

**Safe at Home Committee Meeting**  
**April 24, 2026 3:00 pm**  
**Meeting Place, Cook and Larder**

Attendance: Joyce Ferrentino, Joyce Lapenn, Lynda Brenner, Rene Gibson, Dee Crawford, Natalie Kahan, Patti Rohrlisch, Lynne Colclough, Mary Lou Kersten

**Coffee Hour**

March – Bingo coffee hour feedback. Brought in new people, wasn't overly attended, will use as a back up when needed.

April – Linda Levitt, on gardening. Lynda point person. The topic title is: Spring Gardening Made Simple. Speaker has great gardening credentials and is prepared for a 45 minute talk. Will start on time to insure we accommodate the Hillsdale House time frame.

May – Patti R point person. May is Older Americans Month. Harvey Granat will perform and address the theme of older American's month. Patti will ask Harvey whether an honorarium is needed for his accompanist.

June – Picnic in the park. Will take place June 30th, rain or shine. Location is the RoeJan Park. Haldane has agreed to provide music. Lynne is talking to Stewarts for an ice cream donation. Freshtown will do salads and sandwiches. Joyce has plates to donate. Chips and other items in bulk will be purchased. The Bank of Greene County gave a grant of \$500.00 towards the picnic expenses. Rene will speak to Bill Furner for help with transporting people in his golf cart who need assistance from the parking lot to the barn. We will need servers and a clean up squad.

July – Baseball, the Great American Pastime. Joyce F responsible person.

August – Dr. Green on Aging Wisely

September – Brenda Shufelt, Hudson and Whaling. Point person, Mary Lou.

October – A talk on different Medicare and Supplement options. October is open enrollment month. Possibly Rachel Cole from the Office of Aging as a speaker. Joyce F point person.

November – Will try to get a speaker on cooking and a demonstration. Lynda to check out a possibility. Lynne has a possible presenter too.

December – Holiday party.

Town newsletter submissions for coffee hours need to be in by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month. Background information on the speakers is needed before then to meet this deadline. Joyce F is not responsible for gathering information on the various speakers that have been recruited by those speakers where she was not the responsible. Please email this information to her in advance to meet the deadline.

**Wednesday – Walking Schedule**

Lynda is working on a schedule for committee members. Agreed that it doesn't always need to be two committee members to start. Lynda suggested we send email prompts to remind people the walks started. Laura Griffin created a great poster that we can use to promote the walks.

**Farm Market Table**

We need to schedule which Saturdays some of us will sit at the table to promote SAH. It might be 2-3 times for the season. Joyce F will be in contact with Nicole Friedrich, farm market manager, for their permission.

**Grants**

BOGC gave \$500.00 for the Safe at Home picnic. The Berkshire Taconic Foundation

provided \$2500.00 for operating expenses.

### **Book/SAH**

Joyce mentioned that the owners of Cakes and Books have a foundation and will provide free books to those at a SAH coffee hour.

### **Book Dreams**

Celebration lunch is May 18. Joyce would like SAH to attend as a show of support for the volunteers and children. Please RSVP for this event. The reading program ends May 15. Books and Cake will donate 150 books written by Doreen Cronin for the children. Doreen will be there and sign each book. Suzi, Patti's daughter, will bring cupcakes since this is also her birthday.

We need more volunteers for the next season. It starts in November and goes through May, meets once a week, 30-35 minutes.

### **Quarterly Newsletter**

There will now be two editions. One pdf online edition and the shorter printed and mailed version. Some members had a difficult time opening it on their devices. Online access may be an issue for others. Need to explore, perhaps different software is needed on our part.

**Help stock the blessing box** Please support this activity.

### **Miscellaneous**

The idea of day trips needs to be explored. Office of Aging offers trips, need to explore collaboration.

Next Meeting, May 22 , 2026 3:00 pm, Friday at Cook and Larder