

South River Office on Aging
Human Services Building
55 Reid Street
South River, NJ 08882

October 2026
Volume 5, Issue 10
(732) 257-2340

The Senior Scoop

OFFICE CLOSURE

All borough offices, including the Office on Aging, will be closed on Monday, October 12th in observance of Columbus Day. Members who wish to take advantage of our Around Town Shuttle and Medical Transportation services on Tuesday, October 13th must call the office before 2pm on Friday, October 9th to schedule. Please be reminded that under no circumstances do voicemail messages requesting transportation constitute reservations; all requests must be verbally scheduled with a member of our staff.

OCTOBER ACTIVITIES

Freestyle Billiards, Board Games, and Rock Painting: When: Tuesdays @ 11am; drop-in, no RSVP required.

High-Dose Flu, Pneumonia, COVID-19, and RSV Vaccine Clinic: When: Thursday, October 8th, 11:30am-1pm (by appointment only— schedule by October 5th) and home visits for homebound members immediately following the on-site clinic; sign-up began September 1st; transportation is available.

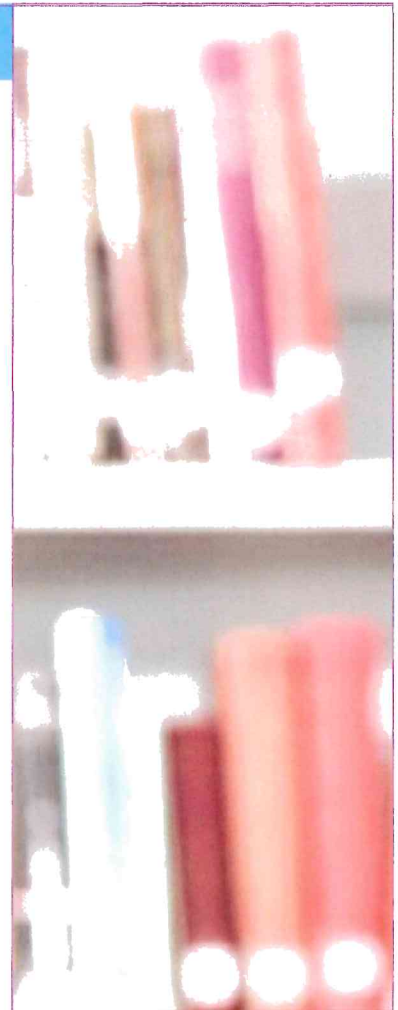
“Stars, Spells, & Spirits” Celestial Soirée: What: A whimsical gathering where cosmic energy, mystical mocktails, and lighthearted sorcery align with a peek into the unknown for an enchanting and spellbinding celebration. When: Friday, October 23rd @ 11:30am (\$8 pre-paid) sign-up begins Thursday, October 1st.

Passaic River Valley Autumn Leaf-Peeping + Lunch @ The Grain House, Basking Ridge: What: Panoramic views of New Jersey’s vibrant foliage at the peak of autumn beauty. When: Wednesday, October 28th @ 10:30am (cash only); sign-up begins Thursday, October 1st.

Spooky Scam BINGO & Coffee with a Cop: What: The only thing scarier than a ghost story is a scammer! No boring lectures here—we’re unmasking the latest tricks and scams targeting older adults. Join us for Spooky Scam BINGO, chat with local officers, & enjoy some festive treats. When: Thursday, October 29th @ 12pm (RSVP required by October 19th); sign-up begins Thursday, October 1st.

