COVENTRY RESOURCE AND SENIOR CENTER



50 Wood Street, Coventry RI 02816

Phone 401.822.9175 Fax 401.822.9128 / 401.822.6211

Like us on Facebook—Coventry Resource and Senior Center www.coventryri.gov to view our Monthly Newsletter Click on Departments; Human Services; Attachments

Hours of operation: Monday through Friday 8:00am—4:00pm

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

We lost an amazing staff person last month and I wanted to mention what a great person, friend and colleague Chucky was. We surely do miss our van driver, Charles "Chuck" McGowan. His kindness and caring strengthened our programs and he truly made a difference in the lives of our participants every day, whether with a joke, a smile or taking the extra time to ask someone how they were doing or how he could help. Thanks for being that person who put other people first! We will miss you!

We will continue to offer a monthly community breakfast prepared by the Coventry High School Culinary Arts students.

Our NEXT MONTHLY BREAKFAST occurs on Friday April 4th from 8:15am-9:45am.

Come by and enjoy a full breakfast and see the culinary students at work.

Please visit our **Senior Center Snack Shoppe** we are open daily for coffee, tea, healthy juices, muffins and other sweets. Our volunteers are here to help. Grab a drink and sit and chat. We have some expert chatters!

Our Thursday Art Classes resume this month and there are some great opportunities to stretch your creativity with our instructor Dina Haskins.

Our Watercolor Painting Class is on Tuesday April 8th, taught by another great local artist. This is a great opportunity to develop your painting skills. Those who are taking the classes really enjoy them.

On Monday April 14th at 10:00am we will be hosting a Veteran Benefit Expo stop by and ask the Veterans Administration staff any veteran service-related questions as they will get you the answers you need.

And again, to all of our veterans: "We Thank You for Your Service"!

On April 23rd-Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Rhode Island will be here for a presentation: Love Your Heart:10 Tips for a Healthier Heart. This one looks too good to miss!

We will be starting a new round of Tai Chi Classes on April 30th, please read our newsletter for details.

Let our Program Coordinator Linda Charron know what you like or any new programs you may want her to look into. She is here to help.

Our staff enjoy s being here to assist you in getting healthier, more connected and grow our programs for you. Until next month, take care Bob Robillard Jr., LMHC

APRIL

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MONTHLY HAPPENINGS...

APRIL ENTERTAINMENT April 17th will feature Mike Denardo 11:00–12:00

Our menu will be Chicken soup, Baked Ham w/sauce, Mashed sweet potatoes, Roasted carrots & dessert The cost is your \$3.00 donation for lunch. Please call 822-9180 to make reservations by 9:30am the day before. Photo on pg 5

SENIOR TECH help with "Dee"

WESTBAY CAP LIHEAP will be here on April 9th from 10-12.

Come to apply for fuel assistance or ask any questions you may have before the program closes for the season.

VETERAN BENEFITS AND INFORMATIONAL EXPO

The Veterans Administration will be here on Monday, April 14th at 10:00am

Learn about Aid & Attendance, Housebound benefits, Survivors benefits, Dependency Indemnity Compensation (DIC), Caregiver support program and claims for Compensation & Pension and how to navigate the application process !!! Please join us

SNAP Wednesday, April 16th 10-12

(Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)
Do you need to Apply, Re-certification, or Make a change? Visit **Charlene**, Family & Outreach
Coordinator/Boys & Girls Club of Newport County
First come—First serve

CPS Optix will be here on April 7th 10-12

WATERCOLOR PAINTING CLASS Tuesday, April 8th 10-12

Led by professional artist \$15.00 for this class. Call 822-9474 to sign up. See flyer on pg 5.

Come meet Sawdust, a local therapy dog, and his handler Christine April 4th at 11:00am See photo on pg 12

Our Monthly Breakfast prepared by the Coventry High School Culinary Program will be back here on Friday April 4th from 8:15am-9:45am.

A full breakfast featuring eggs, pancakes, sausage or bacon, home fries, coffee and OJ! All this for just \$3.00.

Tai Ji Quan: Moving for Better Balance New class starts April 30th * Wed & Fri 9-10

Evidence-based fall prevention program that aims to improve balance, mobility, physical and mental well-being and decrease falls by 58%.

One hour, 2 times a week for 6 months. Must have a 15 minute screen for balance, strength and mobility to indicate fall risk.

April 22nd 11am—2pm Call 822-9175 for appt.

LOVE YOUR HEART: 10 Tips to a Healthier Heart Blue Cross Blue Shield will be here to present on April 23rd at 11am

Heart disease is responsible for 40% of all deaths in the United States, which is more than all forms of cancer combined.

In addition to providing education on the cardiovascular system, this presentation will empower participants to make small life style modifications that impact one's risk for developing heart disease. Flyer on pg 3.

RI Legal Services

monthly FREE "one on one" civil legal clinic

RI ENERGY CONSUMER ADVOCATE Carlos Andrade Carlos will be here April 23rd from 10-12

to help anyone who may have questions on their utility bills.

COVENTRY LIBRARY

Hannah from the Coventry Library will be visiting us weekly **She will be coming on Tuesdays after lunch from 1:00—2:00pm.**She will be bringing books here that you can check out, or you can request a book and she will bring it for you the following week.
Hannah can also assist you with getting a library card if you don't already have one. Come on in and say "Hello" to Hannah!

A predominantly seated weight-bearing routine, for women and men ages 50+, designed for improving/maintaining bone health and overall wellness. Please pre-register at 822-9175.

Mondays and Fridays at 1:30pm. \$5.00 per class

VETERAN BENEFITS AND INFORMATIONAL EXPO MONDAY, April 14th at 10:00am

Learn about benefits you may be entitled to and how to navigate the application



process: Aid & Attendance, Housebound benefits, Survivors benefits, Dependency Indemnity Compensation (DIC), Caregiver support program and claims for Compensation & Pension.

Please join us here at the Coventry Resource & Senior Center 50 Wood Street !!!

We greatly appreciate the Veterans Administration for coming here to inform everyone of all the benefits that may be available to them!



LOVE YOUR HEART: 10 TIPS TO A HEALTHIER HEART



This presentation will empower you to make small lifestyle changes that will lessen your risk for developing heart disease.

April 23, 2025 at 11:00AM Coventry Senior Center

THE BLUE CROSS TEAM WILL BE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island is an HMO and PPO plan with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island depends on contract renewal. An independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association. *Free gift without obligation to enroll.

Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island es un plan de una Organización para el Mantenimiento de la Salud (Health Maintenance Organization, HMO) y de unaOrganización de Proveedor Preferido (Preferred Provider Organization, PPO) con un contrato con Medicare. La inscripción en Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island depende de la renovación del contrato. Licenciatario independiente de Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

Important SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION information...

We're making it easier to do business with us online

By Cheryl Tudino Social Security Public Affairs Specialist

We've listened to your feedback concerning your preference to do business with us online. You want the option to submit forms, evidence, and other information electronically. You also want to sign documents electronically before submitting them.

This year we released *eSignature/Upload Documents* as an option to submit documents. This new, online service option allows our employees to electronically request, and our customers to electronically submit, 70 forms and nearly 80 types of evidence. This option eliminates the need to mail, fax, or deliver information to a local Social Security office. By streamlining our document submission process and reducing mail, we are improving the way you do business with us.

How Does it Work? 1. Our employee sends the customer a link with the request for the forms and evidence we need to process their application. 2. The customer authenticates by signing in to, or creating, their personal my Social Security account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount. The customer then reviews the request, completes the form, electronically signs (when signatures are required), and uploads the completed forms and any supporting evidence to our portal.

Note: Customers have 30 days to electronically submit requested information and may receive an email reminder. If the electronic request expires, they can contact our office to ask for a new request or submit the forms and information by mail, fax, or by visiting an office.

To learn more about Upload Documents, visit our FAQ webpage at <u>faq.ssa.gov/en-US/Topic/?id=CAT-01360</u>.

Online Forms and Signature Removal In addition to the eSignature/Upload Documents option, we are converting many of our frequently used forms to more convenient online versions. Customers will have the option to complete a user-friendly, fillable online form, then electronically sign and submit it.

Some of our frequently used forms now available to sign and submit electronically include:

- SSA-827, Authorization to Disclose Information to Social Security Administration.
- SSA-820/821, Work Activity Reports.
- SSA-632, Request for a Waiver of Overpayment Recovery.
- SSA-634, Request for Change in Overpayment Recovery Rate.

We have removed the signature requirement for 12 of our most used forms. These forms include:

- SSA-L4201, Employer Requesting Wage Information.
- SSA-789, Request for Reconsideration/Disability Cessation Right to Appear.
- SSA-787, Statement of Patient's Capability to Manage Benefits.

To learn more about the removal of signature requirements from certain Social Security forms, check out our YouTube video Signature Removal from SSA Forms at www.youtube.com/watch?v=vmben-skPo4&t=2s. Whether you do business with us online, by phone, or in person, we're committed to making it easier for you. We continue to explore more opportunities to make doing business with us easier. Please share this information with others.



Come enjoy the
musical stylings of
Mike Dee
on Thursday, April 17th
11 –12



Call 822-9180 to make a reservation for lunch by 9:30am on April 16th

Watercolor Painting Class

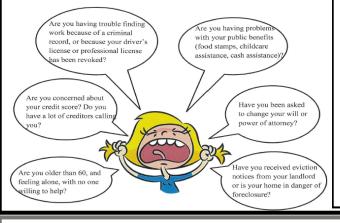
"Swan in the Wisteria"

JOIN US FOR A NO PRESSURE FUN AND RELAXING WATERCOLOR CLASS. LEARN THE JOYS OF WATERCOLOR PAINTING WITH STEP BY STEP INSTRUCTIONS FROM SYLVIA.

