



BERKLEY COUNCIL ON AGING NEWSLETTER JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2016

BOARD MEMBERS: Chair- Gerry Durette, Vice Chair - Mary Silva, Treasurer- Carolyn Peloquin, Programs-Priscilla Martin, Outreach Coordinator- Donna Benoit, and Member-Robert Sullivan. Currently we have one vacancy we are looking to fill. Anyone interested should contact Gerry Durette at 508-813-6418.

Mission Statement

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

COA Board Meeting: The meetings for the next two months are scheduled for 1PM on January 8 and February 12 at the **Berkley Senior Center**. The agenda for each meeting is posted in the Town Hall 48 hours before each meeting. For additional information on the COA meetings please call our office @ 508-821-3105. Anyone interested in COA is welcome to attend.

COA Events

Aerobics: Mondays and Fridays at the **Berkley Senior Center** at 8:15 AM: Note: Due to holidays there will be **no Aerobic** classes on **January 1 & 18 and February 15**.

Yoga: Tuesdays at the **Berkley Senior Center** at 9:00 AM.

Line Dancing: Please plan on joining our group of Line Dancers every Wednesday at 10 AM at the **Berkley Senior Center**.

Reminder Please stay tuned to your television or radio station for Weather Alerts and Cancellations.

Food Distribution & Health Clinic : The Food Distribution for the month of January will be on **January 22** and for February will be **February 26** from 9:00AM - 10:00AM at the **Berkley Senior Center**. Also, if the recipient is physically impaired and cannot pick up their Brown Bag they can have a designated family member or friend pick it up for them.

Important Phone Numbers

**FIRE/ POLICE
MEDICAL
911**

**Berkley
Council on Aging**
Hours: Mon. thru Fri.
9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
(508) 821-3105
berkeleycoa2013@aol.com

Bristol Elder Services
(508) 675-2101

**Attorney General's
Elder Hotline**
(10-5) M-F (888) 243-5337

Citizens for Citizens
(508) 823-6346

Fuel assistance
(508) 679-0041

**Food/Rent/Mortgage
Assistance**
(508) 823-6346

Veterans Services
Donald Hirschy
(508) 669-5027

SHINE
Needs of Elders
1-800-987-2510

MA Council on Aging
www.mcoaonline.com

COA Events—Continued

Bingo will be on Tuesday, **January 12 & 26 and February 9 & 23** at 1:00 PM at the **Berkley Senior Center**. Meet your friends, share your interests and have fun! It's a great way to spend your day!

Podiatry Clinic: The next clinic will be held from 10AM - 4PM on Thursday, **February 11** at the **Berkley Senior Center**.

If you need more information or you would like to make an appointment, please call Leanne at (508) 822-9381.

Quilting Club: Starting in January 2016 the BCOA (Berkley Council on Aging) is offering seniors the opportunity to join the newly formed "**Quilting Club**". The club will be meeting on Fridays from 1 to 4 at the **Berkley Senior Center**. All skill levels are welcome.

To join the club and share the fun of quilting with other quilters please call the BCOA @ 508-821-3105 and register or just show up.

Upcoming COA Events

Home Safety for Older Adults: This program is being offered by Captain Franco of the Berkley Fire Department on **Thursday March 10th at 1:30 PM** at the **Berkley Senior Center**. Topics covered will be the cause and tips for prevention of electrical and cooking fires. Also covered will be the importance of house numbering.

To register for this presentation please call the BCOA @ 508-821-3105.



LUNCH AT THE SILVER PLATTER RESTAURANT
March 15 at 11:30 AM



The Berkley Council on Aging invites you to join us for lunch on **Tuesday, March 15 at 11:30 AM** at the **Silver Platter Restaurant at Bristol Plymouth High School**.

Chicken or Fish (your choice) will be served along with soup, dessert, and a beverage all for only \$7.50. The students prepare and serve the meals in a delightful atmosphere for your dining pleasure. You dine, they smile. Come join us for a fun and relaxing day!

Please make your reservation on or before **March 8** by calling the Council on Aging at (508) 821-3105

Other Community Activities

The Friends of the Berkley Council on Aging: Meetings are usually scheduled for the 1st Thursday of the month at 11:30 AM at the **Berkley Senior Center**.

This year the Friends have decided to take a winter break before starting to plan for next year's annual Craft Fair. The next scheduled meeting of the Friends of the Berkley Council on Aging will be in April 2016.