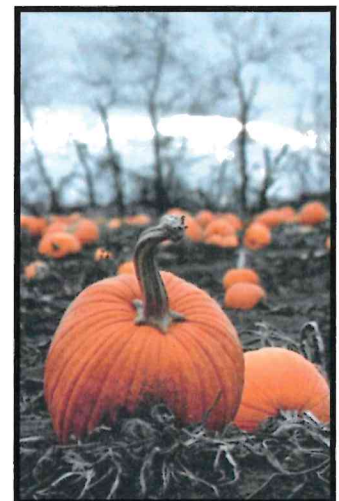
PLANNING AHEAD

Christmas Party: What: We’re bringing a touch of extra sparkle to our annual holiday celebration! Join us as we step out of town in style for a beautifully-curated afternoon of dining, dancing, and holiday cheer. Dress in your festive finest and mix, mingle, and toast the most wonderful time of the year. Where: Grand Marquis, 1550 US-9 South, Old Bridge. When: Friday, December 4th, 12pm-4pm (\$25 pre-paid; sign-up begins Tuesday, October 13th. Seating: Requests must be submitted in writing at the time of payment, and will be accommodated to the best of our ability. Transportation: Available only by request at the time of sign-up; a \$25 deposit is required to reserve a seat. This deposit is 100% refundable upon riding the bus on party day, but will be forfeited if the ride is cancelled at any time, for any reason. Pick-up time will be determined and announced at a later date.



*“I would rather sit on a
pumpkin & have it all
to myself than be crowded
on a velvet cushion.*

—HENRY DAVID THOREAU



AROUND THE BOROUGH

Biodegradable Leaf Bags: Beginning Monday, October 5th, 20 free leaf bags per household are available for pick-up from the Department of Public Works @ 9 Ivan Way, Monday-Friday, 8am-12pm; proof of borough residency required.

Curbside Leaf Program: To accommodate increased leaf refuse from the change of seasons, the Department of Public Works will begin its annual leaf collection program as follows:

South Side of Borough:

October 19 — October 23

November 2 — November 6

November 16 — November 20

November 30 — December 4

December 14 — December 18

North Side of Borough:

October 26 — October 30

November 9 — November 13 (no Veteran's Day collection November 11)

November 23 — November 25 (no Thanksgiving collection November 26-27)

December 7 — December 11

No grass, brush, or other debris should be mixed with leaves. Biodegradable paper bags and open containers must be used; leaves in plastic bags will be left behind.

South River Day: What: Food, music, games, entertainment, community groups, and petting zoo. When: Saturday, October 17th, 12pm-5pm, Montgomery Street (Johnson Place—Morningside Avenue). Free entry.

Frost on the Pumpkin 5K Run/Walk: What: 5K run/walk, 1 mile fun run (5th grade & under); 1 mile fun run (6th-8th grade). When: Sunday, October 25th (rain or shine); 5K walk/run check in @ 7:30am; 5th grade & under 1 mile fun run @ 8:30am; 6th-8th grades 1 mile fun run @ 9am. Where: Denny Stadium. Registration required; visit www.southrivernj.org.

General Election Voter Information: Election Day is Tuesday, November 3rd. Please see the attached document issued by the State of New Jersey for important voter information.

MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT

Just like your health, Medicare plans can change every year. By comparing different options, you could find a plan that offers better coverage, reduces out of pocket costs, or both. Medicare's Open Enrollment period gives Medicare beneficiaries the opportunity to make changes to their health and prescription drug plans annually, between October 15th — December 7th, for coverage that begins January 1, 2027. The Office on Aging can connect members with a State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) counselor to discuss plan options; please call us to arrange.

PROPERTY TAX RELIEF DEADLINE

The official deadline for New Jersey homeowners and renters to apply for the state's 2025 property tax relief programs—including ANCHOR, Senior Freeze, and the new Stay NJ initiative—is November 2, 2026. Eligibility guidelines and online applications may be accessed on the NJ Division of Taxation website <https://propertytaxreliefapp.nj.gov/>. Office on Aging members who require assistance with filing are encouraged to call our office to schedule an appointment before October 26th.

SIGNING UP: HOW IT WORKS

Generally, sign-up for the month begins on the first business day of the calendar month, unless otherwise indicated. Sign-up for activities, events or trips that may be scheduled during the first week of that month are accepted the last week of the month prior.

Some programs, trips and events require advanced sign-up and payment; information including date and costs are specified in the body of the newsletter, so please be sure to read it in its entirety.

Members who commit to an activity and find themselves unable to attend should notify the office immediately (leave a voicemail message if it's outside of normal business hours). Habitual no-shows may result in modified sign-up procedures, and refunds will not be issued.

Members are welcome to sign up for themselves and one other member.

Still unsure? We're happy to explain further.





Here are the 3 ways you can vote in the upcoming General Election...

