

# NEWSLETTER

JULY  
2025

## Contact Us

*Blackstone Senior Center*  
15 St. Paul Street  
Blackstone, MA 01504  
508-883-1500 x151

### SENIOR CENTER STAFF

*Gilda Centeno*  
Outreach Coordinator  
508-883-1500 x135  
GCenteno@townofblackstone.org

*Kim Coffey*  
Nutrition & Activities Coordinator  
kcoffey@townofblackstone.org  
508-883-1500 x 151

*Dennis Pimenta*  
Transportation Coordinator  
508-883-1500 x 133  
coatransport  
@townofblackstone.org

### Hours

Mondays: 8:30am-4:30pm  
Tuesdays: 8:30am-7:00pm  
Wednesdays: 8:30am-4:30pm  
Thursdays: 8:30am-4:30pm  
Fridays: 8:30am-Noon

## Highlights

- **New Road Trip Policy - Pg 3**
- **Lobster Fest! - Pg 4**
- **"Bite Lab" - Pg 8**
- **Blood Pressure Clinics & Medication Reviews - Pg 8**
- **Online Registration - Pg 18**

## Potluck Time!

We are pleased to announce that Potluck is on the menu again! Join us for a potluck lunch on Tuesday, July 1<sup>st</sup> and a potluck breakfast on Wednesday, July 16<sup>th</sup>.

The Dish Signup Sheet is posted in the Senior Center Dining Room. The oven & fridge will **NOT** be available for potluck use.



# Director's Desk

Dear Blackstone Seniors,

Happy summer! July is full of sunshine, fun, and a fantastic lineup of activities here at the Senior Center, and we couldn't be happier to enjoy it with all of you.

It's been a joy spending time with so many of you and hearing your stories, feedback, and excellent suggestions. One thing we heard loud and clear, you wanted potlucks back, and now they are! We're kicking things off with a Potluck Lunch on July 1st and a Potluck Breakfast on July 16th. If you're looking for ideas, my favorite breakfast is donuts, and my favorite lunch is tacos. Just saying...

There's plenty more to enjoy this month—from Beach Days and Mini Golf to Cupcake Decorating, Summer Radio Hour, and the always-popular Lobster Fest at Newport Playhouse. Whether you're dancing, crafting, singing, or just stopping in for a chat, there's something for everyone.

Let's make the most of these summer days together—sharing laughs, great food, and good company.

*Lauren Taylor &*

Assistant Town  
Administrator  
& Town Accountant

*Chad Lovett*

Town Administrator

## At a Glance

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# BCOA NEWS

JULY  
2025

## Soup to Nuts!

Join Police Chief Gregory Gilmore for lunch on Monday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, over a bowl of Chicken Noodle

**Reg Deadline July 7**

**Mon, July 14 Noon, \$2 Donation**

## Dog Days Cookout with the Animal Shelter!

We're having a cookout on Thursday, July 17<sup>th</sup> at noon, sponsored by Kevin and the Blackstone Regional Animal Shelter! Burgers, Dogs, Pasta Salad, and More! RSVP by July 11<sup>th</sup>. See Page 4 for more!



## Trip Policy

The Senior Center is implementing a new Road Trip Policy starting with the July trip to Lobster Fest at the Newport Play House. Seats on the road trip will be available on a first come, first serve basis, payments will be non-refundable, and registration will be open to Blackstone Residents only for the first week. Once the first week has passed, anyone will be welcome to register.

Please ensure you are registered with the Senior Center, with an updated address and accurate phone number on file if you wish to join us on a road trip.



# Trips & Events

July 2025

TUES  
**1**

## CUPCAKE DECORATING W/ LAUREN

Fun with Frosting!  
Join Lauren to decorate  
and then enjoy  
some sweet treats!

11 AM  
FREE  
RSVP BY JUNE 30

WED  
**2**



## TRAVEL BREAKFAST:

THE GARDEN OF MILFORD

Join us for a breakfast out!  
Please inform Transportation  
if you need to be picked up,  
OR if you will meet us at the  
restaurant. Thank you.

