.

**Friday, January 23rd at 2:00pm**  
"Beyond the Sea"

Bobby Darin archivist presents lecture on the legendary musician, including audio, video, and memorabilia.

### January Registration Information:

#### Trip Registration

**Tuesday, December 16th at 9:00AM**

In-person or online via Community Pass

Use main entrance only. Doors open 8:30AM.

#### Program Registration

**Friday, December 19th at 9:00AM**

In-person or online via Community Pass

Use main entrance only. Doors open 8:30AM.

#### Exercise Class Registration

**Tuesday, December 23rd at 9:00AM**

In-person or online via Community Pass

Use main entrance only. Doors open 8:30AM.

<https://register.communitypass.net/monroetownshipseniorcenter>

Registering in person? If you need transportation for any of the above, please call (609) 443-0511 no later than 24 hours in advance.

You must be a registered member of the Senior Center in order to participate in our activities.

REMINDER: Community Pass user support is not available on Registration Days.



### **Quote of the Month**

"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream."

- C.S. Lewis

# January 2026 Center Activities

Registration for programs is  
REQUIRED EACH MONTH

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>DON'T LEAVE SOMEONE SITTING HOME!</b>  <p>If you are unable to attend a program you must call (609) 448-7140 x216 to cancel. Waitlisted members will appreciate it!</p>		<b>1</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>2</b> 9:30 Canasta 10:30 Harmonica 2:00 Senior Social Hour	
<b>5</b> 9:00 Cardio Blast (\$) 9:30 Drop-In Bridge 10:00 Total Body Reset (\$) 11:00 Gentle Stretch (\$) 12:00 Mah Jongg 1:00 Yarn It 1:00 Documentary: <i>Good Night Owy</i> 3:30 Tap Dancing	<b>6</b> 8:45 Mat Yoga (\$) 10:30 <u>Route 66 (Z)</u> 2:00 <u>Act 3: The Senior Years</u> 	<b>7</b> 9:00 Total Toning (\$) 9:30 Blood Pressure & Blood Sugar Screening 10:00 Move & Groove (A) (\$) 11:00 Raise the Barre (\$) 12:15 Duplicate Bridge 2:00 Cribbage 2:00 <u>Jake's Rockin' Country Band</u>	<b>8</b> 8:45 Chair Yoga (\$) 10:00 Body Works (\$) 10:00 <u>2026 Vision Boards</u> 11:00 <u>Chef Stephen Wolff</u> 11:00 Gentle Stretch Plus (\$) 2:00 <u>Bob Egan &amp; Lisa Sherman</u>	<b>9</b> 9:00 Zumba Gold (\$) 9:30 Canasta 10:00 Meditation (\$) 10:30 Harmonica 2:00 <u>Michael Andrew Duo</u>
<b>12</b> 9:00 Cardio Blast 9:30 Drop-In Bridge 10:00 Total Body Reset 10:00 <u>Robinson Artshop (\$)</u> 11:00 Gentle Stretch 12:00 Mah Jongg 1:00 Yarn It 2:00 <u>Michael Squillace Duo</u> 3:30 Tap Dancing	<b>13</b> 8:45 Mat Yoga 10:30 <u>Courtroom Dramas of the 50s &amp; 60s (Z)</u> 11:00 Green Thumbs 1:30 <u>Ask the Attorney</u>	<b>14</b> 9:00 Total Toning 10:00 Move & Groove (A) 10:30 <u>Galapagos Islands</u> 11:00 Raise the Barre 12:15 Duplicate Bridge 2:00 <u>Ken &amp; Linda</u>	<b>15</b> 8:45 Chair Yoga 10:00 Body Works 10:30 <u>Gregory Peck</u> 11:00 Gentle Stretch Plus 2:00 <u>Kevin McGowan</u>	<b>16</b> 9:00 Zumba Gold 9:30 Canasta 10:00 Meditation 10:30 Harmonica 11:00 <u>Move &amp; Groove (B) (\$)</u> 2:00 <u>MTMS Falcon Ensemble</u>
<b>19</b> OFFICE CLOSED 	<b>20</b> 8:45 Mat Yoga 10:00 <u>Paint &amp; Sip</u> 10:30 <u>Bereavement Group</u> 10:30 <u>MLK Jr. &amp; The Civil Rights Struggle (Z)</u> 2:00 <u>Lou Orricio</u> 3:15 <u>WOW</u>	<b>21</b> 9:00 Total Toning 10:00 Move & Groove (A) 10:30 <u>Boggle Challenge</u> 11:00 Raise the Barre 12:15 Duplicate Bridge 2:00 <u>Cribbage</u> 2:00 <u>Rick Martin Trio</u>	<b>22</b> 8:45 Chair Yoga 10:00 Body Works 10:30 <u>George Carlin</u> 11:00 Gentle Stretch Plus 1:30 <u>Caregiver's Support</u> 2:00 <u>The Vestibular System</u>	<b>23</b> 9:00 Zumba Gold 9:30 Canasta 10:00 Meditation 10:30 Harmonica 11:00 Move & Groove (B) 1:00 <u>LGBT Socialize With Me</u> 2:00 <u>Beyond the Sea</u>
<b>26</b> 9:30 Drop-In Bridge 10:00 <u>Robinson Artshop (\$)</u> 11:00 Gentle Stretch 12:00 Mah Jongg 1:00 Yarn It 3:30 Tap Dancing	<b>27</b> 8:45 Mat Yoga 10:15 <u>Drums Alive (\$)</u> 10:30 <u>Fountains of NY (Z)</u> 11:30 <u>Drums Alive (\$)</u> 2:00 <u>Gordon James</u>	<b>28</b> 9:00 Total Toning 10:00 Move & Groove (A) 10:30 <u>Plan Today, Bring Peace Tomorrow</u> 12:15 Duplicate Bridge 2:00 <u>Christian Roselle</u>	<b>29</b> 8:45 Chair Yoga 10:00 Body Works 10:30 <u>Winter Respiratory Care</u> 11:00 Gentle Stretch Plus 2:00 <u>Debra &amp; Patrick</u>	<b>30</b> 9:00 Zumba Gold 9:30 Canasta 10:00 Meditation 10:30 Harmonica 11:00 Move & Groove (B) 12:00 <u>MTHS T.A.P.</u> 2:00 <u>Katrina and Friends</u>

