



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
Cards/Board Games
Body in Motion
Painting & Crafts
Coffee Talk
Presentations

Individual Highlights

1. Announcements
2. Painting
2. Fall Planter
2. Mosquito Control
3. Medicare Changes
3. Library News
3. A/C Drive
3. Farmers Mkt. Coupons
4. Calendar
5. Happy Hearts
5. Battery Safety
5. Singo
5. Tech Talk
5. Henry Ford
5. Narcan Training
6. Friends
7. Historical Society

August



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!

August 20th at 11:30

Free Senior Ice Cream Social

Join the Friends of Berkley Council on Aging for an Ice Cream Social for seniors in the COA.

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

Special Event!

Scam Prevention

With District Attorney, Thomas Quinn III

Wednesday, October 8 at 12:00

Bristol County District Attorney, Thomas Quinn will visit the Berkley Council on Aging to talk about Scam Prevention. He will also answer questions from the community.

We will follow up this visit with a free sandwich lunch in our senior center.

Space is limited and prior registration is required.

Please call (508) 821 -3105 or visit the senior center to sign up.

CALL THE COA WITH ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS @ (508) 821-3105

ARTS & CRAFTS

Create your own *with Amy*

PICKET FENCE SCARECROW, WITCH, GHOST & MORE!

A festive Fall accent for your front porch or yard or inside your home!
Stick it in a flowerpot or near your mailbox or hang it on your front door!



Thursday, September 11th at 2:45 p.m.
at the Berkley Senior Center

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

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

RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!

Watercolor Painting

Try something new!

Thursday, August 7th at 9:00 a.m.



\$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 of her students, both beginners as well as advanced. This month's project is a classic New England lighthouse. 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

Fall Planter Workshop



Thursday, September 18th
9:30 – 10:30

\$5 Berkley Residents
\$10 Out-Of-Town Guests

Please join us as we welcome Sue from the Berkley Garden Club! Sue will be leading a fall arrangement workshop that will be focused on propagation and division as an economical way to create an endless array of decorative containers. You will be creating and going home with a 9-inch container with 5 plants, mostly perennial. Hope you can join the fun; all you need to bring is gloves and a smile.

Space is Limited! Registration Required.
Please call (508) 821-3105 or visit the senior center to sign up.

Mosquito Control Presentation

Wednesday, September 17th
1:00

Mosquito bites can make you feel sick. Please join us for an interactive presentation by Bristol County Mosquito Control Project Superintendent, Priscilla Matton. We will learn how the Bristol County Mosquito Control Project helps protect you, way to control mosquitoes, and personal protective measures.



Registration Required.
Please call (508) 821-3105 or visit the senior center to sign up.

MEDICARE CHANGES

Effective May 1, 2024 Medicare Savings Programs will no longer consider assets when determining eligibility, only income will be considered.

MSPs are programs that pay for some or all of Medicare beneficiaries' premiums, deductibles, copays, and coinsurance.

MSPs are not insurance plans. They are programs designed to help lower the costs of your Medicare insurance coverage. They are always combined with Medicare.

QUALIFYING for a Medicare Savings Program (MSP)

How do I get an MSP?

You may be able to get an MSP only, or to get both an MSP and Masshealth. To get an MSP, you must have countable income under the income limits in the table.

If you are	And your monthly income is*	You may be able to get
Single	Below \$2,478	Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB)
	Between \$2,478 and \$2,935	Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary/Qualifying Individual (SLMB/QI)
A Married Couple	Below \$3,349	Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB)
	Between \$3,349 and \$3,966	Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary/Qualifying Individual (SLMB/QI)

Do these changes affect you? If you think you may qualify, contact the Berkley Council on Aging. A SHINE counselor from another community will be available by appointment to assist with these changes.

A/C Drive for Berkley Seniors

The Town of Berkley launched a summer pilot program to provide window air conditioners to seniors who need help staying cool.

Eligibility & Process – Open to Berkley senior residents only, first come, first served, police and fire/EMS will install, recipient names/address will remain confidential.

Donated A/C units should be 5 years old or newer.

To request a donated unit please email

JVincentbos@berkleyma.us or contact the COA at (508)821-3105

Farmers Market Coupons

A limited number of Farmers Market Coupons have arrived and are available on a first come first serve basis. Please call the COA for an appointment. You must be at least 60 years old and a Berkley resident with an annual income of no more than \$28,953 (Household Size 1) or \$39,128 (Household Size 2). A full Household size chart is available.

Flag Disposal

Flags that you would like to properly dispose of may be placed in the Flag Mailbox on Transfer Station Road next to the Town Hall.

August at the Berkley Public Library!