LOCATION - COVENTRY SENIOR CENTER

CONTACT- LINDA CHARRON TO REGISTER

LEGAL ISSUES GOT YOU STRESSED?



ATTEND A FREE "One on One" LEGAL CLINIC

WHO: Rhode Island Legal Services: Civil (not criminal!) Legal Clinic

WHERE Coventry Resource & Senior Center, 50 Wood Street, Coventry

WHEN: monthly

WHY: RESOLVE YOUR CIVIL LEGAL ISSUES

HOW: Call 822-9175 to book your appt.

Rhode Island Data Breach

For current info and updates on the cyberattack affecting some Rhode Islanders who may have used state DHS programs go to cyberalert.ri.gov or call the state's new hotline at

(833) 918-6603 9am-9pm Mon-Fri

What is RENTERS INSURANCE?

Renter's insurance is insurance that pays you if your personal property is damaged or stolen. It can cover fire and smoke damage, theft, vandalism, damage from windstorms and hail, damage from explosions, water damage from plumbing problems, etc. It also protects you from liability if an accident happens in your home and may pay your temporary living expenses if an emergency forces you to leave.

<u>Doesn't my landlord's insurance protect my belongings?</u> No. Your landlord's insurance does not protect your personal property.

It only protects the building. More info. from American Red Cross

www.RhodeIslandFamilyGuide.com

The Ocean State's Original Family Resource Guide for finding information on everything from healthcare to support services to education to all of the fun and adventure in our wonderful little state.

Download a free guide today!

Coventry Department of Parks and Recreation

Check out their amazing seasonal programs...
Facebook @coventryparksrecri
Instagram @coventryparksandrecri

You can access their seasonal Program Guide and online registration on their website at coventryrecreation.com

PLEASE GET INFORMED ON SCAMS

Here are some actions to take if involved...

- *If you feel you are a victim of a scam or fraud: Contact your bank to report if applicable
- *If you paid a scammer with a credit or debit card: File a dispute (also called a "chargeback") with your credit or debit card company. Online: Log onto your credit or debit card company's website and go through the company's dispute process.

By phone: Call the phone number on the back of your card and tell them why you're filing a dispute.

- *File a report on a scam, fraud or identity theft to your local law enforcement—Coventry Police 60 Wood St. 826-1100
- *File a report on a scam or complaint on a business to RI Office of Attorney General—Consumer Protection Unit Call 274-4400 File online at https://riag.ri.gov or email at contactus@riag.ri.gov
- *To file an identity theft report online go to: **Identitytheft.gov** the federal government's one-stop resource for identity theft victims
- *FTC Federal Trade Commission to report fraud 877-382-4357 www.ftc.gov (will also direct you to identitytheft.gov to file report).
- *FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center— to report cyber-enabled crime www.IC3.gov
- *Consumer Financial Protection Bureau to file complaint on a financial product or service 855-411-2372 or www.consumerfinance.gov

What to place on your credit report if you should fall victim....

<u>Initial (one year) fraud alerts</u>: place with one credit agency and they will contact the other two. This is free.

<u>Extended Fraud Alerts:</u> Lasts for 7 years. If you become a victim of identity theft you need to send a valid police report or FTC identity theft report to *each agency. Free if identity is stolen*.

<u>Credit or Security Freezes:</u> *must be placed separately* at each credit agency. Restricts access who can access your credit report to open new accounts or take out a loan.

Contact the national credit bureaus to request fraud alerts, credit freezes etc.

Equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services 800-685-1111

Experian.com/help 888-EXPERIAN (888-397-3742)

TransUnion.com/credit-help 888-909-8872

Go to <u>AnnualCreditReport.com</u> to request a free credit report once every 12 months

from each bureau to check for any discrepancies.

You can order your reports from each of the three nationwide credit reporting companies at the same time.

NOTE: This is the only website providing a free credit report.

Watch for misleading sites requiring a purchase of another product.

A proactive step to protect yourself from tax-related identity theft is to create an **Identity Protection PIN (IP PIN)** More info at <u>IRS.GOV</u>

FYI... A contractor doing business in Rhode Island is required to be registered with the **Contractors' Registration Board.**

Before signing a contract, check with the board to ensure the contractor is registered and licensed and if there have been claims and/or violations.

This information is available by calling 921-1590 or online at https://crb.ri.gov/consumer/search-registrantlicensee

Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) can help you prevent, detect, and report Medicare fraud. Contact RI SMP 1-888-884-8721 oha.ri.gov

GRANDPARENT SCAM ALERT: Crooks call and pretend to be a grandchild who's been arrested and needs bail money to get out of a nonexistent legal jam. More at **(www.aarp.org)**

Read more details on how these work at aarp.org & riag.ri.gov

AARP has a very informative website https://www.aarp.org/money/scams-fraud/

Trained fraud specialists will provide support and guidance on what to do next and *how to avoid scams in the future*.

The AARP Fraud Watch Network Helpline 1-877-908-3360 is free

They offer online support sessions for further emotional support.

Can sign up for regular updates on scams You can also look up a scam

AARP's Fraud Resource Center(aarp.org/FraudWatchNetwork)

mySocialSecurity account -Create **a** free & secure online account whether you receive benefits or not. This also stops someone else from making an account in your name. More info at https://www.ssa.gov/myaccount

*If your social security number is compromised, the Social Security Administration can help you block electronic access to your personal information with a **social security number block.**

Call 1-800-772-1213 (removing the block has to be done in person) 30 Quaker Lane, Warwick RI 02886

If you receive suspicious communication, please report to Office of the Inspector General at oig.ssa.gov or call their fraud hotline at 1-800-269-0271 or email OIG@1140@ssa.gov

ROMANCE SCAMS - Adults of all ages are going online in hopes of finding love and companionship. But there can be a downside ... *WARNING SIGNS*

- *Your new romantic interest sends you a picture that looks more like a model from a fashion magazine
- *The person quickly wants to leave the dating website and communicate with you through email or instant messaging.
- *They lavish you with attention, texts, emails and phone calls (www.aarp.org)
- *The scammer wants to establish a relationship as quickly as possible, endear himself to the victim, and gain trust. Scammers may propose marriage and make plans to meet in person, but that will never happen. Eventually, they will ask for money.
- *Scam artists often say they are in the building and construction industry and are engaged in projects outside the U.S. That makes it easier to avoid meeting in person—and more plausible when they ask for money for a medical emergency or unexpected legal fee.
- *If someone you meet online needs your bank account information to deposit money, they are most likely using your account to carry out other theft and fraud schemes. (FBI.gov)

TEXT SCAMS Here is an actual

text scam one of our residents received & she wants to make others aware:

> The Toll Roads Notice of Toll Evasion: Our records show that your vehicle has been involved in a toll evasion incident. This is a violation of the toll payment regulations and may result in additional penalties, including fines and suspension of access to toll roads.

To avoid further action, Please settle the toll payment within 12 hours. Failure to pay within the specified time will result in increased fines and may be reported to the DMV.

We urge you to make the necessary payment promptly to avoid any complications.

> https://txtaq.orgcdt.world/ txtagstorefront

(Please reply Y, then exit the text message and open it again to activate the link, or copy the link to your Safari browser and open it)

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

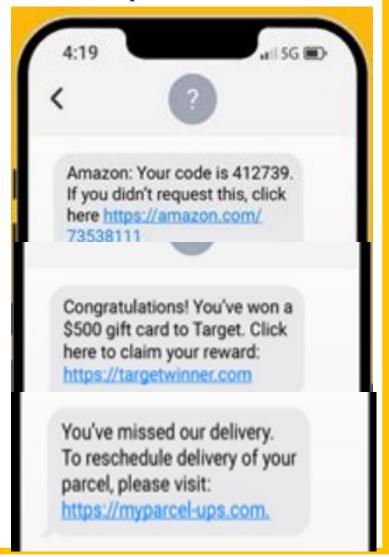
Never respond to any text or click on any link or open any attachment-**DELETE IMMEDIATELY**

SCAMS / FRAUD

Clicking on an unsolicited text could expose you to scams, download malware, or get your phone number added to lists that are then sold to other bad actors. If a message claims to be from a legitimate company, you can contact them directly to verify its authenticity.

DELETE THOSE TEXT MESSAGES **IMMEDIATELY**

More examples of **TEXT SCAMS**



CELEBRITY (IMPOSTER) SCAMS—Criminals pose as celebrities to nurture a relationship with their target before the "ask". In private messages the con profiles the target to determine the best approach. If a target is lonely, it's a romance scam; if altruistic, it's a charity scam. The criminals invent excuses about why they (wealthy celebrities) supposedly can't access their funds. Recent advances in artificial intelligence (AI) make these scams harder to identify, as they offer criminals the tools they need to mimic voices, alter photos and avoid the spelling and grammar mistakes that once were red flags for fraud. Imposter scams were the #1 fraud complaint in 2023 with total losses of \$2.7 billion.

(above taken from www.aarp.org)

HOUSING / UTILITY RESOURCES

Although the current administration is working on

"Emergency Housing", at this time *emergency housing* is considered a shelter...