**2026**

*The Office of Senior Services & Senior Center will be closed on Thursday, January 1st in observance of New Years Day.*

**Senior Social Hour:** **Friday, January 2 at 2:00 p.m.** As one of our most requested events, we're starting the new year off with an afternoon to socialize and share your holiday stories with good friends and some new ones too. Come and enjoy light refreshments while meeting and conversing with fellow Senior Center members.

**Documentary – Good Night Oppy:** **Monday, January 5 from 1:00 to 2:45 p.m.** This film follows the inspirational true story of Opportunity's groundbreaking journey on Mars and the remarkable bond forged between a robot and her human inventors millions of miles away. Sent to Mars for a 90-day mission, she ended up surviving for 15 years sending thousands of photos back to Earth and providing strong evidence of the existence of ancient water activity on the Red Planet.

**Route 66 – A Photographic Journey Through the Mother Road:** **Tuesday, January 6 at 10:30 a.m. via Zoom.**

From classic diners to desert ghost towns, explore the bygone era of one of America's most famous highways through the lens of an award winning professional photographer. Join Julien M. on this visual road trip that traces the history, culture, and quirky roadside attractions that define Route 66, with personal stories and vibrant photography from Chicago to California.

**Act 3: The Senior Years:** **Tuesday, January 6 at 2:00 p.m.** Melinda B. Shorr, PhD, a psychologist turned life coach, helps individuals find greater joy, purpose, and fulfillment in their later years. In this lecture, she'll explain the difference between life coaching and therapy, introduce her "Act 3 of Life" framework, and guide participants to reflect, explore, and leave the session inspired with renewed hope and curiosity for their next chapter.