9:30 AM  
FREE + YOUR MEAL  
RSVP BY JUNE 25

MON  
**7**

## SAVERS FRAMINGHAM & OLIVE GARDEN!

Board the bus to adventure!  
Join us for two hours of  
secondhand shopping, and  
lunch afterwards.

9:00 AM  
\$5 BUS DONATION  
+ MEAL  
RSVP BY JUNE 30

TUES  
**8**



## BEACH DAY: ASHLAND STATE PARK

Pack a lunch and a beach chair,  
and enjoy the outdoors at this  
beautiful state park & sandy lake  
beach. Some unpaved walking.  
No trip if raining. Return by 2.

9:30 AM  
\$3  
RSVP BY  
JULY 1

FRI  
**11**

## MUSEUM OF WORK & CULTURE, WOONSOCKET

Learn the compelling story of  
immigrants who came to find  
a better life in mill towns  
along the Blackstone River

9:00 AM  
\$8 - LIMIT 12  
RSVP BY JULY 3

THURS  
**17**

## DOG DAYS COOKOUT SPONSORED BY THE ANIMAL SHELTER



Kevin's preparing a full  
Cookout lunch for us:  
Burgers, Dogs, Pasta Salad  
& More!

12 NOON  
FREE  
RSVP BY  
JULY 14

FRI  
**18**

## BEACH DAY:

ASHLAND STATE PARK

Pack a lunch and a beach chair,  
and enjoy the outdoors at this  
beautiful state park & sandy lake  
beach. Some unpaved walking.  
No trip if raining. Return by 2.

9:30 AM  
\$3  
RSVP BY  
JULY 11



MON  
**21**



## LOBSTERFEST:

AT THE NEWPORT PLAY HOUSE

Enjoy a great buffet, a funny  
play, and a fun-filled cabaret!  
1.25lb Lobster or Filet Mignon.  
Play is "It's Your Funeral"

9:15 AM  
\$65 / \$75  
LIMIT 24  
SEE PAGE 5

TUES  
**22**

**LUNCH & A MOVIE:  
PRINCESS BRIDE (1987) 1H38M ,PG**



A Kissing, Adventure,  
and Comedy Classic,  
with BLT's for lunch.

**12 NOON**

**\$2 DONATION  
RSVP BY JULY 15**

WED  
**23**

**NATIONAL HOT DOG DAY!**

Join us to celebrate National  
Hot Dog Day! We'll light the  
grill, you bring your appetite!



**12 NOON  
FREE  
RSVP BY  
JULY 21**

FRI  
**25**



**MYSTERY LUNCH:**

**HISTORIC NEW ENGLAND CHARM**

Come discover what's for lunch!

Please inform Transport if you need

to be picked up from home.

Salad \$10-20. Sandwich

\$20+. Mains \$20-\$30.

**10:15 AM**

**\$5 BUS DONATION  
+ MEAL**

**RSVP BY JULY 18**

MON  
**28**

**SUMMER RADIO HOUR**

**PAST OUR PRIME TIME PLAYERS**

Join us for an hour+ of old time  
fun at a live, radio-theater style

performance!



**1:00 PM  
FREE  
RSVP SUGGESTED  
BY JULY 25**

TUES  
**29**



**BIRTHDAY BASH:  
FATHER & SON PRODUCTIONS**

Join us for Chicken Parm

Subs, cake, ice cream, and

good music by

Father & Son Productions!

**12 NOON**

**\$5 DONATION**

**RSVP BY JUNE 23**

WED  
**30**



**MINI GOLF  
BUS TO ADVENTURE**

Hop the bus and join us for  
a round of mini-golf!

