



THE BERKLEY BEACON

Town of Berkley
Council on Aging
1 North Main Street
Berkley, MA 02779

Our Offerings

Aerobics
Tai Chi
Quilting
BINGO
Yoga
Chair Yoga
Mah Jong
Body in Motion
Painting & Crafts
Coffee Talk
Presentations

Individual Highlights

1. Announcements
2. Painting
2. True Crimes
2. Library Presentation
3. Library News
3. Open Enrollment
3. Grab and Go
4. Calendar
5. Early Voting
5. SINGO
5. Happy Hearts
5. Reminders
6. Friends
7. Historical Society



October



MISSION STATEMENT

To promote and support Berkley seniors to stay safe and active, participate in programs, enjoy life, and stay in their own homes for as long as possible.

Special Event!

**The Friends of the Berkley Council on Aging
Lunch Honoring Our Veterans**

November 4, 2026 at 11:30
\$5.00*

Join the Friends of the Berkley Council on Aging for a lunch to honor our veterans. Lunch will include lasagna, salad, dessert, bread, and a soft drink.

****Berkley Veterans and Their Spouses Will Be Free***

***Registration begins 09/29/26 for Veterans and their spouses.
Registration for nonveterans begins 10/05/26.***

Space is Limited!
Registration Required (508) 821-3105

Watercolor Fall Painting

Thursday, October 15th at 9:00 a.m.

Welcome fall with watercolor. In this class, you will create a beautiful autumn landscape featuring birch trees surrounded by warm fall colors.



\$10
Berkley Residents

\$20
Out-of-Town
Guests

Robyn Q. Franczyk has been teaching watercolor for the past 30 years. She teaches step-by-step to all her students, both beginners and advanced. Come join in on the fun. Whether you are new to painting or have years of experience, this class is for you!

Registration Required (508) 821-3105

True Crimes of Bristol County

**Wednesday, December 9th
12:30**

Uncover real cases from Bristol County's past, where shocking crimes and courtroom drama reveal the darker side of local history. This edition of True Crimes covers cases involving women in or around Bristol County, and the crimes associated with them.

Jane K. Dugan, Education and Program Manager at the Old Colony History Museum, will lead this fascinating look into the people, cases, and stories behind these local crimes.

**Space is Limited! Registration Required.
(508) 821-3105**

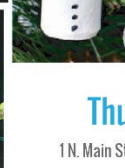
ARTS & CRAFTS

with Amy

CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT Workshop



Make multiple ornaments using various materials.
Keep them for yourself or give as gifts!



at the Berkley Senior Center

Thursday, November 19 at 2:45 p.m.

1 N. Main St. Berkley 508-821-3105

RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!

\$10 for Berkley Residents
(\$20 for Out-Of-Town Guests)
includes all supplies & instruction

Beyond Books: Discover Your Public Library

**Wednesday, October 28th
1:30**

Are you wondering what your public library can provide for you and members of your family?

Carol Buote, the Director from our very own Berkley Public Library will do a presentation on library services! She will also talk about hotspots for portable internet access and how to use them. And she will talk about how to use the Libby app for FREE eBooks and audiobooks.

Registration Required (508) 821-3105



MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT

October 15 – December 7



The Berkley Council on Aging's Outreach Coordinator is SHINE certified and offers one-on-one, unbiased guidance with:

- Understanding costs and coverage
- Comparing Medicare options
- Completing the enrollment process

Please call **beginning October 8** to schedule your Medicare Open Enrollment SHINE appointment.

508-821-3105

GET HELP PAYING MEDICARE COSTS

Medicare Savings Programs (MSPs) may help pay Medicare premiums and other out-of-pocket costs. Depending on your income, an MSP may also lower your prescription costs. MSPs are not insurance plans.

WHO QUALIFIES?

2026 monthly income at or below:

Single:	\$2,993 per month
Married:	\$4,058 per month

THERE IS NO ASSET LIMIT.

Income limits change each year on March 1.