**Blood Pressure & Blood Sugar Screening:** **Wednesday, January 7 by appointment from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.** This 2-in-1 screening will be conducted by an advanced practice nurse from St. Peter's University Hospital. **In-person registration only. Not available on Community Pass.**

**Jake's Rockin' Country Band:** **Wednesday, January 7 at 2:00 p.m.** Jake's Rockin' Country Band is one of the tri-state area's premiere country bands. They perform the best of classic country, today's rockin' country, bluegrass, southern rock, Cajun, and Zydeco. The band covers hits by artists including Jason Aldean, Garth Brooks, Gretchen Wilson, Carrie Underwood, Patsy Cline, *Lady Antebellum*, *Rascal Flatts*, Dolly Parton, Tammy Wynette, Taylor Swift, and Keith Urban.

**2026 Vision Boards:** **Thursday, January 8 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** Kick off the year with a joyful, hands-on vision boarding workshop designed to spark clarity and creativity. Using artful collage materials and a vintage typewriter for quotes or affirmations, you'll create a meaningful visual map for the year ahead. This inspiring session with Jenny S. will help you refocus and realign yourself in a supportive, community-oriented space. Leave feeling energized and empowered, and connected to your goals.

**Chef Stephen Wolff - Soups & Stews For One or Two:** **Thursday, January 8 at 11:00 a.m.** Are you yearning for a warm comforting soup or stew but don't want to cook for an army? Chef Stephen will demonstrate recipes tailored for two or just a few. Sample a lentil and smoked sausage stew as well as an apple and butternut squash soup.

**Bob Egan & Lisa Sherman:** **Thursday, January 8 at 2:00 p.m.** Bob and Lisa return with another fun-filled show of their favorite tunes that you are sure to sing along to. Lisa has been packing houses all over the country with her tribute to Carly Simon and Bob has been touring the tri-state area appearing solo

and with many others we've come to love at the Senior Center.

**Michael Andrew Duo:** **Friday, January 9 at 2:00 p.m.** Join us for an unforgettable experience featuring the rich vocals of Michael Andrew on acoustic and electric guitar, and the talents of John McDonough on keyboard. Together, they deliver an incredible variety of music spanning country and Pop covering timeless artists from the 50s all the way through Y2K.

**Robinson Artshop:** **Monday, January 12 - OR - January 26 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** Join James Robinson as he guides you to paint your own masterpiece. **Project fee: \$10 per person upon registering. No refunds. Only one (1) session per member.**

**Michael Squillace Duo:** **Monday, January 12 at 2:00 p.m.** Michael Squillace will show off his gift for blending genres on saxophone, clarinet, and flute alongside classical and jazz pianist, Casey O'Connell. Together, they will perform an incredibly varied program including jazz favorites, funk, and soul, and even some current pop hits. Michael travels internationally and has performed with many popular performers of our time.

**Courtroom Dramas of the 50s & 60s:** **Tuesday, January 13 at 10:30 a.m. via Zoom.** Awaiting the verdict with lives hanging in the balance is the perfect setting for dramatic cinema. While tales of trials have been featured throughout movie history, the mid-twentieth century had a significant concentration of soon-to-be classic courtroom dramas that explored our sense of justice, morality, and ethics. Arnold B. explores the twists and turns of the proceedings that added intrigue to films such as *12 Angry Men* (1957), *Witness for the Prosecution* (1957), *Anatomy of a Murder* (1959), *Inherit the Wind* (1960), and *To Kill a Mockingbird* (1962).

**Ask the Attorney:** **Tuesday, January 13 from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.** Hosted by David Nathan, of Waypoint Legal, this is your chance to get answers straight from an elder law and estate planning professional. After registration you will be asked to submit one question you would like David to address. This is your chance to get answers about estate planning, Medicaid eligibility, asset protection, or how to care for aging loved ones.