**Mini Golf \$12. Drink: \$2-3**

**Pizza Slice/Hot Dog: \$3**

**Ice Cream: \$3-5**

**No Trip in Bad Weather**

**11:30 AM  
\$5 BUS DONATION  
+ ACTIVITY & MEAL  
RSVP BY JULY 23**



**Lobsterfest!**

Registration for Lobster Fest will open for Blackstone Residents on Monday, June 30<sup>th</sup>. Registration for non-residents will open on Monday July 7<sup>th</sup>. Non-Refundable Trip cost is \$65 per resident, and \$75 per non-resident, payable to the BCOA by July 18<sup>th</sup>. Bus leaves the COA at 9:15 AM on Monday, July 21<sup>st</sup>.

Doors open at 10:45, Buffet at 11, Cabaret at 1, Play at 2. The play will be *It's Your Funeral*, a traditional farce.

Main course is your choice of one 1 ¼ lb boiled live lobster OR 1 filet mignon. Additional buffet offerings include mussels, corn on the cob, chicken, potatoes, clam chowder, salad, strawberry shortcake, coffee & tea service, and more!



# WEEKLY PROGRAMS

## MONDAY



### 9:00 AM ADV. LINE DANCE

Join nationally recognized  
Choreographer Steve Cavanaugh,  
and put your skills to the test!

### 10:00 AM GAME DAY

Bring a game or play one of ours,  
and join in some low-stakes fun!

### 1:00 PM POUND FITNESS

A rhythm and cardio workout you  
can't miss!

## TUESDAY



### 9:00 AM STRENGTH & STRETCH

An up beat strength building  
routine, with and without free  
weights (provided by COA).

### 10:00 AM CHAIR YOGA

A peaceful class following yoga  
principles. Seated or supported.

### 1:00 PM SENIOR SING ALONG

Join us to sing out loud! No  
auditions or experience necessary!

### 1:15 PM STRENGTH CIRCUIT

Jean Gillis, Milford COA fitness  
director, leads us on a circuit of  
the resistance training equipment.

## WEDNESDAY



### 9:30 AM COFFEE CLUB

Join us for a relaxed social hour to  
start your day.

### 9:30 AM TAP DANCE

Practice your moves and string the  
steps together with instructor Linda  
Olean for a beginner tap experience.

### 10:30 AM LINE DANCE

Join us to learn the steps for a full  
Line Dance with instructor Linda  
Olean.

### 11:30 AM MEDITATION

Journey to mindfulness and  
serenity via meditation. No  
experience necessary.

### 1:00 PM BINGO

1 board for 8 games is \$1. Daubers  
available to borrow. Calling starts at 1.

### 2:15 PM ZUMBA GOLD!

Just like good 'old Jane Fonda days:  
movement, motion, & coordination!

## THURSDAY



### 9:00 AM TAI CHI- BEGINNER

Learn the slow, flowing movements  
and mindfulness integral to Tai Chi.

### 9:30 AM CRIBBAGE CLUB

Boards available, play for bragging  
rights. We're happy to teach!

## THURSDAY CTD. ∨

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10:00 AM TAI CHI - INTERM.  
A more in-depth exploration of Tai Chi, for those more familiar with the forms.

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11:00 AM JOURNEY THROUGH  
Diane Westermen guides GRIEF us through the paths of grief - sharing our experiences and learning how to move forward.

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12:30 AM YARNWORKS  
Join our stitching crew for an afternoon of socializing and yarn work. We're happy to teach!

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1:00 PM THERAPY DOG VISIT  
Come visit with Sheamus McDoodle, certified Good Boy and therapy dog.

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1:15 PM AGING GRACEFULLY  
Diane Westermen helps us navigate the trials and joys of aging with grace and gratefulness.

## FRIDAY ∨

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10:00 AM MAHJONG  
We play a simplified Filipino style for bragging rights - We're happy to teach!

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1:00 PM PAINTING CLASS  
At the Artful Dodger studio down the street! \$25 per 6-week session. Next session starts June 6th!

## Blackstone Public Library Events:

Call the library  
to register  
(508) 883-1931

No Senior  
Book  
Club in  
July -  
See you  
in August!