October at the Berkley Public Library

Who loves arts & crafts? Come join our "Knot Just Knitting" fiber arts group, which meets every 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Thursday of the month from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. Bring your latest knit, crochet, or handicraft project to work on as we share tips, patterns, and conversation. All levels of skill are welcome and registration is not required. We also have yarn, hooks, and needles available if you need some supplies to start.

If you're looking to learn a new craft, come check out some of our instructional books for sewing, painting, carpentry, knitting, crocheting, embroidering, and so *much more*! If we don't have the book you're looking for in our library, we will find it in our network for you!

berpl@sailsinc.org
(508) 822-3329

www.berkeleylibrary.org

Grab and Go Lunches at the COA!

Do you have questions? We have answers!

What is the Grab & Go Lunch Program?

Bristol Aging and Wellness provides freshly prepared take home lunches that you can pick up at the Berkley Senior Center every Wednesday between 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Who is eligible?

Any Berkley resident aged 60+ is welcome. There are no income restrictions or requirements.

What is the fee?

There is no fee. A suggested voluntary donation of \$2.25 per meal is helpful but never required.

Do I have to commit to every week?

Not at all! You choose the weeks you would like a meal. The program is flexible.

How do I sign up?

It is easy! Contact the COA and we will give you a simple registration form. We look forward to assisting you.

Join Today!



October

ACTIVITIES & MEETING SCHEDULE



IMPORTANT REMINDERS

AEROBICS – Daily at 8 a.m. on Channel 95 & 96

TAI CHI – Classes held offsite at 3 Grove Street, Berkley.

BINGO – Oct. 7th & Singo Oct. 21st

MOBILE MARKET – Oct. 28th

HAPPY HEARTS – Thursdays at 12:30

FRIENDS OF COA – Oct. 7th & Oct. 28th

COA Meeting – Oct. 22nd at 9:30 (Subject to change)

Events in BOLD require prior registration.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
			1
			Podiatry by Appointment 10:30 Tai Chi 12:30 Happy Hearts
5	6	7	8
9:00 Italian 11:30 Aerobics 12:30 Coffee Talk 12:30 Mah Jong 1:30 Chair Yoga	8:45 Yoga 10:15 Body in Motion 10:30 Tai Chi 11:30 Quilting	10:15 Friends Meeting 10:30 Grab n Go 12:30 BINGO	12:30 Happy Hearts
12	13	14	15
Closed Holiday	8:45 Yoga 10:15 Body in Motion 10:30 Tai Chi 11:30 Quilting	10:30 Grab n Go 11:30 Friend's Lunch	9:00 Watercolor Painting 10:30 Tai Ch 12:30 Happy Hearts
19	20	21	22
9:00 Italian 11:30 Aerobics 12:30 Coffee Talk 12:30 Mah Jong 1:30 Chair Yoga	8:45 Yoga 10:15 Body in Motion 10:30 Tai Chi 11:30 Quilting	10:30 Grab n Go 12:30 SINGO!	9:30 COA Meeting 10:30 Tai Chi 12:30 Happy Hearts
26	27	28	29
9:00 Italian 11:30 Aerobics 12:30 Coffee Talk 12:30 Mah Jong 1:30 Chair Yoga	8:45 Yoga 10:15 Body in Motion 10:30 Tai Chi 11:30 Quilting	10:00 Mobile Market 10:15 Annual Friends Meeting 10:00 Blood Pressure Clinic 10:30 Grab n Go 1:30 Discover Your Library	10:30 Tai Chi 12:30 Happy Hearts

Early Voting



For the November 3rd State Election



Saturday October 17th & October 24th 8AM-2PM

**October 19th – October 22nd
Monday - Thursday from 9:30AM- 2:30PM
Wednesday 9:30AM-6:30PM**

**October 26th – October 29th
Monday - Thursday from 9:30AM – 2:30PM
Wednesday 9:30AM-6:30PM**

**Berkley Town Hall
Moitoza – Pettey Hearing Room
1 North Main Street, Berkley MA**

Halloween Candy Drive

The Council on Aging will once again be participating in the town's Trick-or-Treat Halloween event. We are asking for candy donations which may be dropped off at the COA through October 26th.



