



Branch Newsletter

July, 2026

Membership meeting 7 p.m. Thursday, July 23, Ricketts Center

Our speaker will be Garfield Jackson, the manager of Volunteer Recruitment and Partnership for Big Brothers Big Sisters Independence. He has worked in this capacity for close to 18 years. "I am anxious to meet you all in person and have a conversation regarding our children in Pottstown, and their need to have positive role models in their lives," he recently wrote to us. He is looking for opportunities to further help Pottstown's youths.



For those who can't make it in person, the Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84995648174?wd=QIAyaHZkWIJXZWk1T3FWcHNFVnJOQT09> Meeting ID:849 9564 8174 Passcode: 937480

Coffee and chocolate festival



The Montco Coffee and Chocolate Festival is coming to Soul Joel's on Saturday, July 25, and the organizers are offering members of the NAACP, and a few other local groups, half off the \$50 admission (plus taxes and fees). The event features gourmet roasters, artisan chocolatiers, bakeries, wineries, distilleries, and specialty vendors. There also will be photo ops with stars of ABC's *General Hospital*. Admission includes tastings, unlimited visits to a chocolate fountain and more. The event has two sessions — 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. To get the discount, use the code SAVEHALF online (<https://tinyurl.com/MONTCOCOFFEECHOC>) or at the door.



The Branch goes Fourth!

Despite the intense heat, members of the Branch came out for Pottstown's Fourth of July parade. One of the groups we marched with was Montgomery Elks Lodge #1271, which surprised everyone with its float featuring Black Hometown Heroes. President Johnny Corson has been advocating for a change to the Hometown Heroes program — which, so far, honors only white veterans on the banners along High Street. While officials dithered, the Elks took action.