**Galapagos Islands:** **Wednesday, January 14 at 10:30 a.m.** The Galapagos Islands is a volcanic archipelago in the Pacific Ocean that inspired Charles Darwin's theory of evolution. It is considered one of the world's foremost destinations for wildlife viewing and is home to a wide range of plant and animal species. Professional photographer Chris K. takes us on a picture perfect journey of his most recent visit to the islands.

**Ken & Linda:** **Wednesday, January 14 at 2:00 p.m.** Ken and Linda keep the classic "Vegas lounge" spirit alive with powerful vocals, timeless charm, and a warm, welcoming stage presence. From Sinatra and Engelbert to *The Carpenters* and beyond, their dynamic performance brings beloved memories to life while inviting every audience member to feel like part of the show. A nostalgic, feel-good musical experience you won't want to miss.

**Gregory Peck:** **Thursday, January 15 at 10:30 a.m.** Tall and strikingly handsome, with a commanding presence and a deep resonant voice, Peck was a five time Academy Award nominee for Best Actor. Making his Broadway debut in 1942, he soon became one of cinema's most respected actors and appeared in more than 60 films during an esteemed career that stretched from the 40s to the early 2000's. Join Jeff K. to explore how Peck impressed critics from the start. **Sponsored by Oasis Senior Advisors.**

**Kevin McGowan:** **Thursday, January 15 at 2:00 p.m.** A singer-songwriter originally from the Bronx, Kevin has called central New Jersey his home for the last 50 years. He has self-produced four CDs of original music in addition to two CDs of

Irish music and regularly performs in pubs, restaurants, and coffee houses in and around central New Jersey.

**Monroe Falcon Ensemble: Friday, January 16 at 2:00 p.m.**

The Falcon Jazz Ensemble and Wind Ensemble are select groups of the finest musicians in the Monroe Township Middle School. Each ensemble has represented Monroe Township in a number of competitions and performances for each of the last 15 years. Notably, the Falcon Jazz Ensemble has performed in various community events around Monroe as well as the NJMEA state conference in Atlantic City. The Wind Ensemble has competed along with a collection of other concert bands in the CJMEA Concert Band festival and the Music in the Parks competitions.



*The Office of Senior Services & Senior Center  
will be closed on Monday, January 19th in  
observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.*

**Paint & Sip: Tuesday, January 20 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00**

**p.m.** Unleash your inner Picasso and join several of our sponsors for a cheerful morning of painting, sipping, and laughing. Enjoy non-alcoholic beverages and leave with a masterpiece! *Sponsored by Platinum Home Care, Preferred Care Hamilton, Compasus Health, Waypoint Legal, Link Therapy, Springpoint Manalapan, and 101 Mobility.*

**Martin Luther King Jr. & the Civil Rights Struggle:**

Tuesday, January 20 at 10:30 a.m. via **Zoom**. Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was a prophet of the crusade for racial equality. The voice of anguish and the battle cry for human dignity, Dr. King forged a nonviolent movement that withstood and blunted the ferocity of segregation. Historian Paul W. will explore the extraordinary life of King and the broader Civil Rights Movement in honor of Dr. King's birthday.

**Lou Orrichio: Tuesday, January 20 at 2:00 p.m.** It's Lou's first show of 2026 and he's kicking off the year with more sparkle than a disco ball! Get ready as Lou belts out the biggest hits from the most iconic artists of our time. He'll dazzle you with his voice and charm. Come for the music, stay for the sequins. Or vice versa. We won't judge.

**Boggle Challenge: Wednesday, January 21 at 10:30 a.m.** Test your vocabulary, challenge your mind, and enjoy great company during our Boggle game day. Whether you're a word wizard or just love a good game, this event is perfect for keeping your brain sharp and your spirits high. Prizes will be awarded to several winners. *Sponsored by The Elms.*

**Rick Martin Trio: Wednesday, January 21 at 2:00 p.m.**

Straight out of New Jersey, The *Rick Martin Trio* introduces a soulful blend of classic jazz, modern grooves, and spontaneous improvisation. Led by guitarist and composer Rick Martin, the trio delivers a dynamic mix of smooth melodies and expressive solos that captivate audiences reminiscent of the good old days in Las Vegas. The trio keeps the spirit of jazz alive with energy, artistry, and heart.