*If you find yourself in need of "Emergency Housing"
Are you currently homeless or facing homelessness
Your first step should always be to contact
RI Coordinated Entry System (CES) at (401) 277-4316.

They will assist in finding an appropriate shelter and provide case management services for permanent housing.

"SHOWER TO EMPOWER" is a mobile trailer at sites across the state

https://thehouseofhopecdc.org
It provides showers, haircuts, medical services and case management to those in need such as applying for housing, employment, and social security benefits.

A Family nurse practitioner and psychiatrist also does outreach.

Thrive Behavioral Health

Tami Ringeling, Psy.D. VP Of Adult Services & Homeless Initiatives
401-691-6000 x2102 Tringeling@thrivebhri.org
Thrive 24/7 Emergency Services 401-738-4300

HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM

Section 8 applications will only be accepted online accessible at www.waitlist-centralri.com

*For a statewide list of rental properties & other resources go to www.rihousing.com Click on RENTAL RESOURCE GUIDE

For info on Public Housing for Elderly and Disabled, and Affordable multi-family housing in Coventry

Coventry Housing Authority 401-828-4367 14 Manchester Circle www.coventryhousing.org/apply online or request paper application

For help to find apartments go to www.housingsearchri.org

a free online rental listing website that helps people find the housing they need, including available low-income rental units across the state.

or if you need a <u>live person to assist you call 1-877-428-8844</u>

<u>M-F 9am - 8pm.</u>

Other helpful sites: www.rifairhousing.org www.helprilaw.org

SOJOURNER HOUSE (assists victims of domestic violence, human trafficking and sexual assault)

Need Safe Housing Help Line (immediate need) 24/7 (401) 765-3232

Or call their Housing Office (non emergency need) at (401) 808-6889 or visit a weekly Sojourner House housing clinic at various sites across the state. Go to: Sojournerri.org

Saint Elizabeth Haven Shelter & Elder Justice Community Program (401) 244-5476 Temporary shelter for elder victims of domestic violence & provides advocacy, case management, safety planning in the community. For more info. go to Stelizabethcommunity.org/haven

LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance)
IN ADDITION TO APPOINTMENTS HERE, also at
Westbay Community Action on 732-4660
487 Jefferson Blvd. in Warwick 02886

or **WestbayCAP Outreach LIHEAP office** located at 1745 Main St. Unit 4 in WW (plaza with Gel's Kitchen).

*WestbayCAP accepts walk ins or you can call to schedule appointment at 732-4660 x175.

apply on WestbayCAP online portal westbaycap.org

In addition to LIHEAP, WestbayCAP also has the Good Neighbor Energy Fund, Weatherization Assistance Program and Heating System Repair and Replacement Program and Appliance Management Program (AMP) https://westbaycap.org or 732-4660

FREE RI Energy Home Assessment Program

Available to all households, including homeowners and renters. Call 1-888-633-7947 to schedule appt.

Or go to www.rienergy.com/ri-home/energy-saving-programs/home-energy-assessments

Rhode Island Energy Assistance options for income eligible customers assist w/payment options *You can qualify for up to a 30% discount on your RI Energy electric and gas bills if you: Receive food stamps/ SNAP, Qualify for Fuel Assistance/LIHEAP, or receive SSI (SSDI is not a qualifier).

*Or, Qualify for a 30% discount on your RI Energy Bills if you receive: Medicaid, RI Works program or GPA.

Come meet with a Customer Advocate, Carlos

Andrade here at the Senior Center, 50 Wood St. on the

4th Wed of every month from 10am—2pm

<u>Please call 822-9175</u> before to verify he will be here in person or you can contact Carlos directly at 378-5725.

The Society of St Vincent de Paul—Coventry Conference offers assistance with rent, utilities and other bills, once per 365 days (if \$ donations are available) Call 828-3090

KEEP THE HEAT ON provides financial assistance to households that have either exhausted or are ineligible for all other state, federal or private heating assistance. Go to https://www.heatri.com/ or Call 401-421-7833 Ext. 207

Help with Internet Service CONNECT2COMPETE

Visit https://www.cox.com/aboutus/Connect2compete.html

Check eligibility for a free government cell phone www.assurancewireless.com / www.safelinkwireless.com

<u>Lifeline Program:</u> a federal program that lowers the monthly cost of phone or internet services https://www.lifelinesupport.org

GENERAL SERVICES

Coventry Resource and Senior Center

NEW at the Resource & Senior Center We are pleased to announce we have two computers now available for you!

Call 822-9175 to reserve a time

<u>Case Management</u> Our social workers provide case management services to all Coventry residents of any age. They will confidentially assess the individual or family circumstances and either assist directly or provide information and referrals on local, state and federal programs. **Please call 822-9175 to schedule appt.**

<u>Medicare Information</u> Our Social Worker Assistant Stefani assists those individuals in providing information and assistance with understanding Medicare programs, health insurance options and prescription plans etc. Please call 822-9175 for more information or to schedule an appointment with Stefani.

<u>Health & Wellness / Nurse</u> Our nurses are available to monitor your blood pressure, weight and diabetes as well as to answer some of your basic health questions. In addition, the center offers health & wellness education seminars and presentations. We also collaborate with Department of Health & other agencies for workshops and fitness programs. Nurses' Office 822-6208 Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 8:30 - 12:30

<u>Nutrition</u> The Coventry Cafe provides a nutritional meal to approximately 80 individuals per day. Our volunteers deliver Meals on Wheels to Coventry residents. The Coventry Community Food Bank and Community Garden also assists our residents. **Please call 822-9175 for more information.**

<u>Educational Programs</u> We offer monthly workshops on topics such as social, financial, preventative care and legal/estate planning etc. We always welcome any other suggestions you may have.

SENIOR COMPANION PROGRAM

The Senior Companion Program trains volunteers to serve isolated older adults in their own homes, adult day centers, and other community sites. Senior Companions must be 55 or older and must meet specified income limits. They receive a tax-free stipend and other benefits while serving clients an average of 20 hours weekly.

Contact Office of Healthy Aging at 462-0569 to apply to become a Senior Companion. www.oha.ri.gov

Senior Companions are matched with a resident in need of socialization and companionship and will serve four hours one day per week at no cost to the participant.

Call Lynn at 822-9125 to be placed on the waiting list and for any updates as to openings.

COVENTRY CARES VOLUNTEERS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Community Garden / MOW Delivery / Bingo /
Dining Room servers / Kitchen help
Currently in need of Dining Room servers, Kitchen
help & substitutes & MOW drivers
Call 822-9175 Please give the gift of your time.

Come play Bocce !!! Have you ever played?

It's a game involving throwing a ball at other balls to score



points. It's not too strenuous and a lot of fun. It's a regulation court! Interested in starting a league? Or just play for fun. Please call Lynn at 822-9175 to reserve the Bocce Court between 8:00 - 4:00 M-F



Officer Erica Braker has been selected as the Community and Elderly Affairs Liaison Officer.

Off. Braker has served the Town of Coventry for the past 16 years. The purpose of the elder affairs officer is to create a close bond between the

police department and the senior citizens in our community. The elderly affairs officer is available for all matters of elder abuse, neglect, and self-neglect. Officer Braker will be visiting the Coventry Resource & Senior Center on a regular basis and will be available to speak with all members of the community. Off. Erica Braker #32

Business phone: (401) 826-1100 E-mail: enovak@coventrypd.org

Also available for residents is the <u>Law Enforcement Advocate</u> with the Coventry Police Department who is trained in issues of sexual assault and domestic violence. The advocate will explain victim's rights and provide support throughout the criminal justice proceedings. Please call 826-8915

GENERAL SERVICES

Coventry Resource and Senior Center

Come enjoy the sun or the shade on your beautiful patio at 50 Wood Street!

Meet your friends, make some new ones in the fresh air or just maybe enjoy lunch outside....



COVENTRY CARES COMMUNITY CLINIC

Our nurses are at your service to monitor blood pressure, weight, diabetes and medication management. People are welcome from the community to take advantage of this free service.

Our nurses are ready for any basic nursing questions you might have. Call 822-6208

Nurse Jane or Nurse Carolyn are available:

Mon 8:30—12:30

Tues 8:30—12:30

Thurs 8:30-12:30 Fri 8:30—12:30

NOTARY PUBLIC

Free Service

Please call 822-9177
to schedule a time
with a notary

COFFEE SHOP

Open mornings daily
9:30 to 11:30
providing tea, coffee,
hot chocolate,
juices, and snacks.
WE ARE LOOKING FOR
SUBSTITUTE VOLUNTEERS...

POOL ROOM

Did you know we have two billiard tables? Open for play M-F 8:00—4:00pm. Cheapest rates in town only \$4.00 for the month.

LENDING LIBRARY

Come browse our Lending Library and pick up some interesting reading... or you might have some books to share

PROJECT FRIENDS

Project Friends is a State of RI licensed community based day service program developed in 1992 for adults with developmental disabilities. Each individual has a plan that offers choices of activities which build independence, adult daily living skills, socialization, self-esteem and confidence. Participants are supported by case aides. If you would like more information about Project Friends, please feel free to call the **Marlena Davis or Lisa Cote at 822-9144.**

'TIS THE SEASON

'Tis the Season is a volunteer organization serving families in the towns of Coventry and West Greenwich. It was established in 1992 with its main focus to provide a joyful holiday season for all, especially children. 'Tis the Season operates through the generosity of the community. Some members of the community have small fundraisers. Others prefer to donate money directly. The Fire Departments graciously conduct an annual "Boot Day" to support 'Tis the Season. These funds are used to purchase needed food and clothing. Local schools and churches hold food drives. Other clubs and organizations conduct toy drives all to benefit 'Tis the Season. Still other families, businesses, schools and other local groups choose to "Adopt a Family" at the holidays.

