

**Community E-Newsletter**  
May 2023

**STAMP OUT  
HUNGER**

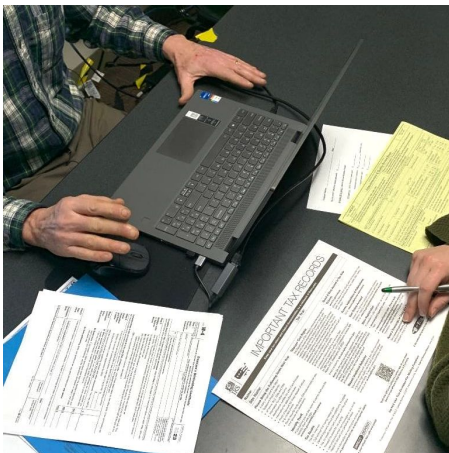
**THIS SATURDAY,  
MAY 13**

Leave a bag of non-perishable goods by your mailbox on May 13, for your postal worker to collect and deliver to food pantries.



**FILL A BAG.  
HELP FEED FAMILIES.**

**We couldn't do it without you**



With another tax season in the books, Beverly Bootstraps is fortunate to have a very talented group of volunteers that help make our Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (V.I.T.A.) program possible. The team's dedication is essential to providing this valuable tax assistance to low-income families across the North Shore. With fewer organizations in the area providing free services this year, clients were especially thankful for the assistance.

Doug\*, one of our clients, had recently spent almost a quarter of his salary on his real estate taxes. He shared that his daughter has been helping him financially. He arrived anxiously for his tax appointment, fearing he owed money that he did not have. Our preparer helped Doug file tax returns for

the past three years. Doug was able to apply for the Senior Circuit Breaker tax credit, and his anxious demeanor turned to joy as he was told he would be receiving money back and did not owe anything.

“Thank you for helping me. You made me feel comfortable, and I know I am in a safe and trustworthy place to get help. I am grateful for you.” expressed Doug as he left. He wanted us to know of the gratitude he felt to the many donors who gave to make this tax program and all our other services possible.

Altogether, our talented group of volunteer tax preparers prepared and filed 410 tax returns for clients living across the North Shore. With their help, our clients had nearly \$608,000 returned to them, valuable money that often goes towards helping to pay for groceries, rent and utilities.

To echo Doug, we are so thankful for the continued support of donors and volunteers like you who give your time and treasures to make programs and services like this possible in our community. Together, we change lives.

\*name changed for client privacy

[Donate Here Today >>](#)

## Exciting news

### There's still time to be involved in Boots & Blues!

We will be holding our 2nd annual Boots & Blues fundraising event on Thursday, June 1. The evening will feature live music by [Los Sugar Kings](#), lawn games, and southern fare for a fun-filled night overlooking the Atlantic Ocean at Misselwood.

This event serves as an opportunity to help raise funds and hear about the direct impact their supporters have on individuals and families in the community. Whether you participate as a sponsor, or purchase tickets to the event, please know you are helping us make a difference in someone's life.

[Tickets and sponsorship opportunities are available here](#) or call 978-927-1561 for any inquiries.

Interested in donating an auction item to support our Live or Silent Auction? Contact Chris Nazareth at [cnazareth@beverlybootstraps.org](mailto:cnazareth@beverlybootstraps.org)



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### Our Automated Refrigerated

## Food Lockers Are Now Ready For Orders

To meet the increased demand for food in the communities we serve, Beverly Bootstraps has launched its revolutionary Automated Refrigerated Food Lockers. These lockers more conveniently provide food for current residents living in our service area of Beverly, Manchester, Hamilton, Wenham, and Essex. With 24-hour access, individuals can pick up food orders made online through the Beverly Bootstraps SmartChoice system.



If you or someone you know is experiencing food insecurity and would benefit from using our Food Lockers, sign up [here>>](#)

## How you can help

### The Friendly Toast Fundraiser

[The Friendly Toast](#) is extending their fundraiser for Beverly Bootstraps until the end of May! They will donate \$1 directly to us for every order of their Throwback Specials sold. Make sure to stop by any Friendly Toast location to dig into their specials, while supporting Beverly Bootstraps.



