Reading, PA

### NEWSLETTER

#### RCC to Serve as a Voting Center Celebrate Romania's National Day & RCC One Year Anniversary for the 2024 Romanian Elections



We are honored to announce that we have been designated as an official voting center for the upcoming 2024 Romanian elections. This is a significant milestone for our community, as we open our doors to all eligible Romanian citizens in the U.S. to participate in the democratic process. Whether it's the parliamentary or presidential elections, we are committed to providing a convenient and accessible location for voters to cast their ballots. We look forward to supporting the electoral process and ensuring that every voice is heard.

**MORE INFO** 



Romania's National Day and the 1-Year Anniversary of the Romanian Community Center! This exciting cocktail party will feature traditional Romanian dishes, vibrant music by DJ Snake, and an unforgettable atmosphere. Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 30, 2024, from 5:00 PM to 10:00 PM at Kraras Hall, Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Church (1001 E Wyomissing Blvd, Reading, PA 19611). Don't miss out—RSVP by November 25th to secure your spot! Tickets can be purchased below. We look forward to celebrating together!

Join us for a special evening as we celebrate

Win a 2009 BMW 650i – RCC Car Raffle!

**BUY TICKETS** 

## Don't miss your chance to win a 2009 BMW 650i in



our exclusive RCC Car Raffle! This sleek, 2-door coupe comes packed with features including a 4.4L horsepower. engine, 365 sport navigation, sunroof, heated seats, and more! Raffle tickets are just \$100 each, and to increase your odds, buy 5 tickets and get 1 free! All proceeds benefit the Romanian Community Center. For tickets, click the button below or visit our website to purchase. Get your tickets now and drive away in style! Raffle tickets are readily available for purchase

also obtain them by directly contacting any member of the RCC Board. The drawing is scheduled for December 31,

2024, at 23:00, contingent upon the sale of a

at all in-person events. Alternatively, you can

minimum of 100 tickets. The winner will be announced on the RCC website. Remember, the winner will be responsible for title transfer, registration, and insurance. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to make a difference and possibly win big!

Romanian Community Center 2024 Upcoming Events

**BUY TICKETS** 

### RCC Romanian Language Classes Arts & Crafts Workshop

Nov 2, 9, 16 Nov 22, 23, 24

Oct to Feb

Nov 24 Nov 30 - Dec 1

**Nov 30** 

Dec 14 Dec 14

Dec 31 **Every Thursday** 

World Tree Event @ Reading Museum

**Romanian Parliament Election - (7:00 - 21:00)** 

Romanian National Day / RCC 1st Anniversary Meet Santa at RCC (2:00 - 4:00)

Romanian Presidential Election - (7:00 - 21:00)

Romanian Nights New Year 2025 Celebration

RCC Choir - Christmas Carols

Keep in Touch with Our Roots: Romanian Language Classes Have Begun on October 19, 2024!



- · It helps foster a sense of belonging, as though they have some form of 'home'. · It allows them to understand and appreciate the history of their parents' upbringing.
- For children of immigrants, it's increasingly important to keep some form of connection to serve as a continuous reminder of the hardships and challenges that had been overcome to sustain the immigrant
- lifestyle.

**MORE INFO** As of October 2024, RCC Has a New Board of Directors

# At the General Assembly meeting on October 18, 2024, twenty-five RCC members voted and

- elected: Cornel Costea
- 2. Georgiana Cristea 3. Bogdan Curca

- 4. Gabi Dumitrescu 5. Doina Farcas
- 6. Laurentiu Goncea
- 8. Mihai Oros
- 7. Cristina Manga
- 9. Cristina Podaru 10. Romana Roman

11. Giani Spirache

...to be part of Romanian Community Center's Board of Directors through 2027.

Thank you to all of those who participated in the election process!

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS** 

### RCC - Consulate Itinerant

Our fellow Romanians asked, and Romanian Community Center delivered!

Many Romanians in our area found themselves in need of renewing their travel documents, obtaining citizenships for their children born in the USA, obtaining power of attorneys, and other documents needed for legal transactions.

Romanian Community Center developed a robust partnership with the Romanian Consulate in New York and through impressive coordination efforts and sustained communication, RCC hosted the first ever Consulate Itinerant (Consulatul Itinerant) in Berks county.