The Happy Hearts Senior Club



The Happy Hearts participated in the annual Friends of the Council on Aging Craft Fair! It was wonderful to see them there as part of this community event.

Community Safety and Narcan

Monday, Nov. 9th at 6:00 p.m. in the COA

Come join us as we welcome our community partners from the Berkley Police Department and the Public Health Nurse for an informative discussion about Narcan and its uses. Free Narcan will be available. All ages are welcome. Registration is requested.

Reminder: Podiatry Appointments in the COA

With Dr. Smith
October 1st
9:00 – 11:00
Appointment Required

Reminder: Friends Breakfast for Lunch

October 14th
11:30

Waitlist Only

SINGO!

**Wednesday, October 21st
12:30**

Bingo with a beat. Instead of calling out letters and numbers the DJ will call out singers and songs. Come on in and test your musical knowledge and luck. Have some fun and win some prizes. This one-hour event will replace our regularly scheduled Bingo for this date. While sign up is not required for Bingo, we are requesting that you sign-up for this special Singo session.

Registration Required.

A Special Thank You

The Friends of the Council on Aging would like to thank everyone who helped make our annual craft fair a success! Thank you to our vendors, volunteers, and everyone who came out to support the event. We appreciate you all!



FRIENDS OF BERKLEY COA

SAVE THE DATES

For questions related to trips, please contact Roberta Poli at 508 208 1634 robertabeth@verizon.net

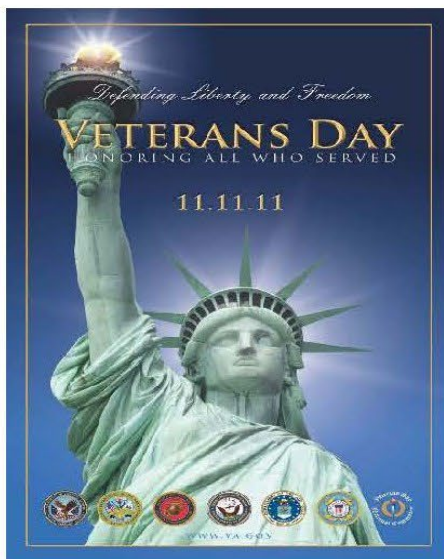
The Friends of the Berkley COA will host our lunches in the activity room from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sign up early! Space is limited! Eat in only. There will not be an option for takeout.

Upcoming Lunches:

October 14th
Breakfast for lunch
(Waitlist Only)

November 4th
Lasagna

To all who have worn the uniform and serve our great nation. Your courage, sacrifices, and dedication, to duty that have kept us safe and protected our most cherished freedoms. We honor you today and every day.



December 8, 2026 Holiday Classic with The Cartels

(bus trip)

Aqua Turf Club in CT.

**Cost is \$125 per person
due with sign up.**

Sing-along with The Glamor Girls, Santa & Mrs. Claus!

Registration starts 08/05 and ends 10/27 or when full. Seat is not guaranteed until payment is made.



Huge thanks to everyone who made our trip to Pennsylvania so special.

Please make checks payable to Friends of Berkley COA and in the memo of the check please write the event you are paying for.