Please note that anyone of any age can join the Friends. For more information contact Jackie Arnoe at 508-822-9634.

"Happy Hearts" meet every week at the **Berkley Senior Center at 1 North Main Street** on Mondays at 1:30 p.m. New members are always welcome. If you are a senior and interested in joining this fun group, you can contact Roberta StYves @ 508-386-2047 for more information.

Berkley Public Library: In January the Library will be adding two genealogical databases, **Heritage Quest**, which will be available from your home computer, and **Ancestry.com** which will only be available from inside the Library. Please note you'll need a library card to access either of these programs.

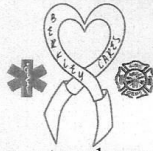
In conjunction with the Berkley Library offering of these free programs the Berkley Council on Aging is proud to host the presentation on **"Getting onto Genealogy"** presented by **Kathleen Rubano**, President of the Bristol County Chapter of the Massachusetts Society of Genealogists. This program will get you started growing your family tree and learn the basics of genealogical research.

Mark your calendars and plan on attending "Getting into Genealogy" on **January 26 at 7 PM at the Berkley Senior Center**. No registration is required just show up to learn how to discover your roots through the use of these free programs.

Ancestry and Heritage Quest**Meet your House and Senate State Representatives:**

State House Representative Keiko M Orrall will host office hours in Berkley to give constituents an opportunity to meet with her or a staff member and discuss current events and issues. Office hours will be held at the Berkley Town Office 1 North Main Street on the first Monday of each month from 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM. Rep Orrall's office may also be contacted at 617-722-2090 or Keiko.Orrall@mahouse.gov to schedule a personal appointment.

State Senate Representative Marc R. Pacheco will host office hours in Berkley to give constituents an opportunity to meet with him or a staff member and discuss current events and issues. Office hours will be held at the Berkley Town Office 1 North Main Street on the third Tuesday of each month from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Senator Pacheco's office may also be contacted at 617-722-1551, 508-822-3000 or Marc.Pacheco@masenate.gov to schedule a personal appointment.

Other Community Activities Continued**BERKLEY CARES**

Berkley Cares is an outreach program that works in cooperation with the Council on Aging and Berkley Fire/Rescue Department to assist the senior population in making their homes safer.

The Berkley Cares Program is a free service that provides seniors with at home well-being checks, and needs assessment for a variety of services. The home visit will include information on a medical identification program, trip prevention, heating safety, bathroom safety, cooking safety, blood pressure checks, and smoke and CO detector tests. The program can also help seniors with referral programs such as meals on wheels, food pantry, and information on transportation options.

To setup an appointment with the Berkley Cares Program, please fill out the attached form and return it to Berkley Cares, 5 North Main Street, Berkley or call Berkley Fire/Rescue Dept 508-822-7516.

Sincerely,
Chief Scott Fournier
Berkley Fire/Rescue

Emergency Management Agency Referral Form

Fill out this form if you would like Berkley Cares to visit your home or you need special help in the event of a natural disaster or significant power outages and have no one else who will be available to assist you.

Please check all that apply:

☐ I am in a wheelchair and do not have access to any means of transportation to leave the area in the event of a natural disaster (hurricane, etc)

☐ I have specialized electrical medical equipment (breathing tube, oxygen, etc.).

Specify type: _____

☐ Any other issue that may hinder you if you need to leave the area.

Please Specify _____


Name: _____ Email: _____



Address: _____

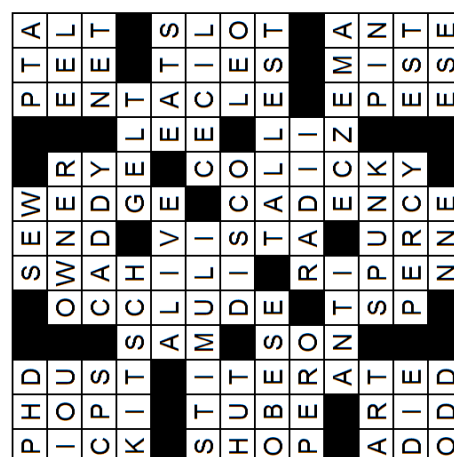
Phone Number: _____ Cell Phone _____

☐ Would you like Berkley Cares to come visit your home.