Call 822-9178 for more information, how to request assistance or how to donate.

ACTIVITIES

Coventry Resource & Senior Center Any questions call 822-9175

PITCH / CARDS—Experienced players only! Please arrive by 12:50 to determine groups. Tuesdays at 1:00 we meet in the mealsite. Fun & Free!

BINGO - Please come & join the fun Wednesdays 1:30 - 4:00

BOCCE Anyone can call 822-9175 to reserve a time with your own friends/players during the week.

CRIBBAGE Thursdays at 1:00 pm.

We meet in the activity room on the left just behind the mealsite.

MEXICAN TRAIN TILE GAME. Come join if you already know or come and learn. Mondays at 1:00pm - 3pm

SCRABBLE - Fridays at 1:00 pm for all skill levels

MAHJONGG (a tile-based game developed in 19th century China played in groups of four) we play the American version - Fridays at 1:00pm

KNITTING Wednesdays 9:30 - 11:30. If you knit or crochet we would love to have you join us in the mealsite. If you need any help with your projects, we would be happy to help.

POOL ROOM— Did you know that we have two billiard tables? The tables are open for play Monday - Friday 8:00 – 4:00pm. Cheapest rates in town only \$4.00 for the month. Come join us!

PINOCHLE Fridays at 10:00am

We have a cheat sheet. Come join the fun!

CREATIVE WRITING GROUP Thursdays at 10:30-12:30. Cynthia Anne Bowen, a published fiction writer and poet, has a B.A. in English Literature from Brown. No experience necessary. All you need is a desire to put your words on paper. She will show you how. \$5.00 per class.

CANASTA Tuesdays at 1:00. Our friendly canasta group is welcoming new players & offering a cheat sheet that is easy to follow.

ARTS & CRAFTS Every Thursday 1-3pm (Class is at maximum capacity at this time - Please call 822-9175 to have your name added to the waiting list.)

RIVER ROCK PAINTING Thursdays at 10am

WATERCOLOR PAINITING CLASS 2nd Tuesday of each month 10-12 Led by professional artist. \$15.00 for the class.

AARP Chapter 2210 Presents!

May 12th, 2025 9/11 Memorial & Museum

with Lunch \$159/ person

June 19th, 2025 Cape Cod Canal Cruise

& Lunch \$129/ person

July 10th, 2025 Martha's Vineyard Ferry

and Island Bus Tour \$164/ person

August 12th, 2025 Maine Lobsterbake

& Kennebunkport \$124/ person

September 23rd, 2025 White Mountain Hotel Lunch & Shopping in Conway \$129/ person

Call Maureen Murphy at 401-828-5188 or Anne Brien 401-263-4274 for details & deadlines to book trips

Flyers can also be viewed on our bulletin board!

Weekly / Monthly Activities & Programs

Monday

8:00am - 4:00pm Pool Room

8:30am -12:30pm Nurse available

1:00pm Mexican Train Tile Game

1:30pm Bone Builders of RI

Tuesday

8:00am - 4:00pm Pool Room

8:30am - 12:30pm Nurse available

9:30am Chair Yoga (with Shri service corp)

10am-12pm Watercolor Painting Class (2nd Tues)

10:30am Sociables (1st Tuesday) waitlist

1:00pm Canasta

1:00pm Pitch

Wednesday

8:00am - 4:00pm Pool Room

9:00am Tai Ji Quan

9:30am Knitting

1:30pm Bingo

Thursday

8:00am - 4:00pm Pool Room

8:30am - 12:30pm Nurse available

10:00am River Rock Painting

10:30am - 12:30pm Creative Writing

1:00pm Cribbage

1:00pm Arts & Crafts Class

Friday

8:00am - 4:00pm Pool Room

8:30am - 12:30pm Nurse available

9:00am Tai Ji Quan

10:00am Pinochle

10:30am Chair Yoga (with Shri service corp)

1:00pm Scrabble

1:00pm Mahjongg (American version)

1:30pm Bone Builders of RI

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Coventry Resource & Senior Center



THE SOCIABLES (Currently has a waiting list)

On the first Tuesday of every month at 10:30am

interesting single seniors meet and plan day trips for the upcoming month. If you're not busy every Sunday and enjoy plays etc. we would love to have you join us.

CHAIR YOGA (with Shri service corp)

This program is intended to reduce toxic stress while increasing physical and emotional stamina through shared, effective and efficient methods rooted in yogic philosophy and informed practices.

Tuesdays at 9:30 and Fridays at 10:30.

The cost is \$5.00. Please stop by the front office in advance to register. Class enrollment limited. You must have a yoga mat for the class. Thanks!

RIVER ROCK PAINTING

Let's get together and transform a stone with paint and sprinkle positivity around our



town. Once it's created, find a place to leave it for someone else to find and enjoy. A simple surprise message of kindness and compassion can brighten someone's entire day.

Thursdays at 10am

Come meet Sawdust, a local therapy dog, and his handler

<u>Christine.</u> There is scientific evidence that demonstrates how therapy animals improve heart health, help alleviate depression, increase well-being, and contribute to healthy aging.

Will meet every other month at the Senior Center.

Come spend a few minutes with this gentle giant and enjoy all the benefits that result from the human-animal bond.



Bone Builders of RI

A predominantly seated weight-bearing routine, for women and men ages 50+, designed for improving/maintaining bone health and overall wellness.

Please pre-register at 822-9175.

Mondays and Fridays at 1:30pm. \$5.00 per class

A MATTER OF BALANCE

Free workshop for 8 sessions. Anticipated start date in the *Fall of 2025*

In this workshop you will:

*Learn practical strategies to manage falls

*Improve balance, flexibility and strength

*Set goals for increasing activity

*Make changes to reduce fall risk at home

Call Linda Charron for more info at 822-9474

TAI JI QUAN: Moving for Better Balance

New class starting April 30th

All students are assessed before they can start.

What is TJQMBB? An evidence based fall prevention program that aims to improve balance, mobility, physical and mental well-being. Tai Ji Quan is a researched based program proven to decrease falls by 58%.

Wednesday and Friday 9-10am \$3.00 per class.
Call 822-9175 to sign up and schedule your
15 minute screen for balance, strength and mobility to indicate fall risk.

Congratulations to all the TJQMBB graduates! A new program for the Graduates of TJQMBB Thursdays at 11:00 Rm 214

You have mastered the foundational skills of Tai Ji Quan for Better Balance and now it is time to take your practice further. Embrace this opportunity to grow, strengthen your body and mind, and continue to reap the benefits that Tai Ji Quan has to offer. You will join a community of like-minded individuals who, like you, are eager to continue their practice while refining their posture, balance and coordination.

This class will be led by Michele Cornwell who has previously been teaching TJQMBB here.

Thursdays from 11-12 Call 822-9175 to reserve your spot.

Please note: Always consult your healthcare provider when contemplating new ideas to promote better health.

NUTRITION

COVENTRY COMMUNITY FOOD BANK

(401) 822-9199 HOURS: Tuesday 1-4 Wednesday 9-12 Thursday 9-12 Located at 191 MacArthur Blvd. Enter main entrance and the food bank is in the basement.

Everyone should have access to food & if you need assistance please call 822-9199 we will ask for proof of address and a photo ID. Always grateful for donations of personal care items.

the SHARING locker

third Saturday of each month,

10-12noon

Westminster Unitarian Church— Smith Hall 119 Kenyon Avenue, EG 401-884-5933

www.westminsteruu.org

A non food pantry (items such as deodorant, tissues, razors)

Free clothing & household items... Quidnessett Baptist Church 6356 Post Road, NK (401) 884-9111

Open Wed, Thurs and Friday
10am—2pm

Or donate to our 24 hour drop off shed Please give freely and spread the love around

COVENTRY COMMUNITY GARDEN

located in front of the Town Hall Annex.
(Come check out the Bee Hive too!)
All of the produce grown goes directly
to our Food Bank.

If you have a few hours per week available or community service hours for school or college this would be a great opportunity.

For more info, please call 822-9175.

Please visit Facebook -

Coventry Community Garden

One of every three bites of food you eat



depends on the honey bee.

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Saturday Grab and Go weekly meals. Please call the SVdP Society at (401)828-3090 before 3pm on Wednesday to schedule a delivery or pick up of a warm meal. *Available*Saturdays 11:00am—11:30am 445 Washington St. Coventry

COVENTRY CAFÉ

Come have lunch at the Café for those 60 and over or individuals with disabilities. Each Café offers two meal choices daily. The "pub option" offers a sandwich for those who want a traditional lunch. The "hearty option" provides a full, hot lunch for those who prefer their main meal at midday.

Please call 822-9180 for your lunch reservation at least one day in advance. If you cannot make it in, please call us to cancel. The suggested donation is \$3.00. guest under 60 for \$4.00. Celebrate Birthdays the third Thursday of the month!

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION FORM / Senior Center Scan cards All those who participate in our mealsite / Café must fill out a PIF for this congregate meal program. You must be 60 or older or a person with disabilities to participate. See Lynn in reception.