**George Carlin: Thursday, January 22 at 10:30 a.m.**

Join Larry W. explores the wit and wisdom of the late comedian George Carlin, whose sharp, profound humor challenged society to think differently. Whether you loved him or not, he was a truth-teller who mixed humor with insight. Revisit his most memorable routines and the controversies that often followed his unfiltered honesty. As Carlin would remind us, "If you can't laugh at it, you're probably taking it too seriously!"

**The Vestibular System: Thursday, January 22 at 2:00 p.m.**

Michelle Kouveliotes, DPT and Michael Glaubach, DPT, discuss types of dizziness, how they can impact balance, and the therapy services available to rectify and ease vestibular disorders such as vertigo. *Sponsored by CentraState Healthcare.*

**Beyond the Sea: Friday, January 23 at 2:00 p.m.** The remarkable journey of musician Bobby Darin comes back to life as the official Darin archivist, Jimmy S., guides you through the challenges, triumphs, and personal struggles of this self-made icon. Developed in collaboration with Dodd Darin and the Bobby Darin estate, this presentation goes beyond the typical tribute by including rare images and memorabilia. Explore never-before-released audio files and video footage of this star's short life and career.

**Fountains of NY: Tuesday, January 27 at 10:30 a.m. via **Zoom**.** New York City's fountains are more than just decorative features. They are historical landmarks, cultural icons, and dynamic works of art that shape the city's landscape. Award winning author, journalist, and native New Yorker, Stephanie Azzarone, takes us on a captivating journey through the artistry, history, and hidden stories behind these remarkable waterworks. From the grandeur of Central Park's Bethesda Fountain to the sleek modern cascades of the Unisphere in Queens, this lecture focuses on fountains and lesser-known gems across all five boroughs.

**Gordon James - Perfect Days!: Tuesday, January 27 at 2:00 p.m.** Gordon performs a compilation of feel-good songs from the 60s and 70s that were pop hits from artists like *The Monkees, The Fifth Dimension, The Rascals, The Beach Boys, The O'Jays, The Village People, and Earth Wind and Fire.* Enjoy upbeat fun classics such as *Daydream Believer, Hooked on a Feeling, Good Lovin', Eight Days a Week, Wouldn't It be Nice, Happy Together, Close to You, Brandy, Do You Believe in Magic, Love Train, and September.*

**Plan Today, Bring Peace Tomorrow: Wednesday, January 28 at 10:30 a.m.** Often considered a taboo subject, preplanning for your funeral is a necessary conversation that everyone should have at least one discussion about. It is a thoughtful way to lessen the burden on your family during an already difficult time. By making arrangements in advance, you ensure that your wishes are honored, you are remembered fittingly, and your loved ones will have the opportunity to focus on grieving and healing. This presentation will teach you how to make your wishes known and what can be done to ease the emotional and financial stress on your family. *Sponsored by Brunswick Memorial Home & Mount Sinai Memorial Chapels.*

**Christian Roselle: Wednesday, January 28 at 2:00 p.m.** The lead singer from Rave On! and Carnaby Street Duo, Christian Roselle, is back performing songs from the 50s to the 70s. Hits from Buddy Holly, Roy Orbison, *The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, Bob Dylan, and Don McLean* are just a few tunes in Chris's repertoire. Come and enjoy this concert that is full of songs you love but aren't sick of listening to!

**Winter Respiratory Care: Thursday, January 29 at 10:30 a.m.** Breathing comfortably during cold and flu season can be difficult even for those without pre-existing respiratory conditions. Join respiratory therapist Joceline Garcia from The Jewish Home as she shares expert guidance to help protect your lungs and ease breathing when winter illnesses strike.