Senior Crafty Corner  
At the Library  
Thursday, July 17  
1:00 - 3:00

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Library Quilting Club  
at the Library  
Thursday July 24  
1:00 - 4:00 PM

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Library Knitting Group  
at the Library  
Every Monday  
1:00 - 3:00 PM

# Meetings & Presentations

June 2025

THURS  
**3**

## COUNCIL ON AGING

### BOARD MEETING

COA Board meetings are public, and you are welcome to attend.

10:00 AM

FREE  
RSVP NOT REQUIRED

TUES  
**8**

## TRAVEL COMMITTEE:

### TRIP PLANNING

Join the committee, and help us brainstorm and plan our road trip and travel breakfast destinations.

10:00 AM

FREE  
RSVP NOT REQUIRED



THURS  
**10**

## "BITE LAB"

The Board of Health will present about Tick and Mosquito Bites

11:00 AM

FREE  
RSVP SUGGESTED  
BY JULY 9



MON  
**14**

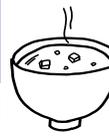
## SOUP TO NUTS

### POLICE CHIEF GREGORY GILMORE

Join Police Chief Gregory Gilmore for lunch on July 14th, over a bowl of Chicken Noodle soup.

12 NOON

\$2 DONATION  
RSVP BY JULY 7



TUES  
**15**

## FALL PREVENTION: AGING GRACEFULLY

Join an Injury Prevention Education Specialist from UMass Memorial Health for tips on remaining graceful.

10:30 AM

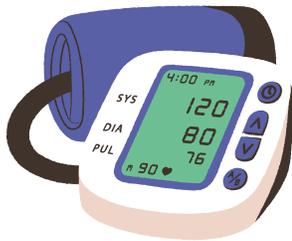


EVERY  
THURS

## SEAMUS MCDOODLE: THERAPY DOG

Come spend some time with Seamus, certified therapy dog and ambassador of the Blackstone Regional Animal Shelter.

1:00 PM



## BOARD OF HEALTH PRESENTS: BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC & MEDICATION REVIEW SESSIONS



THURS  
**3**

11:00 AM

WEDS  
**9**

11:00 AM

TUES  
**22**

11:00 AM

MON  
**28**

11:00 AM

A Nurse from the Blackstone Valley Partnership for Public Health will be available to take your blood pressure, and answer questions about your medications and how they may interact.

# THIS MONTH IS

## Anti-Boredom Month

Finding creative and healthy ways to beat boredom will improve our everyday lives! This July, Celebrate Anti-Boredom Month with a set of positive challenges to keep boredom at bay.

- **Play** - board games are an excellent boredom buster
- **Get Physical** - Exercise
- **Learn** - Take a class, visit a museum, or read a book
- **Clean** - Tackle the clutter, one small area at a time
- **Be Creative** - dance, sing, color, upcycle, create!
- **Volunteer** - helping others puts things into perspective
- **Get Social** - Visit a friend or neighbor for a conversation

## Cell Phone Courtesy Month

July is a time to evaluate our cellular habits, and consider others before reaching for our phone. Strive to bring polite phone usage back into style! Consider silencing them, or just sending calls to voicemail, when answering would be inappropriate.

## Independent Retailer Month

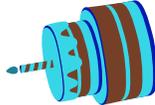
Celebrate Small Businesses this July, and look for opportunities to show your appreciation to the independent retailers in your area and the important role they play in the local economy. Shopping with an independent retailer does more than support a small business owner - it also builds the local economy, and creates sustainable communities.