October 7, 2026
10:15
Friends Meeting

October 28, 2026
10:15
Rescheduled
Friends Annual Meeting

Board members:

President – Roberta Poli

Treasurer – Elisabeth Monkowski

Secretary - Rose Thomas

Vice President – Jeanne Plunkett

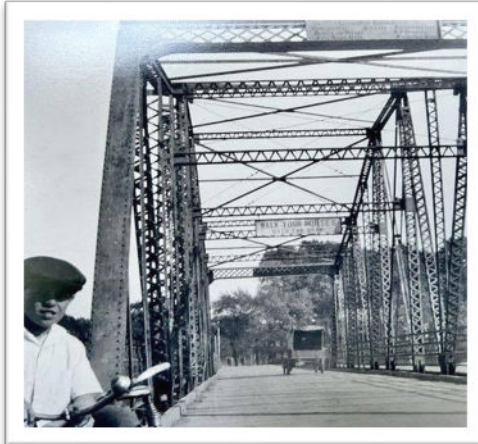
Director – Jackie Arnoe

Director – Virginia Bryan

Director – Kathy Medeiros

MOMENTS FROM THE MUSEUM

The Berkley -Dighton Bridge: A Glimpse into Berkley's History



This is a vintage photo of the Berkley Dighton bridge that preceded the current bridge. It was built in 1896 and was a swing bridge. This means that when a tall-masted ship was coming up the Taunton River toward the Weir section of Taunton, the ship's crew needed to signal the bridge tender to swing open the bridge to make it parallel to the shoreline so the ship could sail through.

Originally, the bridge tender would manually open the bridge. Later, it was opened mechanically. If you look closely at this photo, you can see a horse-drawn vehicle crossing the bridge. Right above it is a sign secured to the ironwork that says 'Walk your horse over the draw'. Closer to the photographer is one of the iron signs. The names of the superstructure builders are included: Beattie and Wilcox of Fall River, MA and R.F. Hawkins of Springfield, MA. Today, both Berkley and Dighton have one of these signs on display in a small park near the end of the bridge in each town.

All are invited to visit the Berkley Historical Museum on Tuesday between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. It is located at 2 No. Main Street in Berkley MA in the Old Town Hall building across the street from the Public Safety Building. There is so much to see in the Museum! We look forward to seeing you!

Eden Jones

Discover the History of Myricks

**Tuesday, November 17, 2026
2:00 p.m.**

Please join us as Myricks historian Elwell H. Perry Jr. presents the history of Myricks. 1635 - 2025.

From its earliest beginnings as a 17th-century farming settlement through its storied 19th-century railroad history, the hamlet of Myricks has always been an interesting and vibrant community. Highlights will include historic photos from the Berkley Historical Society Archives, stories, folklore and maybe a railroad song or two.

Registration Required (508) 821-3105

This program will be held at the COA

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THE BERKLEY CULTURAL COUNCIL

announces the deadline to file FY 2027 grant applications
for funding of programs related to the arts, humanities
and interpretive sciences is:

OCTOBER 15, 2026

Online applications available September 1
NOTE: ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED ONLINE

Application process and guidelines can be found at:
[https://massculturalcouncil.org/
communities/local-cultural-council-program/
application-process/](https://massculturalcouncil.org/communities/local-cultural-council-program/application-process/)

For additional information contact:
berkleyculturalcouncil@gmail.com

Find us on  for information about what we do:
[https://facebook.com/
berkleyculturalcouncilma/](https://facebook.com/berkleyculturalcouncilma/)

This council is funded by the  Mass
Cultural
Council

CURRENT RESIDENT OR

**NOT YOU?
PLEASE CALL
508-821-3105**



STAFF

Krista Celia, Director
Lorraine Moniz, Outreach Coordinator

Kcelia@berkleyma.gov
Lmoniz@berkleyma.gov

BOARD MEMBERS

Margaret Clark-Moroff, Chair Carol Buote Cathy Charette Arlene Medeiros Kathleen Strozyk

SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook: Berkley Council on Aging
Website: townofberkleyma.gov/COA

COUNCIL ON AGING HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday – Thursday: 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Friday: CLOSED

NEWSLETTER REMINDER

To help us reduce printing costs and support a greener community, we encourage you to read our newsletter online whenever possible. If you would like to stop receiving the printed version or will be away from your residence temporarily, please call us to be removed from the mailing list. The digital edition is available each month on our website.

The distribution of this newsletter is made possible by a grant from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Aging and Independence.