Our adult summer reading program finishes up on August 9th. Be sure to turn in your filled in brochure by August 16th to get raffle tickets towards one of our three great prize baskets! You don't have to finish all of the challenges. Finishing just 2 challenges will get you a raffle ticket. Finish more for more raffle tickets! Come to one of our ongoing adult events. We have a Knot Just Knitting group, Adult Color, a book club, and virtual trivia.

Did you know that you can get a Boston Public Library e-card? They are available to all residents of Massachusetts. Then you can use all of their fantastic resources. To get an ecard go to <https://www.bpl.org/ecard/>.

Attention:

The Friends are currently seeking new friends! Ask us for more information about joining or visit the link on our website to learn more about what the Friends of the Berkley Library provide. Meetings are the 4th Wednesday of the month at 6:30 in the library!

berpl@sailsinc.org
508-822-3329
www.berkleylibrary.org

August

ACTIVITIES & MEETING SCHEDULE



IMPORTANT REMINDERS

AEROBICS – Daily at 8 a.m. on Channel 9

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

BINGO – August 6th Only

BROWN BAG – 4th Wednesday of the month. Call for details!

HAPPY HEARTS – Thursdays at 12:30

FRIENDS OF COA – Aug. 6th & Aug. 20th at 10:15

COA Meeting – Aug. 14th at 9:15 (Subject to change)

Events in BOLD require prior registration

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
4	5	6	7
9:00 Italian 11:30 Aerobics 12:30 Coffee Talk 11:30 Mah Jong 1:30 Chair Yoga 6:30 Narcan Training	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	9:00 Watercolor Painting 10:30 Tai Chi 12:30 Happy Hearts
11	12	13	14
9:00 Italian 11:30 Aerobics 12:30 Coffee Talk 11:30 Mah Jong 1:30 Chair Yoga 4:00 The Beat Generation	8:45 Yoga 10:15 Body in Motion 10:30 Tai Chi 11:30 Quilting	9:15 Spirit of Boston 10 :30 Grab n Go	9:15 COA Meeting 10:30 Tai Chi 12:30 Happy Hearts
18	19	20	21
9:00 Italian 11:30 Aerobics 12:30 Coffee Talk 11:30 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 11:30 Ice Cream Social BINGO CANCELED	10:00 Lithium Battery Safety 10:30 Tai Chi 12:30 Happy Hearts
25	26	27	28
9:00 Italian 11:30 Aerobics 12:30 Coffee Talk 11:30 Mah Jong 1:30 Chair Yoga	8:45 Yoga 10:15 Body in Motion Canceled 10:30 Tai Chi 11:30 Quilting 3:00 Tech Talk	10:00 Brown Bag 10:00 Blood Pressure Clinic 10 :30 Grab n Go 1:00 Ford Program	10:30 Tai Chi Happy Hearts Offsite

Important Reminder

If you have signed up for an event and can no longer attend, please contact the COA in advance to cancel your registration. Our art instructors purchase materials based on our registration list. Many of our lunches often have a waitlist and advance notice allows us to offer spots to others.

Happy Hearts



Enjoying Lunch at Chamberlain Farm and Pavilion.

SINGO!
Wednesday, Sept. 3rd
12:30

Bingo with a beat. Instead of calling out letters and numbers the DJ calls 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.

Lithium Battery Safety

Thursday, August 21st
10:00

Lithium-ion battery fires are becoming a growing concern as the use of these batteries increases. Join Firefighter/EMT Liza Amaral as she teaches us all about Lithium batteries. Learn about their uses, potential dangers, and safety measures that you can take to keep your home safe!

Registration Required. Please call (508) 821-3105 or visit the senior center to sign up.

Tech Talk with Kevin
iPhone Tips and Tricks

Tuesday, August 26th at 3:00

If you own an iPhone and want to learn about some "new-to-you" practical and fun features that you may not know about, this session is for you! You will be guided through how to set up or access these features on your phone, and you will see interactive demonstrations of them in action. Bring your device.

Led by Kevin J. Garganta a retired college professor. Kevin proudly states "I'm NOT a tech expert at all...I'm just you with a little more experience.



Sign up required
(508) 821 - 3105

Narcan Training

Monday, Aug. 4th
6:30

Free event put on by the Berkley Police Department and the COA. All ages are welcome. College students are encouraged. Free Narcan to take home. There is no prior signup for the Narcan Training.

Podiatry

Thursday, Sept. 11th
Call for an appointment.

The Life and Times of Henry Ford

Wednesday, August 27th
1:00 – 2:00

Learn the impact that Henry Ford had on the automobile industry, and how he improved the lifestyle of so many. Also, learn how his connections to Massachusetts left us with many treasures that we still enjoy today. We will have two examples of early Ford vehicles on site for your viewing pleasure, weather permitting. This event was scheduled with our Men's Group in mind but is open to all seniors!