# July

Please RSVP for lunch  
four business days  
in advance



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>30</b> 9: Adv Line Dance 10: Game Day 12: Birthday Lunch & Chris the Songwriter 1: Pound	<b>1</b> 9: Strength & Stretch 10: Chair Yoga 11: Cupcake Deco 12: Potluck Lunch! 1: Sing Along 1:15: Strength Circuit 	<b>2</b> 9:30: Travel Bkf 9:30: Tap Dance 10:30: Line Dance 11:30 Meditation 12: Salad w/ Egg Salad 1: BINGO 2:15: Zumba 	<b>3</b> 9: Tai Chi (Beg) 9:30: Cribbage 10: Tai Chi (Int) 11: Journey thru Grief 11: BP & Med Clinic <b>Closed at Noon</b>	<b>4</b> Closed for Independence Day 
<b>7</b> 9: Bus to Savers Framingham 9: Adv Line Dance 10: Game Day 1: Pound	<b>8</b> 9: Strength & Stretch 9:30: Beach Day 10: Chair Yoga 11: Travel Committee 12: Veggie Pizza 1: Sing Along 1:15: Strength Circuit	<b>9</b> 9:30: Coffee Club 9:30: Tap Dance 10:30: Line Dance 11: BP& Med Clinic 11:30: Meditation 12: Shepard's Pie 1: BINGO 2:15: Zumba 	<b>10</b> 9:00: Tai Chi (Beg) 9:30: Cribbage 10: Tai Chi (Int) 10: COA Board 11: "Bite Lab" (Eldridge) 11: Journey thru Grief 12: NA Piña Colada & Carnitas 12:30: Yarnworks 1: Therapy Dog 1:15: Aging Gracefully	<b>11</b> 9: Road Trip 10: Mahjong <b>Closed at Noon</b>
<b>14</b> 9: Adv Line Dance 10: Game Day 12: Soup to Nuts 1: Pound	<b>15</b> 9: Strength & Stretch 10: Chair Yoga 10:30: Fall Prevention 12: TKO: ½ Chicken Cordon Bleu Sub 1: Senior Sing Along 1:15: Strength Circuit	<b>16</b> 9:30: Potluck Breakfast 9:30: Tap Dance 10:30: Line Dance 11:30: Meditation 12: Salad w/ Ham Salad 1: BINGO 2:15: Zumba	<b>17</b>  9: Tai Chi (Beg) 9:30: Cribbage 10: Tai Chi (Int) 11: Journey thru Grief 12: Cookout: Burgers, Dogs, & More! <b>1: Yarnworks</b> 1: Therapy Dog 1:15: Aging Gracefully	<b>18</b> 9:30: Beach Day 10: Mahjong <b>Closed at Noon</b>

<p>9: Adv Line Dance 9:15: LobsterFest! 10: Pop up Pantry 10: Game Day  1: Pound</p>	<p><b>21</b></p>	<p>9: Strength &amp; Stretch 10: Chair Yoga 11: BP &amp; Med Clinic 12: Dinner &amp; Movie: BLT &amp; Princess Bride 1: Senior Sing Along 1:15: Strength Circuit </p>	<p><b>22</b></p>	<p>9:30: Coffee Club 9:30: Tap Dance 10:30: Line Dance 11:30: Meditation 12: Lunch: National Hot Dog Day! 1: BINGO 2:15: Zumba </p>	<p>9: Tai Chi (Beg) 9:30: Cribbage 10: Tai Chi (Int) 11: Journey thru Grief 12: Antipasto Salad 12:30: Yarnworks 1: Therapy Dog 1:15: Aging Gracefully</p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p>9: Tai Chi (Beg) 9:30: Cribbage 10: Tai Chi (Int) 11: Journey thru Grief 12: BBQ Chicken &amp; Potato Salad 12:30: Yarnworks 1: Therapy Dog 1:15: Aging Gracefully</p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p>9:30: Coffee Club 9:30: Tap Dance 10:30: Line Dance 11:30: Meditation 11:30: Mini Golf Trip 12: Dynamite Sub 1: BINGO 2:15: Zumba</p>	<p>9: Adv Line Dance 10: Game Day 11: BP &amp; Med Clinic 1: Radio Hour  1: Pound</p>	<p><b>28</b></p>	<p>9: Strength &amp; Stretch 10: Chair Yoga 12: Birthday Bash! 1: Senior Sing Along 1:15: Strength Circuit </p>	<p><b>29</b></p>	<p>9: Tai Chi (Beg) 9:30: Cribbage 10: Tai Chi (Int) 11: Journey thru Grief 12: BBQ Chicken &amp; Potato Salad 12:30: Yarnworks 1: Therapy Dog 1:15: Aging Gracefully</p>	<p>9: Tai Chi (Beg) 9:30: Cribbage 10: Tai Chi (Int) 11: Journey thru Grief 12: Antipasto Salad 12:30: Yarnworks 1: Therapy Dog 1:15: Aging Gracefully</p>	<p><b>31</b></p>	<p>9: Tai Chi (Beg) 9:30: Cribbage 10: Tai Chi (Int) 11: Journey thru Grief 12: BBQ Chicken &amp; Potato Salad 12:30: Yarnworks 1: Therapy Dog 1:15: Aging Gracefully</p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p>Travel Breakfast</p>	<p>10: Mahjong 10:15: Mystery Lunch  Closed at Noon</p>	<p><b>25</b></p>	<p>9: Tai Chi (Beg) 9:30: Cribbage 10: Tai Chi (Int) 11: Journey thru Grief 12: BBQ Chicken &amp; Potato Salad 12:30: Yarnworks 1: Therapy Dog 1:15: Aging Gracefully</p>	<p><b>7</b></p>	<p>“3 P’s of Investment Fraud”, presented by the SU Securities &amp; Exchange Commission</p>	<p>1</p>	<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>1</b></p>	<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>8</b></p>
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Please Note: Lunch menus & activities are subject to change without notice