Meals on Wheels of Rhode Island Provides home delivered meals to frail, homebound seniors and qualified disabled persons, five days per week. Seniors must be 60 years or older, live alone, have no one to help them, and be unable to shop, cook, or drive. If under 60, an approved waiver is required through eligible waiver programs (DHS, PACE, NHPRI) Can make referral on-line at www.rimeals.org or call (401) 351-6700 Donations accepted but not mandatory.

Additional food pantry options...

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul—Coventry

222 MacArthur Blvd. Food boxes available ONLY ON THE 3rd Saturday of the month from 10am—12pm. Must be a Coventry resident and must sign up by calling 828-3090

<u>Emanuel Lutheran Church</u> 9 New London Ave. WW 821-8888 Tues 10–12 *Can go weekly* (For WW & Coventry, WG & Foster residents only) *bring proof of address

St. Paul the Apostle church 116 Danielson Pike, Foster 647-3664 Open 9:30-11 every other Saturday. (Open Dec. 14 & Dec 28) Call for new schedule in Jan. 2025

<u>Heavenly Heart Food Pantry</u> First Baptist Church 1613 Main St. WW Open 1st Saturday of the month for Coventry residents .11am - 2pm no appt necessary.

Be the Change / Project Hand Up

www.projecthandup.net (401) 965-9050 15 Factory St. WW (located behind American Legion) *Open every Tuesday 3-5 last name beginning with A-K *Open every Thursday 3-5 last name L-Z only. *Open every Friday 3-5 for people 60 and older (Veterans and anyone 60 and older may shop any day) *Must bring proof of ID and address. \$6 for prefilled bags -approx. \$200 worth of groceries. Accept cash, debit/credit cards; bags placed in trunk, please have ID ready &trunk cleaned out. Check their Facebook page (Project Hand Up) for changes

<u>Faith Fellowship Food Pantry</u> 1395 Nooseneck Hill Rd, Coventry (across from post office) Open every second and fourth Saturday of the month from 9am - 12pm. Food Pantry entrance located at the back of building and down the ramp. Please call Church office at 397-3383 for questions. Or go to <u>faithfellowshipaog.com</u>

Westbay Community Action Marketplace

487 Jefferson Blvd. Warwick Serves Warwick, WW, EG & Coventry. M, W, TH 9am - 3pm T, F 10-3pm Closed 11:30 - 1 for stocking & lunch. Call 732-4660

MONTHLY MENU

Please call 822-9180 to make reservations by 9:30am for the next day meal.

Please keep this in mind for your cancellations as well.

Meals are served at noon. Thank you for your \$3.00 suggested donation.

SERVING SIZES

Grains – 2 ounces Vegetables – ½ cup Fruits – ½ cup Protein – 3 ounces Dairy – 1 cup

April 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	1 Mushroom barley soup Chicken cacciatore Roasted potatoes Ww roll Cookies Turkey & bacon sandwich	White bean soup Mongolian pork Fried rice Broccoli florets Ww roll Cake Chicken salad plate	3 Cauliflower tomato soup Roasted chicken thighs Roasted potato Sweet corn Ww roll Sliced peaches Ham salad sandwich	4 Minestrone soup Baked fish Florentine rice Mixed vegetables Ww roll Fruit cocktail Tuna salad sandwich
7 Chicken soup Sloppy joe Pasta salad Ww roll Brownie Ham & cheese on rye	8 Minestrone soup Honey garlic chicken thighs Roasted carrots & broccoli Steamed white rice Ww Roll Fresh melon Tossed salad w/ chicken	9 Vegetable lentil soup Pork chop Italiano Sweet potatoes Peas & onion Ww roll Sliced pears Seafood salad sandwich	10 Tomato soup Chicken n gravy Mixed vegetables Roasted potatoes Roll Cookies Chef salad	11 Cream of broccoli soup Fish sandwich Cole slaw Potato wedges Mixed fruit Ww roll Tuna sandwich
14 Vegetable soup Shepards pie Mashed potato Ww roll Sliced peaches Chicken salad sandwich	15 Tomato soup Pub burger w/ cheese Sliced potatoes Ww roll Brownie Chef salad	16 Cream of broccoli soup Chicken coq au vin Rice pilaf Chuck wagon corn Ww Roll - Pineapple chunks Corned beef sandwich	17 Chicken soup Baked ham w/ sauce Mashed sweet potatoes Roasted carrots Ww roll Easter dessert Tossed salad w/ chicken	18 Minestrone soup Baked fish Rice pilaf Green beans Ww roll Watermelon Tuna salad plate
21 Kale & bean soup Chicken cordon bleu Roasted vegetables w/potatoes Garlic bread Watermelon Roast beef on roll	Chicken soup Lasagna roll up w/meat sauce Spinach w/mixed vegetables Ww roll Fresh melon Chicken salad plate	23 Escarole & bean soup Creamy garlic pork chops Mushroom rice pilaf Buttered corn Ww Roll - Brownie Seafood salad sandwich	24 Fresh fruit cup Beef stew Roasted vegetables Cookie Ww roll Chopped salad w/chicken	25 Cauliflower tomato soup Sausage & pepper sandwich Chips Cole slaw Ww roll - peaches Tuna salad plate
28 Vegetable lentil soup Fajita style chicken w/ Peppers & onions White rice Ww roll Sliced pears Cobb salad	29 Vegetable barley soup Pork scallopini Roasted potatoes Green beans Ww roll Fresh fruit Turkey sandwich	Meatball soup Grilled chicken Roasted zucchini Spanish rice Ww roll Oatmeal cookies Italian grinder		All menu items may contain nuts, seeds, beans, wheat bran, and other allergens Funded in part by the US Administration on Aging and the Rhode Island Office of Healthy Aging

"Gratitude makes optimism sustainable"

Enjoy some stories from around the world which are positive and uplifting.... LET'S SPREAD KINDNESS AND INSPIRE OTHERS

Man Saves Boatloads of 'Stunned' Animals After He Spotted Shadows in the Waves By Andy Corbley - Feb. 27, 2025

From Corpus Christi comes the story of a commercial mariner who developed a passion for saving lives—cold, imperiled, and scaley lives. It started back in 2018 when Captain Brandon Upton was out in the gulf waters during a particularly chilly afternoon, and he saw a dark shadow floating nearby. The owner and operator of Sea Tow, a boating assistance company, Upton thought he had seen everything the Gulf of Mexico could conjure, but soon he saw more dark shapes, and then even more.



He realized to his shock that they were sea turtles. "I didn't touch it, because I know they are endangered and protected," <u>Upton told the Dodo.</u> "On my way in, I saw more and more sea turtles and was very confused. In all my years on the water, I had never seen anything like it. "Rather than take any actions himself, Upton did the right thing and contacted the relevant animal authorities—in this case, the ecologists at San Padre Island National Seashore, who explained the turtles had been cold-stunned.

Cold-stunning is a normal phenomenon in which the cold-blooded turtles fall into a comatose state if the seawater temperatures fall below 56°F. Their heart rate and metabolism plummets, and they float, incapable of moving. This puts them at risk for boat strikes, drowning, and even land predators if the tide and surf should take them onto the beach. Every winter since then, Upton has remained vigilant for potential cold-stunning events. If the water temperatures start to fall too low, Upton will bring an airboat to tow alongside him, into which he will toss any sea turtles he finds. "While sea turtle rescue typically requires special training, we started in an emergency situation," Upton said. "We picked up two or three boatloads of floating turtles that very first day."

San Padre Island workers receive these cold-stunned animals and place them in a rehabilitation center where their bodies are gradually warmed up to the temperatures needed to restart their systems. Then they're released. Upton described his 7 years of pro bono help as "only natural" since he carries around a lot of specialized equipment that makes rescuing turtles easy and is a proud part of the close-knit boating community. He's an animal lover to boot, and whether it's "taking a spider outside" or helping cold-stunned turtles, he considers them all like a second family.

(www.goodnewsnetwork.org)

RESOURCES

<u>Mandated Reporting of Child Abuse and/or Neglect</u> (RIGL 40-11-3) to report known or suspected cases to DCYF within 24 hrs 1-800-RI-CHILD (1-800-742-4453)

How to apply for SNAP (formerly food stamps) benefits; RIW (cash assistance); (CCAP) child care assistance,
Medicaid and other programs – Can apply online or you may opt to complete the printable application. The application can
be found at RI DHS website: www.dhs.ri.gov DHS Call Center (1-855-697-4347) Select menu option #2 for info.

FAX (401)462-8052 RI DHS all mailed applications can be sent to: RI Dept of Human Services, PO Box 8709 Cranston, RI

PAX (401)462-8052 RI DHS all mailed applications can be sent to: <u>RI Dept of Human Services, PO Box 8709 Cranston, R</u> 02920 or can be hand delivered to any DHS location. Closest is Warwick DHS 195 Buttonwoods Ave. Warwick 02886

EBT Customer Service 1-888-979-9939 URI SNAP OUTREACH PROJECT Call 1-866-306-0270 or The Point SNAP outreach program (401) 462-4444

Interested in **changing career paths**... here are some resources

RI Dept of Labor and Training https://dlt.ri.gov
Employment & educational services, job coach

Skills for RI Future https://skillsforri.com

Connecting unemployed and underemployed

EmployRI—Network Online https://www.employri.org
Search jobs, create resumes, find education & training

netWORKri <u>https://www.careercenteroffices.com</u>
Jobseekers and employers are matched

RI SNAP E&T is a package of training, services and supports designed to help SNAP recipients gain skills, earn credentials, set goals and succeed https://risnapet.org Check out full handbook with all courses available

RI Dept of Human Services <u>www.dhs.ri.gov</u> Works hand in hand with other resources in Rhode Island

Adult Education Classes <u>EnrollRI.org/AdultEd</u> To see full list of programs & locations; GED, Job Skills Training, ESOL, etc.