What that meant? Out of 109 appointments scheduled over the October 4<sup>th</sup> weekend, majority were able to have their problems solved. RCC's board members were present along with the Consulate officers and for three days, they helped ensure a smooth operation. Romanians from our area and neighboring states traveled to Reading, PA and left feeling grateful and appreciative for RCC's endeavors to bring the Romanian Consulate of New Youk to YOU.







"It's incredible that RCC managed to bring consular services in our area"

future!

Even more impressive, within 10 days, the Consulate issued over 40 passports for the Romanians in the

area. That is quite an accomplishment for consular services by any bureaucracy standards.

At RCC, we are incredibly proud to support our community and look forward to doing so again in the near

**CONSULATE ITINERANT** 

#### PA, is hosting a series of arts and crafts events

# Romanian Community Center invites you to a special

Art & Craft at RCC



designed to spark creativity and a sense of adventure. These special sessions are scheduled for November 2nd, 9th, and 16th, from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM at 51 West Lawn Ave. Participants are encouraged to bring their curiosity and explore various artistic activities. For more interested individuals can contact the center at 610.781.6488. This is a wonderful opportunity for community members to engage in expression and meet other like-minded individuals. JOIN US

The Romanian Community Center in West Lawn,

Have You Ever Participated in a Clothing Drive Before?

#### volunteers who helped orchestrate the drop off on October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Although many of you choose to partake in this initiative that brings communities together to raise

awareness about poverty in our area, there have

"It was a rewarding experience," said one of our

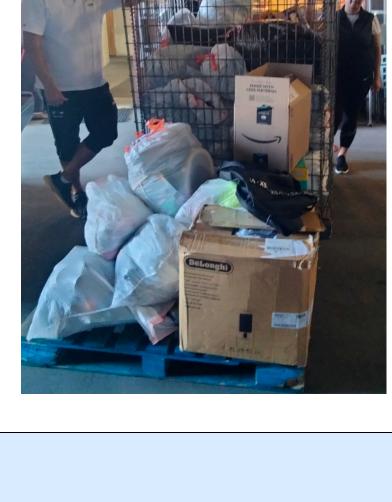
been voices wondering why we do that. "Who are these people who live in shelters?" "They look capable of holding a job, they seem healthy and able" "Why would I help them?" These are all legitimate questions. People end up

in shelters for a variety of reasons...it could be loss

Particularly women and children seek refuge in shelters to escape abusive relationships and unsafe living conditions. "Hello RCC,

appreciate all of your support! Thank you again!

individual is unable to work pushing individuals into homelessness.



Thank you,

Hope Rescue Mission"

of a job, insufficient income...

Addiction, physical or mental health problems, especially if medical bills become overwhelming or if the

Thank you so much! Your drive will bless many at the Mission and LightHouse and we so

lazy or responsible for their situation. Judgment towards those who live in shelters often stems from a lack of understanding. RCC took the initiative to help out by collecting new or slightly used household items and clothing and also

by purchasing some specific items that are important for those people in need to restore their dignity.

Each person's situation is unique, and there are many negative stereotypes, assumptions that individuals are

educating ourselves and others about the realities of homelessness can help reduce stigma and promote more compassionate attitudes. Are you ready to join RCC for another clothing drive? Please reach out to us. How to Subscribe to the Romanian Community Center Events Calendar

Stay updated with the Romanian Community Center's events and never miss an important gathering! You

We know we are not in the business of social work, and we don't want to pass judgement either. Therefore

can easily sync our events with your own calendar using these simple steps: 1. Visit the Events Page

Go to the Romanian Community Center Events Page to view all upcoming events.

2. Choose a Calendar View

 List View: Shows a simple, detailed list of events. • Month View: Displays events in a traditional monthly calendar format.

• Summary View: A brief overview of all events.

you never miss a fun, cultural, or community activity again!