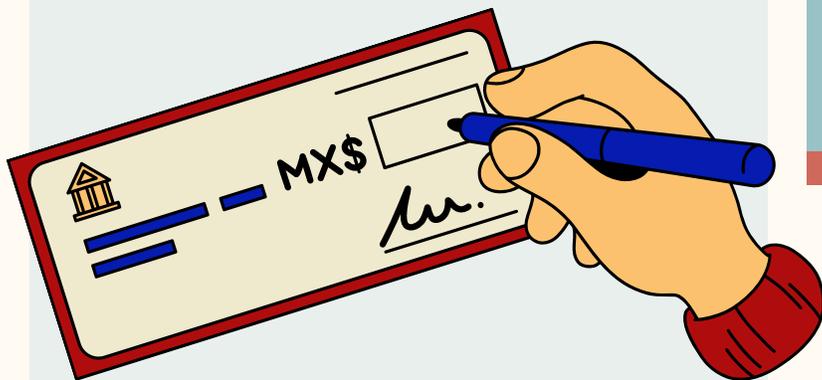
# Outreach

JULY 2025

## SOCIAL SECURITY: TIMING MATTERS

Thinking about when to take your Social Security? While you can claim benefits as soon as you're 62, the longer you wait the more your monthly payment will be. If your benefit is \$2,000 at 62, it can grow to \$2,480 by age 70!

In 2003, 53% of claimed social security between ages 63 and 66, while only 11% waited until they were 70 or over. Timing Matters - know your options!



## FRAIL ELDER WAIVER

The Frail Elder Waiver (FEW) is a MassHealth program designed to help eligible Massachusetts residents aged 60 and older receive necessary services to live safely in the community, rather than in a nursing facility. To qualify, individuals must meet specific clinical and financial criteria, including needing a nursing facility level of care and meeting MassHealth income and asset limits. Services offered through FEW include personal care, home health aides, meal delivery, transportation, and more. Enrollment is open year-round; interested individuals can contact Gilda Centeno Outreach Coordinator at (508) 876 - 5135 to schedule an appointment to find out more.



# Outreach

JULY 2025

## DON'T MISS OUT!

**Nearly 60% of low-income older adults who qualify aren't signed up for SNAP benefits** according to AARP. That's 16 million Americans missing out on vital support for food costs, and all the discounts and programs that are offered to SNAP participants.

Food insecurity is more than just being hungry - it's choosing cheap instead of healthy, and having to choose between food and other necessities. Food insecurity can also lead to a number of other serious health issues, and worsen existing medical conditions.

If you would like to learn more, see if you qualify, or need help with your application: book an appointment with Gilda to get started!