Office of Rehabilitation Services (ORS) ORS works with schools, families and students to prepare you for job training, career development and employments opportunities after high school.

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Program assists individuals with disabilities to choose, prepare for, obtain and maintain employment. To be eligible you must have a physical, intellectual or emotional impairment which is a substantial barrier to employment, and require VR services to obtain employment.

For more info. to go http:..www.ors.state.ri.us/VR.html

College Planning Center The center provides free college planning services This includes helping you find colleges, and help with college and financial aid applications. Call 401-736-3170 or visit https://www.risla.com/college-planning-center

To file a claim for UI Unemployment Insurance or TDI Temporary Disability Insurance /TCI go to https://dlt.ri.gov

Open Doors, 485 Plainfield Street, Prov. RI 02909 781-5808 supporting formerly incarcerated; one stop resource center; employment program http://www.opendoorsri.org

Family Health Services of Coventry (CCAP), 191 MacArthur Blvd. www.comcap.org 401-828-5335 affordable health and dental Family Health Services also has a HealthSource RI Navigator. WIC at 191 MacArthur Blvd. 589-2610 Tuesdays and Thurs

RI Department of Human Services Document Scanning CentersLocations: 125 Holden St. Prov, 1 Reservoir Ave. Prov and
249 Roosevelt Ave. Pawtucket - these offices can help customers open

and update their cases in as little as 10 minutes!

kids.ri.gov RI EOHHS launched a new website Jan.2025 A

guide to find support, resources, and answers to many questions on Prenatal to Pre-K Resources & Behavioral Health Resources for parents and caregivers to help their children through a wide range of struggles.

PARENT SUPPORT NETWORK WWW.PSNRI.ORG 467-6855 RI PARENT INFORMATION NETWORK

WWW.RIPIN.ORG (401) 270-0101 callcenter@ripin.org

RIPIN Healthcare Advocate: assists those covered by both Medicare and Medicaid with denials, benefits etc.& Neighborhood Integrity

Call 1-855-747-3224

<u>EARLY INTERVENTION</u> Free services & supports for children under 3 with developmental delays. https://eohhs.ri.gov/Consumer/FamilieswithChildren/EarlyIntervention

CHILD INC. 823-3228 www.childincri.org Head Start/Early Head Start: No cost for expecting parents and children birth-5 who are eligible by family income, foster placement or are experiencing homelessness. Also Extended Day & RI PreK

CHILD CARE

RI State DHS CCAP (child care assistance) www.dhs.ri.gov

Catholic Charities Child Care Scholarships (Cabrini Fund) dioceseofprovidence.org or call 421-7833 x213

Military Families: *militarychildcare.com

*https://public.militarychildcare.csd.disa.mil

*https://finred.usalearning.gov/Benefits/DCFSA

<u>Bright Stars</u>—Rating system for RI Child Care www.brightstars.org Call 1-855-398-7605

THE AUTISM PROJECT theautismproject.org 785-2666

For parents, caregivers, and family members supporting individuals with ASD and other developmental disabilities.

Office of Child Support Services For application visit www.cse.ri.gov (401) 458-4400

Need HealthSource RI? Can apply online at www.healthyrhode.ri.gov or call 1-855-840-4774

Dorcas International Institute of Rhode Island

784-8600 https://diiri.org Services for immigrants and refugees

Center for Southeast Asians 401-274-8811

Progresso Latino 401-728-5920 Bilingual services, support & information for elders and disabled over age 60

SUPPORT GROUPS

RESOURCES

Here are just some in R I...

APDA Parkinson's Information Referral Center at Kent Hospital Call Mary Ellen Thibodeau, RN 401-736-1046 or email apdari@apdaparkinson.org / https://www.APDAparkinson.org/ri

HOPE HOSPICE & PALLIATIVE CARE RHODE ISLAND *Bereavement support groups*. Call 1-800-338-6555 or visit their website

at www.hopehospiceri.org

SUPPORT FOR STROKE SURVIVORS AND CAREGIVERS

RI Hospital in person or via zoom. For all details call Nakeesha Brown at (401) 444-8237 or email at nbrown1@lifespan.org

SAGE RI sageriinfo@gmail.com / https://sage-ri.org Advocacy, education & support for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Elders

CAREGIVER EDUCATION & SUPPORT Brookdale Center of NE Center of N E Blvd. Cov. last Wed of mo 6-7pm 821-2445 Ext. 4126

PFLAGPROVIDENCE.ORG Supports LGBTQ people, their families and friends / helplines, support groups, resources, education, advocacy.

For other support groups go to: WWW.PSYCHOLOGYTODAY.COM / US/GROUPS/RHODE-ISLAND

ALZHEIMERS ASSOCIATION / RI CHAPTER - Go to alz.org/ri

Find a Therapist: https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/therapists *Also, Medicare.gov to help find a psychiatrist

RI Hoarding Task Force
Go to https://rihoardingtf.ri.gov

The POINT, RI's Aging & Disability Resource Center (401) 462-4444

IF A SENIOR (60 & older) IS NOT SAFE at home call:

Office of Healthy Aging—formerly Department of Elderly Affairs:
Protective Services 401-462-0555 Call 211 after hours.
www.oha.ri.gov to file report online. RI General Law 46-66
mandates that anyone who suspects the abuse of an older person must report it to the Office of Healthy Aging Adult Protective Services Unit

*** (401-462-0555) ***

FOR NEGLECT OR ABUSE IN A FACILITY call:

Department of Health Facilities Regulation: 401-222-5200
RI Attorney General Patient Abuse or Neglect, Medicaid Fraud & Drug
Diversion Unit: 401-222-2566 or 274-4400 x2269
RI State Long Term Care Ombudsman Program: 401-785-3340
(advocates for and works to resolve problems related to the health, safety, welfare, and rights of individuals receiving long term care services; responds to and investigates complaints) www.risltcop.org

Dept. of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals (BHDDH)

Div of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) https://bhddh.ri.gov

Call 401-462-3421 to speak with an eligibility caseworker.

Are you disabled and need information on services...
Office of Rehabilitation Services (ORS) www.ors.ri.gov
Vocational Rehabilitation/Disability Determination Services
(DDS) 40 Fountain St. Prov. 02903 401-421-7005

FYI Robert J. Allen Masonic Medical Equipment Distribution
Center * Open Fridays 9 to 12 Pre owned-loaned at no cost 116 Long

Street Warwick (2nd entrance gate at Buttonwoods Masonic Youth Center) More info. Email medcenter@rimasons.org or call 451-0184

Ocean State Center for Independent Living 1944 Warwick Ave, Warwick Needing equipment such as wheelchairs, grab bars, walkers, transport chair, toilet etc. Or need a wheelchair ramp? Call OSCIL at 401-738-1013 Ext. 13 or www.oscil.org

Transportation

MTM coordinates transportation services for Rhode Islanders age 60 and older & Under 60 Adults with disabilities on Medicaid only – General and special medical appts., adult day services, senior meals program and INSIGHT. There is a \$2 fee per ride.1-855-330-9131. Also coordinates non-emergency transportation for Medicaid recipients who have no other means.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Paratransit Services 461-9760 or www.ripta.com for application. *Pick up & drop off must be within 3/4 mile of a regular fixed bus route. \$4.00 one way fare.

RIPTA Bus Pass 784-9500 ext. 2012 or <u>www.ripta.com</u> Can apply in person, online and by mail.

Westbay Community Action **SENIOR SERVICES CASE MANAGEMENT** 487 Jefferson Blvd. Warwick Provides supportive services for at-risk older residents. 732-4660 x138

Adult Day Programs—for a statewide list go to: https://
OHA.ri.gov/what-we-do/connect/home-care/adult-day-health-centers or https://Health.ri.gov/find/licensees

Adult Day care is a more affordable option to assist in staying home. Choose how many days a week to attend. Offers stimulating activities, therapy, nutritious meals, snacks etc. To find one nearest you call the POINT at 462-4444 or 211 or contact the Adult Day program directly.

MyOptionsRI https://myoptions.ri.gov Offers person-centered options counseling to help understand the choices for long-term services and supports (LTSS). Self assessment form online or for immediate assistance call 401-462-4444 Connects you to services and support you might need to live independently, wherever you choose.

NEED NURSING HOME CARE AT HOME OR IN A NURSING HOME? Best way to call MyOptionsRI to speak with an Options Advisor at 462-4444 to start the process.

DHS Long Term Services & Support Office (LTSS) for help to apply for nursing home care call (401) 574-8474 or for help with Long Term Care Medicaid application call The POINT at (401) 462-4444

For a list of updated licensed Nursing Homes, Assisted
Living Facilities and Home Care providers go to RI Dept
of Health website at www.health.ri.gov

For additional info go to https://www.assistedliving.org/rhodeisland or www.alzheimersupport.com

The Alzheimer's Association's 24/7 Helpline service - at no charge Visit https://www.alz.org/ri or call 1-800-272-3900

RESOURCES



VETERANS SERVICES...To apply for pensions,

compensation, vocational rehabilitation, education, home loans etc. Contact the Providence Regional Office of the **Veterans Benefits Administration**, 380 Westminster St. Providence RI 1-800-827-1000 or www.va.gov

1-800-827-1000 of <u>www.va.gov</u>

To apply for healthcare, hospital & prescription benefits contact the Providence **Veterans Administration Medical Center** at 830 Chalkstone Avenue in Providence at 273-7100 / 1-866-363-4486 or www.providence.va.gov

To receive readjustment, PTSD, marital & family counseling, outreach services, bereavement & substance abuse counseling etc. for the veteran and family members contact the **VET CENTER** at 2038 Warwick Avenue, Warwick RI 401-739-0167.