### Food Pantry Needs

We are seeking the following items for our Food Pantry:

- Low Sugar Cereal
- Oatmeal
- Canned Soup
- Gluten free items from our [Top 10 List](#)
- Toiletries (Shampoo/Conditioner, Soap, Deodorant, Razors, Toothbrush/Toothpaste)



We appreciate your support! Donations can be dropped off at our 35 Park Street office or placed in our Beverly collection boxes located at Stop & Shop (224 Elliott Street and 37 Enon Street), Shaw's (71 Dodge Street), or the Council on Aging (90 Colon Street).

Thank you!

## Community Learning and Sharing Sessions

We have been busy connecting with our school and community leaders who toured our building to learn more about Beverly Bootstraps. We recently hosted principals, school adjustment counselors, EL Teachers, [City Connects](#) and PTO members for Leadership Learning Days. Our goal is to educate these groups about all that Beverly Bootstraps does, so that when school families need support (especially if they are in crisis) they know exactly what resources are available.



We are so grateful to have a supportive community and to continue collaborating with these groups.

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## Beverly Beaver Boys Supports Beverly Bootstraps

[Centerville Elementary School](#) held a Beaver Challenge where students chose either a science/invention fair project or a public service project. Centerville students, Bodie, Gus, and Reid, decided on doing a community service project focused on Beverly Bootstraps.



They first toured our building and then held a neighborhood food drive by dropping off flyers stapled to paper bags to their neighbors. Together, they collected a whopping 1,033 pounds of Food Pantry items including 3,646 diapers—and won first place at this year's Beaver Challenge! We love seeing kids helping out in the community. Thank you and congratulations!

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## MERHS Spring Sports Teams Food Drives

Libby McKinnon from [Manchester Essex Regional High School](#) put together a food drive with the MERHS spring sports teams. She volunteers in our Thrift Shop and decided to run this food drive with a goal of bringing awareness about people in need and filling our Food Pantry shelves. Libby assigned each team a specific item from our [Top 10 list](#), then she and other student-athletes collected all through April break.



We are thankful to Libby and all the Spring sports teams who gave back to support our community!

## Happenings

### Make an Impact with My Walgreens Cash Rewards

**March 1 – May 31**

**Your local Walgreens branch**

We're participating in the [myWalgreens](#) donation program! You can donate your myWalgreens cash rewards to Beverly Bootstraps through May 31. At Walgreens, you'll earn unlimited 1% Walgreens Cash rewards when you shop, and you can choose how much to donate. It's that easy. Whether you'd like to contribute \$1, \$5, or more of your Walgreens Cash rewards you'll be making a big difference. It really adds up!

### Touch-A-Truck

**Sunday, May 21, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm**

**Beverly High School, 100 Sohier Road, Beverly**

[The Annual Touch-A-Truck](#) event is a unique, interactive, one-day event held in Beverly during National Public Works Week. This event allows children to see, touch, and explore their favorite big trucks and vehicles as well as meet the personnel who protect, serve, and build the Beverly community.

Beverly Public Services and Beverly Bootstraps will be co-hosting a food drive at the event. We hope you will be able to bring an item from our [Top 10 List](#).

### Boots & Blues

**Thursday, June 1, 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm**

**Misselwood at Endicott College, 407 Hale Street, Beverly**

Show your support for Beverly Bootstraps and everyone in the community we are able to help because of you, at our premier fundraising event of the year. Spend the evening dancing with friends or relaxing on the lawn and playing games while the sounds of the ocean and blues music fill the air.

[Purchase your tickets today!](#)



To learn more, click on these handy links:

Volunteer ▶

Host a drive ▶

Events ▶

Visit our site ▶

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BB News ▶

35 Park Street, Beverly, MA 01915 • 978-927-1561 • [BeverlyBootstraps.org](http://BeverlyBootstraps.org)

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