## Gilda Centeno

Phone: (508) 883 - 1500 x 135

Email: [GCenteno@townofblackstone.org](mailto:GCenteno@townofblackstone.org)

## CREDIT FOR CARING

Currently before Congress is the Credit for Caring Act, which if approved would provide a tax credit of up to \$5,000 per year for eligible caregivers to help offset the out-of-pocket costs of caring for a spouse or other loved one. Research shows that caregivers spend thousands annually on care, not counting all the missed opportunity costs. The Credit For Caring Act could offer financial relief to many households if it were to pass. Consider writing to Congress to show your support!



# VETERAN'S SERVICES

July 2025

Dennis Pimenta  
Veteran's Services  
508-883-1500 x 133

Did you know that the VA's Aid and Attendance and Housebound Benefits can increase your pension payments to support the additional care you need?

[www.va.gov/pension/aid-attendance-housebound/](http://www.va.gov/pension/aid-attendance-housebound/)

If you need help with daily activities, or if you are house bound, you may qualify for an increased VA Pension to help cover in home care, assisted living, or nursing home fees.



VA



U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs



## 2025 Benefits?

Are you a veteran in financial need? The state offers a program for you called Chapter 115. Contact Dennis at 508-883-1500 x 133 to discuss your issues; he might be able to help you. Office hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:30 to 4:00 PM

The VA website now has the **2025 Veterans Benefits Guide** available online. This handbook contains a comprehensive list of programs, websites, and phone numbers for easy reference. Check out [news.va.gov/137659](http://news.va.gov/137659) to learn more!



## Blackstone Veterans Monument Memorial Brick Pavers!

Honor or remember a veteran with an engraved brick paver permanently placed and maintained at the Blackstone Town Common Veterans Monument. Bricks can be engraved with one of over 40 service emblems and images, and up to 5 lines of text.

Prices range from \$75 to \$200 depending on brick size and use of images.

To view all image options and print an order form, visit [www.townofblackstone.org/323/Town-Clerk](http://www.townofblackstone.org/323/Town-Clerk) or pick up a paper copy from the Town Clerk's office.

# TRANSPORT

Dennis Pimenta  
Transport Coordinator  
(508) 876-1500 x133  
COATransport@  
TownOfBlackstone.org

## Medical Transportation

Transportation to medical appointments is available **By Reservation** for Blackstone disabled and/or senior residents. We are unable to accommodate local appointments scheduled after 2 pm, or those further than a 30 minute drive that are scheduled after 1 PM.

**Reservations must be made at least 2 days in advance!**

**(508) 876-1500 x133 or  
COATransport  
@townofblackstone.org**

## Shopping Trips

Reservations Required

**7 days in advance**

Shopping Trips may be cancelled for lack of reservations.

Wed, July  
9th & 23rd

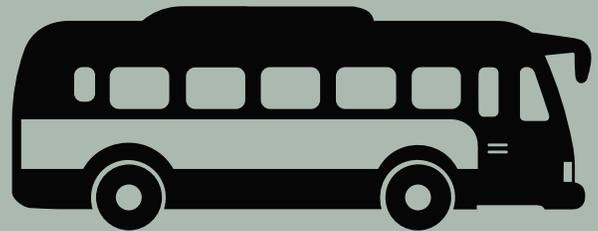
**Walmart** 

We provide transportation to the N.Smithfield Super Walmart

Thurs, July  
17<sup>th</sup> we will



provide transportation to the Bellingham Market Basket.



## Blackstone Council On Aging Our Mission:

To serve as advocates and enhance the lives of seniors and their caregivers in the community. To identify the needs of seniors and provide information and referral resources. To educate the community about the various aging issues and the needs of older citizens. To design and promote services that are needed to serve the residents of Blackstone. To provide services that allow elders to remain independent and keep the quality of life for them at home for as long as possible.

## PROPERTY TAXES

Blackstone will be mailing out the first Fiscal Year 2026 property tax bills on **July 1<sup>st</sup>** so keep an eye out for them this month. This round of bills will be due by **Monday August 4<sup>th</sup>** so plan accordingly!