**Debra & Patrick: Thursday, January 29 at 2:00 p.m.** Seasoned musicians Patrick L. and the ever-entertaining Debra D. are delighted to return to the Senior Center. This dynamic pair will keep you entertained with their jazz, blues, and pop repertoire. They are endlessly on tour from New York City to Key West, making a special stop in Monroe Township!

**Katrina and Friends: Friday, January 30 at 2:00 p.m.** Katrina's cello ensemble, *Cellisimo*, has appeared at the Senior Center in the past. She returns with a different trio and a varied program consisting of the styles of Baroque, pop, classical, and romance.

# Friendly Tidbits

Friends of the Senior Center, Inc.

609-448-7598

JANUARY  
2026

## *Message from Chris Flynn, President*

As our Nation's 250th Anniversary approaches, "The Friends of the Senior Center" is planning 2 bus trips in 2026 as additional contribution to this patriotic celebration. Information about these trips is included in this issue. Additional information will be available soon in our office. The Friends have lots of travel plans for 2026 & I hope you all would want to participate! Don't forget all Friends trips are "open to friends & family" no matter where they live. — Chris

## UPCOMING TRIPS

### TATTOO & NATO FEST

Thursday April 16th - Sunday April 19, 2026  
Norfolk, Virginia

#### Package Price Includes

- Military Aviation Museum Guided tour.
- Free time to explore & shop on the Virginia Beach Boardwalk.
- Hullabaloo at the Scope Plaza.
- Virginia International Tattoo, reserved seats.
- The Nauticus Maritime Museum.
- USS Wisconsin self-guided tour.
- Annual Parade of Nations, reserved seats.
- Douglas MacArthur Memorial & film.
- Harbor Tour on the American Rover.
- National Museum of the Marine Corps at Quantico, VA.
- Film: "We, the Marines" - Medal of Honor Theater.
- National Memorial Cemetery at Quantico guided tour.
- Deluxe motor coach transportation.
- 3 nights of lodging.
- 3 hotel breakfasts.
- 3 dinners.
- All taxes and tips on above services.
- Hotel luggage handling.

#### Details and Additional Information Meeting

January 22, 2026 at 12pm - at the Senior Center  
Register to attend by calling (609) 448-7598

#### Package prices (per person)

Double: \$1,625  
Triple: \$1,525  
Quad: \$1,425  
Single: \$2,025

#### Deposit:

\$200 per person  
(due Jan 23rd)

Final  
Payment Due:  
Mar 2nd

#### Additional Costs

##### **Included**

Driver's gratuity  
Professional  
Tour Manager

##### **Not Included**

Cancellation  
Insurance

### HUDSON VALLEY

Week of October 5th, 2026  
3 days 2 nights (TBD)

#### Package Price Includes

- *Pride of the Hudson* cruise with box lunch.
- Tour Olana, a NY State Historic Site and National Historic Landmark.
- Time in Historic Rhinebeck.
- Tour Vanderbilt Mansion.
- Dinner at Culinary Institute of America.
- Guided tour of West Point.
- Lunch at Thayer Hotel, West Point
- Tour and sampling at Brotherhood Winery.
- 2 nights lodging in Poughkeepsie, NY
- 2 breakfasts
- 2 lunches
- 2 dinners
- Driver and Tour Director included
- Exclusive motor coach transportation
- All taxes and gratuities included.

#### Package prices (per person)

Double: \$925      Quad: \$815  
Triple: \$845      Single: \$1,125

Details and information meeting will be held later this year.

### Bermuda cruise proposed for May 2027

Are you interested? Let us know so we can move forward with planning. Fill out and return to the Friends office.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

# of  
people: \_\_\_\_\_

1990 TO 2026 — 36 YEARS OF FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS!

# 2026

HAPPY  
Holidays!