1. AT YOUR POLLING PLACE ON ELECTION DAY



Vote in person at your polling place, from **6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Election Day, Tuesday, November 3**. Accommodations will be made for voters with disabilities.

Go to **VOTE.NJ.GOV** for your polling place, listed on the Polling Locations page.

2. IN-PERSON EARLY VOTING



This option enables all registered voters to cast their ballot **in person, using a voting machine, during a nine-day period prior to Election Day**. You can choose to vote, in person, when it's most convenient for your schedule.

No matter where you live in the county, you can vote your specific ballot at any of **your** county's designated in-person early voting sites. Find your county's sites at **VOTE.NJ.GOV**.

In-person early voting sites will be open **Saturday, October 24 through November 1**. Hours will be **Monday–Saturday, 10:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m. and Sunday, 10:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.**

No appointment is necessary. Accommodations will be made for voters with disabilities.

3. VOTE BY MAIL



Registered voters can apply for a **mail-in ballot** by following the instructions found at **VOTE.NJ.GOV** or contacting their County Clerk. Registered voters also now have the option to apply for a mail-in ballot online at **VOTE.NJ.GOV**.

Then, VOTE and RETURN your ballot one of the following ways...

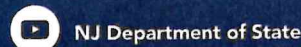
- **Secure Ballot Drop Box:** Place your mail-in ballot in one of your county's secure ballot drop boxes **by 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 3**. Drop box locations can be found at **VOTE.NJ.GOV**.
- **Board of Elections Office:** Deliver your mail-in ballot in person to your county's Board of Elections Office **by 8:00 p.m. on November 3**. County Election Officials' contact information can be found at **VOTE.NJ.GOV**.
- **Mail:** Your mail-in ballot **MUST** be postmarked **on or before 8:00 p.m. on November 3** and be received by your county's Board of Elections **on or before November 9**.

Mail-in ballots CANNOT be returned to your early voting site or polling place.

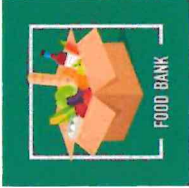
To learn more, access our Voter Education Video Series at Vote.NJ.gov or scan here.



Governor Mikie Sherrill
Lieutenant Governor and Secretary of State Dr. Dale G. Caldwell
1-877-NJ-VOTER (1-877-658-6837) Vote.NJ.Gov



October 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Office on Aging Hours of Operation Monday-Friday 9:30am-3pm (732) 257-2340	Mondays 10am Line Dancing Classes w/ Joyce \$1 recommended contribution	Tuesdays 10am Strength Training Classes w/ Nancy \$1 recommended contribution	Thursdays 11am Gentle Yoga Classes w/ Steff \$1 recommended contribution	1 10am ShopRite	2 	3
4 	5 	6 9am-2pm Around Town Shuttle & Medical Transport 11am Freestyle Billiards, Board Games, & Rock Painting	7 10am Dollar Tree TJ Maxx/Kohl's Home Goods Stop & Shop/Aldi Brunswick Sq. Mall	8 11:30am-1pm High Dose Flu, RSV Pneumonia & COVID Vaccine Clinic by appointment	9 10am ShopRite	10 
11 	12 Columbus Day Office Closed	13 9am-2pm Around Town Shuttle & Medical Transport NO STRENGTH TRAINING CLASS 11am Freestyle Billiards, Board Games, & Rock Painting	14 9am Parx Casino Bensalem, PA	15 10am ShopRite	16 	17
18 	19 	20 9am-2pm Around Town Shuttle & Medical Transport 11am Freestyle Billiards, Board Games, & Rock Painting	21 9:30am Von Thun's Country Farm Market Mohamouth Junction SFMNP vouchers accepted here	22 10am ShopRite	23 11:30am Stars, Spells, & Spirits Soirée \$8 pre-paid	24
25 	26 	27 9am-2pm Around Town Shuttle & Medical Transport 11am Freestyle Billiards, Board Games, & Rock Painting	28 10:30am Passaic River Valley Autumn Leaf-Peeping + Lunch @ The Grain House Basking Ridge cash only	29 10am ShopRite 12pm Coffee with a Cop RSVP required	30 	31 Wednesdays 10am-12pm Haircuts by Mike the Barber \$8