If you're part of the Senior Property Tax Work Off program, you won't see the fruits of your labor until the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> property tax bills, in calendar year 2026.



## TELL US WHAT YOU WANT!

Time is running out to tell the town how much you want an improved Senior Center!

Blackstone is partnering with the Central Mass Regional Planning Commission to study future redevelopment strategies, and they need your help!

Anyone who is connected to Blackstone - residents, employees, and frequent visitors alike - should fill out the survey by **June 30th!**

Paper copies of the survey are available in Town Hall, or you can fill out the survey online:

[bit.ly/blackstone\\_econdev\\_survey](https://bit.ly/blackstone_econdev_survey)

## Trash Service Changes

Coming soon, Blackstone will be changing the curbside trash and recycling pickup service. Your trash and recycle days will NOT change.

Keep an eye out for a mailer containing everything you'll need to know about the change!



## ANIMAL SOCIALIZATION PROGRAM!

The Blackstone Regional Animal Shelter has launched a program just for seniors! They're looking for caring volunteers to help cuddle kittens and read to dogs.

Socialization helps lower the stress levels of you and the animals, and helps make them into better family members for their fur-ever home. They ask for at least 2 hours a month from you, and the program is eligible for the Senior Tax Work Off hours!

To learn more, pick up an information packet from the Senior Center or Contact the Blackstone Regional Animal Shelter at [ACO@BlackstonePolice.org](mailto:ACO@BlackstonePolice.org) or (508) 883-2822

## BLACKSTONE HISTORY



### Verry Tavern - 1750

The Verry Tavern, at 103 Mendon Street, is a two and a half story on a fieldstone wall. The tavern was originally run by Nathan Verry, and it is rumored that George Washington once spent the night! The building was later owned by the Blackstone Manufacturing Company, and has been substantially altered over the years - losing all semblance of an 18<sup>th</sup> century tavern.

# ***Did You Know?***

**You can register for Senior Center events online from your computer or phone.**

**Signup at [MyActiveCenter.com](http://MyActiveCenter.com) or use your smartphone camera to access the QR code below.**



**Having trouble?  
Ask the Senior Center Staff for assistance.**



# Looking Forward

Our August Birthday Bash will be on **Tuesday** the 26<sup>th</sup> - with entertainment provided by Glenn Hillard playing jazz, ragtime, and blues on keyboard!

## Senior Citizen Day

**August 23st!**

Join us for a day full of games, fun, food, music, magic, and memory-making for you and the whole family!

August 5<sup>th</sup> we'll be able to learn about the 3 P's of Investment Fraud from the US Securities & Exchange Commission. Join us at 11 to find out how to protect yourself!



On September 25th, we'll be visiting the American Heritage Museum, where you can explore the history of American Conflicts - from the Revolutionary War to Today!

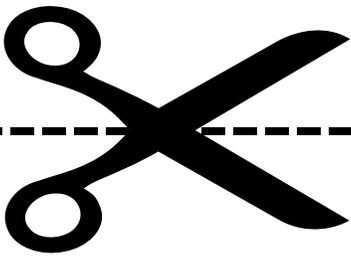
**These activities, dates, and times are subject to change**

## Friends of the BCOA

Welcome to the dog day of summer! Sunshine, beach days, cookouts, and FUN!

The Friends of the BCOA recently held elections, and we would like to congratulate those elected for a 2-year term: Judy Decasse, President; Diane Holt, Treasurer; Pam Grant, Clerk; Managing Members: Linda McGilvray, Julie Wingate, & Carolyn Sullivan. We look forward to planning additional fundraisers and supporting our Blackstone Senior Center in the months to come. If you would like more info about this unique group, please contact Judy at 508-612-4566





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**Blackstone COA  
15 St. Paul Street  
Blackstone, MA 01504**

**Blackstone Council on Aging  
15 St. Paul Street  
Blackstone, MA 01504  
Address Service Requested**