Services provided at no cost.

Rhode Island Veterans Resource Center

560 Jefferson Blvd. Suite 206 Warwick, 401-921-2119 Offers two computer workstations with internet access, printers, telephones. Staff available to assist with job searches,

Veterans Crisis Line 24/7 <u>Call 988 Press 1</u> Chat online www.veteranscrisisline.net or Text 838255

You do not have to be enrolled in VA benefits to call...

Thrive Behavioral Health Veteran Services Coordinator Patrick Lachey Contact: plachey@thrivebhri.org

VETERANS RIDE 4 FREE, INC.

A 501(c) (3) non- profit providing free transportation for veterans to medical appts at VA Hospital or private appts in CT and now RI.

Call 860-317-1025 https://veteransride4free.org

Visit health.ri.gov/helpforvets
Lean on us to connect you to benefits and resources, including the following: Mental/behavioral healthcare, Clothing & household goods, Education programs, Employment resources, Housing and shelter, Legal support, Substance use treatment, Transportation, Individual & family support

RI VET CORPS is an AmeriCorps program at Westbay Community Action in Warwick. A rep will provide information and referrals to veterans and their families and will help access available benefits and services. They can be reached at 921-5350.

OPERATION STAND DOWN assist veterans who are eligible in securing stable housing and employment. Also assist with basic needs (food & clothing), education and training services etc. 1010 Hartford Ave. Johnston https://osdri.org 1-800-861-8387 / 383-4730

NEW ENGLANDERS HELPING OUR VETERANS www.nehov.org 401-649-2548 Follow on facebook @NewEnglandersHelpingOurVeterans

SENIOR COMPANION PROGRAM Trains volunteers to serve isolated older adults in their own homes, adult day centers, and other community sites. Must be 55 or older and must meet specified income limits. Receive a tax-free stipend and other benefits while servicing clients an average of 20 hours weekly. Contact RI Office of Healthy Aging at 462-0569 to apply

RI LEGAL SERVICES (401) 274-2652 www.rils.org Assists low income residents with Family Court, domestic violence, child custody, public benefits, section 8 and elder law issues.

RI Center for Justice (401) 491-1101 non profit law firm assists low income residents with housing, wages, education issues.

RI Office of Mental Health Advocate (401) 462-2003 Advocacy & legal help for those with mental health issues.

Lawyer referral service for elders or Legal information services (401) 521-5040 or (401) 421-7799

Rhode Island Bar Association Volunteer Lawyer Program (401) 421-5740 htpps://ribar.com

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

30 Quaker Lane, Warwick RI 02886 (first floor)
How to apply for Benefits: File online at ssa.gov
for Retirement, Spouse, SSI, Disability, Medicare
Or schedule phone appointment at 1-800-772-1213
8am - 7pm Monday through Friday

Set up mySSAaccount at ssa.gov/myaccount whether you receive benefits or not.

You can use your account to request a replacement social security card and or Medicare card, check the status of an application, estimate future benefits, get a benefit verification letter, check on status of appeal or manage the benefits you already have etc.

Having issues with Social Security or the VA?

Offices are available to help - Residents can contact:
Senator Jack Reed, Cranston office 943-3100

R I SPECIAL NEEDS EMERGENCY REGISTRY The R I Department of Health maintains a registry for Rhode Islanders of all ages-infants to seniors— who have speech, cognitive, developmental, mental health, sensory and mobility disabilities, chronic conditions, and/or other special healthcare needs. The Registry allows first responders and emergency management officials to plan for the needs of the community in an emergency. www.health.ri.gov/emregistry 401-222-5960/ RI Relay 711

CodeRed provides automated calls on your landline and/or cell phone and text messages alerting you of weather emergencies, sex offender notifications, town info etc.

Your landline is automatically on the system, but if you want to receive notifications on your cell phone you would need to register your cell phone # online at the town website www.coventryri.org or the Coventry Police website at www.coventrypd.org

RESOURCES

Town of Coventry Office of the Tax Assessor Town Hall 1670 Flat River Road, Coventry

PERSONAL TAX EXEMPTIONS

- -Senior/Disability Exemption and Tax Freeze
- -Veteran Exemptions
- -Legally Blind

See if you qualify *Applications are available in the Assessor's office and on the Coventry website www.coventryri.gov

Please contact the **Assessor's Office at 822-9163** if you have any questions or need any assistance applying.

Coventry Department of Planning & Development Town Hall Annex 1675 Flat River Road, Coventry

CDBG Community Development Block Grant See if eligible for assistance with certain home repairs... Contact Geri Manning at 492-9368 or cdbg@coventryri.gov

1% Loan Available for Failed Septic Systems and Cesspools

Call or email for eligibility guidelines and details Contact <u>Josh Chase 822-6246 or jchase@coventryri.gov</u>

RI Governor's Commission on Disabilities The RI Livable Home Modification Grant program

pays for 50% of the cost of safety changes for people with disabilities to stay in their home, up to \$4,500. For m ore info. and eligibility qualifications Contact Barbara Palazzo at 401-462-0103 or Barbara.palazzo@gcd.ri.gov

Rhode Island Commission on the Deaf & Hard of Hearing www.cdhh.ri.gov 401-256-5511 cdhh.main@cdhh.ri.gov

- -View info sheet containing various possible resources offering assistance for the purchase of hearing aids -Info and links to Assistive Listening Systems and Telecommunication Technology
- -ATEL Adaptive Telephone Equipment Loan Program -Rhode Island Relay -Tech Access and more

RI DHS Office of Rehabilitation Services Services For The Blind and Visually Impaired (SBVI) 401-421-7005 https://ors.ri.gov

Eligibility requirements include vision of 20/60 or less in the better eye with best correction or a field loss of 20 degrees.

Assists children and adults. Referral form available online with links to other related resources.

HEALTHY EATING AND EXERCISE

Nutrition.gov is powered by USDA Science and offers credible information to help you make healthful eating choices.

Also contains resources on fitness and exercise.

Check out their website for: Nutrition Tips for Every Stage of Life

Find heart healthy eating tips to reduce fat in the diet and lower cholesterol levels

<u>Learn what you can do to help control hypertension (high blood pressure), including the DASH</u>

(Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension) eating plan

Learn about the health benefits of physical activity and find various resources and links to get you started & much more...

Physical activity (Aim for at least 150 minutes of moderate exercise per week like brisk walking) and healthy whole foods support physical and mental health.

*Please remember to start slow if you are new to exercise, and talk to your doctor before starting any new exercise routine

(Above taken from https://www.nutrition.gov)

MEDITATION What Meditation can do for

your mind, mood and health... In the short term, stress quickens your heart rate and breathing and increases your blood pressure. When you're constantly under stress, your adrenal glands overproduce the hormone cortisol. Overexposure to this hormone can affect the function of your brain, immune system, and other organs. Chronic stress can contribute to headaches, anxiety, depression and heart disease,.

You can minimize its effects on your body. One of the easiest and most achievable stress-relieving techniques is meditation, a program in which you focus your attention inward to induce a state of deep relaxation.

The beauty and simplicity of meditation is that you don't need any equipment.

All that's required is a quiet space and a few minutes each day.

(Above taken from www.health.harvard.edu)

*Meditation apps to guide you are available for your smart devices.

Some are free. You can also try deep breathing, yoga or hobbies that help you relax and aim for 7-9 hours of quality sleep each night.

Stay hydrated & Don't forget to go for regular medical check-ups

FINANCIAL WELLNESS

<u>Financial wellness reduces stress, improves relationships, and maintains a sense of control over our futures.</u>

Learn how to create a budget, track spending and other ways to save:

Here are some informative resources:

https://www.creditkarma.com/cash-flow/i/budgeting-tips https://www.experian.com/blogs/ask-experian/ways-to-improve-your -financial-health/

A couple helpful apps

https://goodbudget.com/ (online envelope budgeting method)
https://www.nerdwallet.com (can find you the best deals when it comes
to car loans, mortgages, and credit cards)

PET OWNERS Need help with vet expenses?

<u>Visit https://rielderinfo.com/pets/</u> for multiple options on assistance with care and food for your loyal companions!

HOPE AND RECOVERY

When you need police, fire, or rescue or have a medical emergency such as an overdose, call 911.

Call the RI HOPE AND RECOVERY HELPLINE:

Addiction is a Disease.

Recovery is Possible. Treatment is Available.

Rhode Island's recovery helpline connects individuals in crisis with treatment and recovery support.

English & Spanish counselors licensed in

PROVIDENCE SAFE STATIONS...

chemical-dependency are available 24 / 7

Anyone can visit any Providence, Newport,
East Providence, Woonsocket, Smithfield, Pawtucket
or Bristol fire station to connect to recovery services.
When you're ready --- The stations are open 24/7 for
walk-ins. No referrals needed and it is free.
Fire/EMS & recovery professionals will connect you to
help. Go to www.pvdsafestations.com for more info.