**Day View**: Shows events for a specific day.

Subscribe to the Calendar To keep track of all RCC events on your personal calendar:

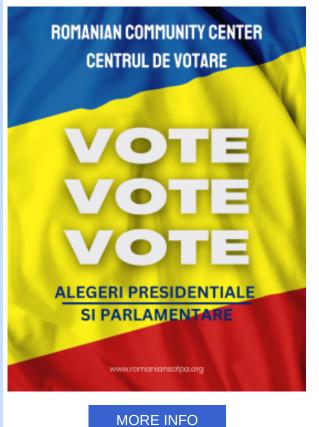
You can view events in different formats to suit your preferences:

- Google Calendar: Click the "Google Calendar" option to add the events directly to your Google Calendar.
- iCalendar: Use the iCalendar option to sync with any calendar service that supports the .ics format. • Outlook: There are two options for Outlook users: Outlook 365 and Outlook Live.

By subscribing, you'll automatically receive updates and additions to the event schedule. Make sure

• You can also download the .ics file to manually add the events to your calendar. 4. Stay Connected

# Why Should the Diaspora vote?



**Because** by participating in elections, diaspora members can influence policies that affect their lives. Because voting is a fundamental civic duty. Because for many of us in the diaspora, voting is a way to stay connected to our homeland and influence its future. It can be a powerful expression of identity and commitment to Romania, our country of origin. Because voting ensures that the interests and needs of diaspora communities are represented in government. **Because** voting gives a voice to marginalized and underrepresented groups, and it helps ensure that diverse perspectives are included in the decision-making process. Because many people have fought and sacrificed for the right to vote. **Because** every vote counts, and collectively, they shape the future of our community.

parliament: November 22, 23, 24 (Presidential - First Round)

Voting dates for the Romanian president & the Romanian

- November 29, 30 & December 1 (Parliamentary elections)
- December 6, 7, 8 (Presidential Second Round)
- Make sure you bring a valid Romanian passport or ID.

Happy New Year 2025



Meet Santa at RCC

can meet Santa Claus! From 2:00 to 4:00 PM, bring the family to 51 West Lawn Ave, West Lawn, PA, for an afternoon filled with music, delicious festive food, and engaging crafts. This joyful event promises to spread holiday cheer and create lasting memories. Don't miss out on the magic of the holiday season come and share in the spirit and excitement with your community! Registration required by December 7, 2024

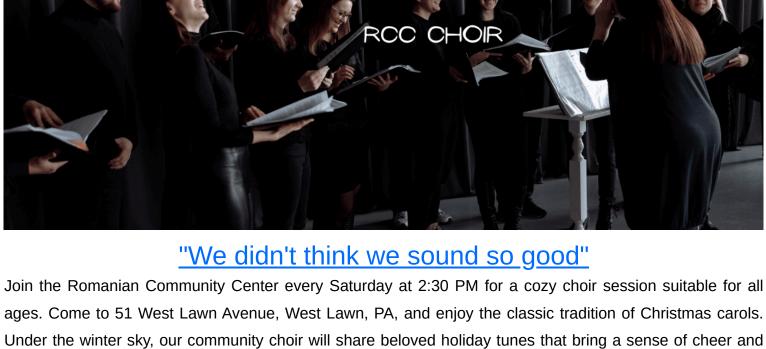
**MORE INFO** 



and great company as we countdown to 2025. More details and ticket information coming soon. **MORE INFO** 

evening filled with music, dancing, delicious food,

RCC Choir - Celebrate the Season with Christmas Caroling!



warmth. Whether you'd like to sing along or just enjoy the music, this event is a wonderful way to get into the

For more details, contact Magda at 484.638.0430.

Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to celebrate the season with song!

We're always looking for ways to improve and serve our community better. Here's how you can get more

JOIN US

Stay Connected with Us – We Value Your Input!

# 1. Share Your Thoughts!

Have suggestions or ideas on how we can improve? We'd love to hear from you! Check out our **Suggestion Box** on the website and let us know your thoughts.

**Submit Your Suggestion** 

2. Become a Paid Member

holiday spirit.

involved:

Are you a business owner? Register your business in our **Business Directory** to increase visibility and

**Register Your Business** 

Your membership helps us continue organizing events and building a vibrant, united space. **Become a Member** 3. Get Listed in Our Business Directory

Join us as a paid member and enjoy exclusive benefits while supporting the growth of our community!

you can <u>update your preferences</u> or <u>unsubscribe from this list.</u>

Thank you for being part of our community – your participation makes us stronger!

connect with other community members. It's free and easy!

Want to change how you receive these emails?