\* Happy New Year \*

## **FRIENDS OFFICE HOURS**

Monday: 10am to 3pm  
Tuesday: 10am to 3pm  
Wednesday: 10am to 3pm  
Thursday: 9am to 3pm  
Friday: 9am to 3pm

The "Friends" office will be closed for the holidays as of December 24th and will reopen Jan 5th.

## **COMING IN FEBRUARY!** **ATLANTIC CITY DAY TRIP**

END OF FEBRUARY 2026 - MORE INFORMATION IN NEXT NEWSLETTER

## **2026 PLANNED EVENTS**

### **JANUARY**

No events planned

### **FEBRUARY**

2/6 Bingo registration  
2/20 Bingo 1pm

### **MARCH**

3/6 Bingo registration  
3/27 Bingo 1pm

### **APRIL**

4/3 Bingo registration  
4/16 Bus trip: Norfolk, VA to 19 4 days, 3 nights  
4/29 Bingo 6pm

### **MAY**

5/8 Bingo registration  
5/23 5th Annual Classic Car Show, 10am-2pm  
5/29 Bingo 1pm

### **JUNE**

6/5 Bingo registration  
6/13 Trunk Sale 10am-1pm  
6/5 Bingo 1pm

### **JULY**

7/10 Bingo registration  
7/29 Bingo 6pm

### **AUGUST**

8/7 Bingo registration  
8/26 Bingo 1pm

### **SEPTEMBER**

9/4 Bingo registration  
9/25 Bingo 1pm

### **OCTOBER**

10/2 Bingo registration  
Wk. of Bus trip: Hudson Valley  
10/5 3 days, 2 nights  
10/23 Bingo 1pm

### **NOVEMBER**

No Bingo this month.  
Registration for Dec 4 Holiday Bingo on **Nov 13**

### **DECEMBER**

12/4 Holiday Bingo 1pm  
12/4 Holiday Bake Sale 10am-3pm

ALL DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE. CHECK THE MONTHLY TIDBITS FOR ANY CHANGES.



## **DID YOU KNOW?**

Every time you shop at McCaffrey's, you can raise money for the Friends. Just drop your McCaffrey's receipts in the mailbox on the wall outside of the Friends office or in the box labeled "McCaffrey's" by the reception desk.

# **TRANSPORTATION TRIPS**



Transportation Dept. (609) 443-0511

John Magda, Transportation Manager

**Pre-Registration is required for all trips. Trip registration is:  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.**

**If you are unable to participate in a trip, you must call to cancel.**

## **Ocean County Mall in Toms River, NJ (50 minutes from the Senior Center)**

**Tuesday, February 10, 2026**

The Ocean County Mall is a super-regional enclosed mall with more than 100 specialty stores and dining including American Eagle, Macy's, H&M, Old Navy, HomeSense, ULTA Beauty, PF Chang's, BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse and more.

**Departure Time:** 9:30am **Return Time:** 2:30pm (Township bus) **Cost:** \$5.00 per person.

**Lunch:** There are numerous locations within the mall where you may enjoy lunch.

## **Columbus Flea Market in Toms River, NJ (30 minutes from the Senior Center)**

**Thursday, February 26, 2026**

Delaware Valley's oldest and largest flea market with thousands of outdoor flea market items and over 65 indoor retail stores, a produce row, and the Amish market. It's a bargain hunter's dream!

**Departure Time:** 9:00am **Return Time:** 12:45pm (Township bus) **Cost:** \$5.00 per person.

## **Philadelphia Flower Show in Philadelphia, PA (1 hour from the Senior Center)**

**Wednesday, March 4, 2026**

The Philadelphia Flower Show is the nation's largest and longest-running horticultural event and fundraiser featuring stunning displays by the world's premier floral, garden, and landscape designers. Each year, the 10-acre Pennsylvania Convention Center becomes a stunning showcase of floral artistry and horticultural innovation. The theme for 2026 is entitled *Rooted: Origins of American Gardening*. Through immersive garden exhibits and stunning floral displays, the 2026 show brings to life the personal stories, cultural traditions, and horticultural inspiration that connect us to plants, each other, and shape how we garden today.