Presented by Tim Adams, Bruce Newcomb, and Karen Kullas.
Sign up Requested

Special Event!
August 11th
4:00 – 6:00

The Beat Generation

This event is at capacity. If you can no longer attend, please contact the COA.

Myrtle Beach Info. Session

Are you coming with us to Myrtle Beach? Please attend our information session to find out what you need to know before the trip.

Tuesday, Sept. 9th
12:30

FRIENDS OF BERKLEY COA

SAVE THE DATES

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

Please ensure your name and the name of your trip or event are on the check or any other form of payment.



August 13, 2025.
Spirit of Boston Lunch Cruise.

The cost is \$135 per person, which includes the cruise, lunch, taxes, tip, driver tip, and the bus. Waitlist Only.



August 20, 2025
Ice Cream Social in the COA.
11:30 – 1:30
Registration Required.



September 10, 2025
The Edwards Twins
at Lake Pearl in Wrentham.
This is a self-drive event.
Limited space.
\$95.00 per person.

Payment is due at sign up.
Menu: house salad, baked stuffed chicken with apple raisin stuffing, seasonal vegetables, and red velvet cake. Option for vegetable pasta primavera.
Reservations accepted through July 31, 2025 or until full.



September 13, 2025
Annual Craft Fair
For a registration form please contact Elisabeth Monkowski at (508) 822-7597 or by e-mail elisabethv70@comcast.net or pick one up at the COA.



September 21 – 27, 2025
Myrtle Beach Show Trip
Cost: \$950 per person (double occupancy) or \$1,199 (single occupancy)
Insurance is available online. Waitlist Only.
Make checks to: The Friends of Berkley COA.



October 22, 2025
Olivia Newton-John Tribute
Venus De Milo. Self-drive.
PAYMENT IS DUE WITH SIGN UP.

December 2, 2025.
Tony Bennett & Barbra Streisand Tribute
Lake Pearl.



MOMENTS FROM THE MUSEUM

Covered Bridges of Massachusetts

Did you know...?

Massachusetts at one time had over 100 covered bridges dating back to the early 1700s. Today, only a handful remain. Once a common sight, many bridges have been lost to time, weather, and replaced with more modern structures or destroyed by weather. Some of the surviving covered bridges are historic, while others are 20th-century replicas designed to preserve the architectural heritage. This website provides information including locations and sizes of the covered bridges.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_covered_bridges_in_Massachusetts

Covered bridges were initially built to protect the wooden structure from the elements (rain and snow) which would cause them to rot and decay. Covering the bridges also helped to preserve the intricate framework and wooden trusses, significantly extending their lifespan. In addition to their practical function, covered bridges also served as community gathering places and even inspired local storytelling. Uncovered wooden bridges had a shorter lifespan of approximately 20 years.

Pictured below are 3 of Massachusetts 12 covered bridges that are still standing.



Pepperell Covered Bridge, Pepperell



Arthur A. Smith Bridge, Colrain



Bissell Bridge, Charlemont

Come visit the Berkley Historical Museum on Tuesdays from 10 am to 1 pm and see local history on display.

2 No. Main St. Berkley, MA (across from the Safety Building)

We look forward to seeing you!

Submitted by Eden Jones, Berkley Historical Society

Shine

Free Health Insurance Information, Counseling, & Assistance for People with Medicare. Please call to speak with a Certified Shine Counselor. Most appointments are completed over the phone.

(774) 203 -1910

COUNCIL ON AGING
TOWN OF BERKLEY
1 NORTH MAIN STREET
BERKLEY, MA 02779

DO NOT FORWARD

PRESORTED STANDARD

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

TAUNTON, MA

PERMIT # 73



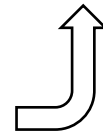
Concert on the Common August 21 - 6PM to 8PM

featuring
Emily Nawrocki

Funded in part by the  Mass Cultural Council

CURRENT RESIDENT OR

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



STAFF

Krista Celia, Director

Coassistant@berkleyma.us

BOARD MEMBERS

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

SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook: Berkley Council on Aging
Website: TownOfBerkleyMA.com/council-aging

COUNCIL ON AGING HOURS OF OPERATION

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

NEWSLETTER REMINDER

To help us save on the printing costs of our newsletters, please call us if you would like to be removed from our mailing list or if you will be temporarily away from your residence.

Beat the Heat

Do you need a place to cool down this summer? The COA is open Monday – Thursday from 9:00 – 2:30. If you are experiencing a heat emergency, please contact 911 or your local emergency services.

The distribution of this newsletter is made possible by a grant from the Massachusetts Office of Elder Affairs.