



# From the *Executive Director's Desk*

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July 2026

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Dear Members,

One of the things I've enjoyed most over the last two months is hearing your stories. Whether it's about growing up in Blackfoot, serving in the military, raising a family, or sharing memories from years gone by, each story reminds me that our center is rich with history. A community is more than a building or the programs it offers; it's the people who have lived, worked, volunteered, laughed, and supported one another over the years. Those stories are what make the Bingham County Senior Citizens Center so special.

As I continue settling into my office, I'd love to decorate it with historic photographs of Blackfoot and Bingham County. The Historical Society has generously shared several wonderful images, and I'd love your help adding to that collection. If you have old photographs of downtown Blackfoot, local events, family farms, schools, businesses, or other memories you'd be willing to share, or even let us scan, I would love the opportunity to see them. Every photograph tells a story, and I'd be honored to help preserve a small piece of our community's history.

Another thing I have come to appreciate is that there is much more happening behind the scenes than most people realize. As I continue settling into my role, I am gaining a greater appreciation for the many responsibilities involved in operating the Center. In addition to our daily programs and services, we work closely with local, state, and federal agencies and must comply with a variety of contracts, regulations, and policies that help ensure we continue providing safe, reliable, and high-quality services to our community. Taking the time to fully understand these responsibilities before making significant changes is important to me. I believe thoughtful decisions are built on understanding, and I sincerely appreciate your patience and support as I continue that process.

*Sincerely, Jamie Melling*