Pennsylvania Convention Center policy allows guests to enter with purses, medical bags, or diaper bags only, which are subject to inspection and may be no larger than 16" x 16" x 8". Coolers, other large bags, and wheeled bags are not permitted. Alcohol and outside food and beverage is prohibited.

**Walking and steps are required for this trip.**

**Departure Time:** 8:30am **Return Time:** 3:30pm (Charter bus)  
**Cost:** \$42.00 per person (Includes admission to Flower Show only.)

**Lunch:** There are places inside the Convention Center to have lunch or you may walk to Reading Terminal Market, which is one of the oldest public markets in the country and only a short walk from the Flower Show, offering numerous places to eat lunch. (There will be hand stamping stations at each exit so you may re-enter the Flower Show.)

## **Important Information About Monthly Trips**

<b>Monthly Trips</b>	Every month, the Senior Focus newsletter offers a wide variety of upcoming destinations which Senior Center members may take advantage of. The newsletter also indicates when registration for these trips will begin. These affordable journeys include entertainment, shopping, culture, and other points of interest.
<b>How to Attend Trips</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All trips require pre-registration.</li><li>• Only current members of the Senior Center may register for trips. (If you have a purple card, it means that you are a current member.)</li></ul>
<b>Registration In-person</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Per the above, each Senior Focus monthly newsletter indicates the date that registration will begin for the latest upcoming trip offers. Registration start time is always 9:00 a.m. (satellite/universal time).</li><li>• You may register in-person at the Senior Center via the main entrance doors which open at 8:30 a.m. or from home using your Community Pass account (see below).</li><li>• In-person, you may register for yourself and one additional member. If you are registering for yourself and another household member, you may not register for anyone else.</li></ul>
<b>Registration From Home Using Community Pass</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Community Pass is a website that Monroe Township and other municipalities offer to its residents for managing programs and activities.</li><li>• All members of the Senior Center have a Community Pass account with a user name and password.</li><li>• Internet savvy members may register for trips and other programming from home or elsewhere online using their Community Pass account.</li><li>• As with in-person registration, start time is at 9:00 a.m. (satellite/universal time). If you have logged in to Community Pass prior to that time, remember to refresh/reload your browser at 9:00 a.m. so that you will see the updated trip list when it "goes live."</li><li>• When registering online, Community Pass will only allow you to register for members of your own household/account.</li></ul>
<b>Seat Assignments</b>	Your seat will be assigned by the Transportation Department via a lottery system. You cannot change your seat number with anyone once it is assigned to you. <b>You will be notified the day before the trip by email or phone regarding seat assignment and departure time.</b> Important: Buses leave promptly at the specified departure time.
<b>Payments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In-person, personal checks, credit cards, and cash (exact change) are accepted.</li><li>• When paying by check, please use one check for the entire household.</li><li>• DO NOT fill in the dollar amount on your check until it has been verified at the time that you register.</li><li>• Make checks payable to <b>Township of Monroe</b>.</li><li>• In-person, when registering for an additional member in a different household, please use a separate check or other method of payment.</li><li>• When registering online, Community Pass accepts Visa, Mastercard, and Discover, or an e-Check.</li></ul>
<b>Accessibility</b>	Not all trips are wheelchair or scooter accessible, while others may require more walking, steps, or other obstacles. If this is a concern, please call the Transportation Department prior to registration day to determine if a particular trip is appropriate for you.
<b>Cancellation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To avoid the need to cancel, please check your personal calendar <u>before</u> you register. If you must cancel, please call the Transportation Department as soon as possible so there is time to contact the next person on the waitlist.</li><li>• Outside regular business hours, you may still call to cancel by leaving a voice mail with your name, phone number, and the date of your trip. The answering machine operates 24 hours a day.</li><li>• Refunds will be given only if your seat is replaced by someone on the waitlist or if the trip is cancelled.</li><li>• Your purchase is non-transferable. You may not assign another person to take your place.</li></ul>