VETERANS CRISIS LINE 24/7 <u>Dial 988 then Press 1</u> You don't have to be enrolled in VA benefits or healthcare Chat online www.veteranscrisisline.net or Text 838255

THRIVE BEHAVIORAL HEALTHIntake(401)732-5656
THRIVE Emergency Services 24/7 Call (401) 738-4300
mental health and substance abuse treatment, case
management, housing services, crisis response & more

ANCHOR RECOVERY & WELLNESS CENTER 401-615-9945 for all stages of recovery
890 Centerville Rd. Warwick

CCAP Behavioral Health Counseling 401-467-9610 provides mental health & substance abuse services, anxiety, depression, trauma counseling etc. www.comcap.org

EBC House Hotline 401-738-1700 Advocates available 9-5 www.ebccenter.org Safe shelter; transitional housing, court advocacy; counseling

If need immediate assistance RI Victims of Crime Helpline or "the helpline" 24hr. Support 1-800-494-8100

THE SAMARITANS RI 24hr Crisis Hotline / Listening
Line Need to talk (401)272-4044
or toll free RI (800) 365-4044 Emergency? Call 911

NALOXONE (Narcan): A medicine that can reverse an opioid overdose at RI pharmacies without a prescription from a doctor.

<u>Find naloxone at https://preventoverdoseri.org/</u>get-naloxone/

What is 988 ? 988 is the new dialing code for the new suicide and crisis lifeline in Rhode Island.

<u>Call 988</u> for 24/7 access to trained crisis counselors People can call or text 988 for themselves or if they are worried about a loved one who may need crisis support.

Call or text 988 or chat 988lifeline.org/chat

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT IN RI BH LINK Call 401-414-5465

the state's 24/7 crisis center for mental health and substance use disorder issues for age 18 & over. If you are going through a mental health or substance use crisis & feeling overwhelmed, there is help. Services & referrals provided by a professional team of registered nurses, counselors, psychiatrists, peer specialists, etc.

or walk into our 24/7 BH Link TRIAGE CENTER at 975 Waterman Ave. in East Providence

it's a community based walk-in/drop off facility where clinicians connect people to immediate, stabilizing emergency behavioral health services, and long term care and recovery supports.

www.BHLINK.org <u>Call 911 if risk of immediate danger</u>

For under 18, Call **KID LINK 855-543-5465** 24/7 line connects to treatment and counseling.

BUTLER HOSPITAL We know teenagers. Call us. 24 hours a day. 7 days a week. **(844) 401-0111** *get help to address depression, anxiety, addiction, suicidal thoughts and self-harm

Rhode Island's Free Quitline 1-800-QUIT NOW (784-8669) for help quitting Smoking and Vaping.

Free 24/7 Quit Vaping Support Designed for Teens https://mylifemyquit.com Resources for teens

PreventOverdoseRI.org a user friendly website

Coventry Substance Abuse Task Force (401)562–2277 Facebook: Coventry Substance Abuse Task Force Twitter: @CoventryTask Instagram:@Coventry_SATF

<u>Safe Call Now</u> is a confidential, comprehensive, 24-hour crisis referral service for all public safety employees, all emergency services personnel and their family members nationwide. https://www.safecallnowusa.org/ <u>Safe Call Now</u>

(for first responders and their families)
Call 1-206-459-3020

HOPE AND RECOVERY

TWELVE STEP PROGRAMS

RI Alcoholics Anonymous 800-439-8860 http://www.rhodeisland-aa.org/

New England Region of Narcotics Anonymous 866-624-3578 https://nerna.org/

Rhode Island Area Al-Anon (401) 781-0044 https://www.riafg.org/

RI Area Adult Children of Alcoholics and Dysfunctional Families https://www.riareaaca.org/

New England Gamblers Anonymous http://newenglandga.com/

Ocean and Bay Intergroup of Overeaters Anonymous (OA)

http://www.oceanandbay.org/

24/7 Problem Gambling Hotline Call 1-877-9GAMBLE

The Family Task Force at https://www.familytaskforce.org info & support from fellow Rhode Islanders impacted by substance use

Social Media and Youth Mental Health

The U.S. Surgeon General's Advisory 2023

Go to https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/sg-vouth-mental-health-social-media-advisory.pdf to read this report and learn about::

- -Social Media Has Both Positive and Negative Impacts on Children and Adolescents.
- -What Parents and Caregivers Can Do
- -What Children and Adolescents Can Do and more.

The APA - American Psychological Association at https://www.apa.org/topics/social-media-internet/health-advisory-adolescent-social-media-use will direct you to:

Potential risks of content, features, and functions: The science of how social media affects youth.

And it has other links to articles, resources and tips to safeguard our children.

PARENTS: To help keep your kids safe there are many parental control apps. Some are Life360; Aura; Bark; Net Nanny; Mobicip Safe Browser; Secure Teen. They can monitor their devices, different social platforms, set usage time limits, block content, track your child's location & more.

There are also Homework Apps such as myHomework, The Homework App and many others which can help your children organize assignments, schedules, tests, due dates and help parents monitor progress etc.

Research to find the best apps to help your children be successful and keep them safe!

HERE ARE SOME POPULAR SOCIAL MEDIA SITES & APPS that teens use...

Youtube Tik Tok Instagram SnapChat Facebook WhatsApp X (formerly Twitter) Ask.FM

- *Parents can research these apps/sites and many others to understand all the potential risks
- *Read the "help center" information for social media sites to understand the age recommendation, privacy policy, and the community.
- *The sites teens use change with the site's popularity amongst their social group. What is popular today may not be in six months.
- *Know what apps/sites your children use and engage in discussions on using responsibly
- *Never post personal information
- *Some apps have led to bullying and harassment
- *Explain the "forever" implications of posts and photos. Colleges and employers do check social media profiles.

*Parents should have their children's passcodes to their phone and all devices to monitor what sites they access and how they are using those sites.

REMEMBER to always stay alert for scams, trolls, and other undesirable content.

(The above partial excerpts taken from page 9 of THE PARENT HANDBOOK, A RESOURCE FOR PARENTS OF TEEN & PRETEENS 7TH EDITION - call 822-9176 for your own copy of the entire resource booklet)

WHEN IT'S TIME TO TALK. Talking to your teen about alcohol and drugs is never easy. Here's an app that can equip parents with the necessary skills, confidence, and knowledge to start and continue these conversations.

Samhsa.gov/talk-they-hear-you/mobile-application

Staff Directory

Director Robert Robillard 822-9127 rrobillard@coventryri.gov

Lead Social Worker Catherine Pendola 822-9178 cpendola@coventryri.gov

Admin Assistant Stephani In 822-9177 sin@coventryri.gov

Receptionist/Intake Coordinator Lynn Jacavone Main # 822-9175 humanservices@coventryri.gov

Social Workers

Susan Pajak 822-9176 spajak@coventryri.gov

Lynn Pendola 822-9125 lpendola@coventryri.gov

Social Worker Assistant Stefani Weber 822-9146 sweber@coventryri.gov

Food Bank 822-9199

Nurse's Office 822-6208

Mealsite / Café 822-9180

Program Coordinator Linda Charron 822-9474 lcharron@coventryri.gov

Program Assistant Karen Beaudoin 822-9180

Project Friends Clinical Administrator Marlena Davis 822-9144 mdavis@coventryri.gov

Project Friends Program Director Lisa Cote

822-9144 lcote@coventryri.gov

Maintenance/Custodial Josh Warren 822-9175

TOWN OF COVENTRY

Additional phone numbers Police and Fire........ 911

Tollec and The	
Police Department	826-1100
Animal Control	822-9106
Fire Department	821-3456
Town Clerk	
Town Manager	822-9185
Tax Assessor	
Tax Collector	822-9167
Library	822-9101
Parks & Recreation	
Planning Department	822-6246
Building Inspector	
Public Works	
Board of Canvassers	822-9150
Coventry School Administration	822-9400



You can view

our monthly

newsletter online at www.coventryri.gov Click on Departments; Human Services; Attachments

Monthly Newsletter Email List

If you wish to receive a digital copy of the newsletter, please enter your email address on our above website.

Coventry Town Council Members

Jonathan J. Pascua District #1

District1@coventryri.gov

Alisa M. Capaldi District #2

District2@coventryri.gov

James LeBlanc District #3

District3@coventryri.gov

Hillary Lima (President) District #4

District4@coventryri.gov

Scott R. Copley District #5

District5@coventryri.gov

Council Members At-Large

Frank M. Brown Jr. townwide1@coventryri.gov
John Paul A. Verducci townwide2@coventryri.gov (Vice Pres)

If you need to know what district you are in, please visit www.coventryri.gov/town-gis-maps then click on Council Voting Districts

Coventry Friends of Human Services Advisory Board:

Steve Glover Florence Martinelli Joan DeGregory Gail Tatangelo Judith Taylor Joan Tillinghast Ernest Rusack, Chairman Cole Campbell

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

Information regarding closings/delays due to weather events will be on local TV channels & local radio stations.

Online at www.ribroadcasters.com

click View Current Closings.

In doubt - call the main number at 822-9175

DONATIONS ALWAYS APPRECIATED

Checks can be made payable to the <u>Coventry Food Bank</u>
Gift cards and/or cash also accepted * You can either drop
off in person or mail to: Coventry Resource & Senior Center
50 Wood St. Coventry, RI 02816 ATTN: Stephani

If any information contained in newsletter is incorrect, please report to 822-9176. Thank you!