**Please mail to: Berkley Fire/Rescue Department
C/O Berkley Cares Program
5 North Main Street
Berkley, Ma 02779**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
January 2016				1—New Years Day No Aerobics
4 8:15 AM - Aerobics Senior Center	5 09:00 AM - Yoga Senior Center	6 10:00 AM - Line Dance Senior Center	7	8 8:15 AM - Aerobics _____ 1 to 4 PM—Quilting Club Senior Center
11 8:15 AM - Aerobics Senior Center	12 09:00 AM - Yoga _____ 1:00 PM—Bingo Senior Center	13 10:00 AM - Line Dance Senior Center	14	15 8:15 AM - Aerobics _____ 1 to 4 PM—Quilting Club Senior Center
18—Martin Luther King Day No Aerobics	19 09:00 AM - Yoga Senior Center	20 10:00 AM - Line Dance Senior Center	21	22 8:15 AM - Aerobics _____ 1 to 4 PM—Quilting Club Senior Center
25 8:15 AM - Aerobics Senior Center	26 09:00 AM - Yoga _____ 1:00 PM—Bingo _____ 7:00 PM Genealogy Presentation Senior Center	27 9:00—10:00 AM Food Distribution Health Clinic _____ 10:00 AM - Line Dance Senior Center	28	29 8:15 AM - Aerobics _____ 1 to 4 PM—Quilting Club Senior Center

Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
February 2016									
1	8:15 AM - Aerobics Senior Center	2	09:00 AM - Yoga Senior Center	3	10:00 AM - Line Dance Senior Center	4		5	8:15 AM - Aerobics <hr/> 1 to 4 PM—Quilting Club Senior Center
8	8:15 AM - Aerobics Senior Center	9	09:00 AM - Yoga <hr/> 1:00 PM—Bingo Senior Center	10	10:00 AM - Line Dance Senior Center	11	10 :00 AM Podiatry	12	8:15 AM - Aerobics <hr/> 1 to 4 PM—Quilting Club Senior Center
15—Presidents Day No Aerobics		16	09:00 AM - Yoga Senior Center	17	10:00 AM - Line Dance Senior Center	18		19	8:15 AM - Aerobics <hr/> 1 to 4 PM—Quilting Club Senior Center
22	8:15 AM - Aerobics Senior Center	23	09:00 AM - Yoga <hr/> 1:00 PM—Bingo Senior Center	24	9:00—10:00 AM Food Distribution Health Clinic <hr/> 10:00 AM - Line Dance Senior Center	25		26	8:15 AM - Aerobics <hr/> 1 to 4 PM—Quilting Club Senior Center
29	8:15 AM - Aerobics Senior Center								



ANSWERS

2	8	3	4	7	9	5	1	6
1	4	7	6	5	8	9	3	2
6	9	5	2	3	1	7	8	4
9	2	1	5	4	7	3	6	8
4	5	8	9	6	3	2	7	1
3	7	6	8	1	2	4	9	5
5	3	9	1	2	6	8	4	7
8	1	2	7	9	4	6	5	3
7	6	4	3	8	5	1	2	9

Council on Aging
1 North Main Street
Berkley, MA 02779

Return service requested

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S POSTAGE
PAID
TAUNTON
PERMIT NO. 73

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

Circuit Breaker Tax Refund

If you are age 65+ you can claim a refundable credit on Massachusetts State Tax for Real Estate taxes paid on residential property you own in Massachusetts and it is your principle residence or rent paid on a Massachusetts residential property that is your principle residence. Even if you normally don't file a tax return, you can file just for this refund. If the credit exceeds the amount of total income tax due, the excess is refunded without interest. Last year the maximum credit was \$1,070.

To Qualify for this program you must meet the following criteria:

- ♦ Your total income can't exceed \$57,000 if single, \$71,000 for head of household or \$85,000 for joint filers.
- ♦ The assessed value of your home can't exceed \$693,000.
- ♦ You must complete both Schedule CB worksheets and Schedule CB.

Important Note: If you claim married filing separate or receive a rent subsidy or rent from a landlord who is not required to pay real estate taxes or is the dependent of another taxpayer, you will not qualify for this program.

Last year only 41 tax payers in Berkley claimed this refund receiving an average refund of \$683 dollars. Talk to your tax adviser; you are entitled to this refund so why would you pass it up?