East Providence Senior Activity Center



610 Waterman Avenue East Providence, RI 02914 401.435.7800 Fax: 401.435.7803 www.eastprovidence.ri.gov

GLPI

February 2021

Letter from the Mayor::

The month of February brings many changes, a new president, and new leadership both at the national level and in Rhode Island. Governor Raimondo has been chosen to join President Biden's cabinet as Secretary of Commerce and Lieutenant Governor Dan McKee is now the Governor of Rhode Island. Change often brings anxiety because there are many unknowns but change can also bring hope.

Our hope is for an increase in the number of vaccines coming into our state so we can get as many of our residents, especially those who are at high risk due to their age and those living with chronic conditions, vaccinated as quickly as possible. Rhode Island is currently in phase 1 of the state's distribution plan with the next group to be vaccinated those 75 years of age and older. The projected start for vaccinations is February/March. The City of East Providence is partnering with the state to increase communication around the distribution planning so our residents will know who, when and where vaccinations will be given. Please feel free to contact the East Providence Senior Center at 401-435-7800 or visit our new website at www.eastprovidenceri.gov for up to date vaccine information.

Sincerely, Roberto L. DaSilva, Mayor of East Providence



ZOOM YOGA

Sponsored by Blue Cross, Blue Shield of RI



Susan Bayley is teaching Zoom Yoga class. Classes are Fridays from 9:00 am to 10:00 am If you would like to join contact Susan at Susanabayley@icloud.com Susan will send you an invite. No Cost



EAST BAY COMMUNITY ACTION Food Pantry

WE DELIVER !

Did you know the East Providence Senior Center is partnering with the EBCAP Food Pantry to deliver food pantry bags to your home ?

If you are in need of food and unable to get to the pantry, give us a call at 401-435-7800 for more information.



Need a Mask ?



If you are in need of a free face mask or you want to volunteer to sew, please contact Pat Thomas at the East Providence Senior Center at 401-270-1863.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who continue to share their time and talent sewing cloth face masks for our community.

Staff

Laura Jones Director 401-431-4608 Ijones@eastprovidenceri.gov

Shontell Gomes Admin. Assistant 401-270-1792 sgomes@eastprovidenceri.gov Ellen Frazier Elder Resource Specialist 401-270-1788 efrazier@eastprovidenceri.gov

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Pat Thomas

Member Services Representative 401-270-1863 pthomas@eastprovidenceri.gov

Richard DiCecco Facilities Kenny Atkinson Facilities

Edward Daft Steve Checrallah Lee Wilber Richard Wood

Transportation Transportation Transportation Transportation

Advisory Board





"Hi Neighbor!"

"Just ✓ Checking In"

Thank you for your interest in EBCAP's Retired Senior & Volunteer Program, "Just ✓ Checking In" program. We wanted to take the time to reach out to you, our neighbor, to let you know that we are here for you now and for better days to come. We want to ensure our friends and neighbors are connected with a peer, empowered with local community resources, informed of current news, and safely aging at home.

Would you like to have a "Telefriend" volunteer call you to check in and provide some friendly conversation?

If we have your consent to contact you to "check in" or if you would like to be a "Telefriend", please complete the information requested below and return it to: EBCAP's Office of Volunteer Services—100 Bullocks Point Avenue—East Providence, RI 02915 or by email to: rsvp@ebcap.org. Please contact us at 401.435.7876 if you need additional information.

By acknowledging and signing the consent below, you are granting us permission to contact you by telephone, and share <u>only</u> your phone contact information with a "Telefriend" from the "Just ✓ Checking In" program.

PLEASE ✓ CHECK BOX BELOW	
I would like to be called by a "Telefriend"	east bay community action program
I would like to be a "Telefriend"	THE BRIDGE & SELF-RELIANCE
Print Name:	
Signature:	Date:
Phone number:	

TAX ASSISTANCE



East Bay Community Action's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program will once again have trained and certified preparers available to provide free tax preparation to clients earning under \$57,000.00. This year there will be drop off only tax preparation, no in-person appointments. The site will be located at 100 Bullocks Point, East Providence. Preparers also help taxpayers to receive tax credits such as the Earned Income Tax Credit, the Child Tax Credit, and Tax Credits for the Elderly. If you are not required to file a federal income tax return but live in a dwelling subject to property tax and qualify income to rent ratio, you may be eligible for the Rhode Island Property Tax Relief Credit. Details regarding income guidelines can be found at irs.gov. Please note that a valid Driver's License/Photo ID for the taxpayer and social security cards for the taxpayer and all dependents are mandatory. Eligible persons may call 401-435-7876 after February 3, 2021, to schedule an appointment.

Tax season is already upon us. The IRS <u>will begin accepting</u> 2020 income tax returns on Feb. 12, and the deadline to file will revert to the traditional date, April 15.



The Virtual Community Center: Where Rhode Islanders Can Connect, Learn & Play

Check out the Age-Friendly Virtual Community Center February Calendar of Events https://agefriendlyri.org/events/month/2021-01/

If you haven't checked out the Virtual Community Center, you don't know what your missing !

Programs now available in Spanish

AARP TAX PREP

Date: Starting on Monday, February 22,2021

Location: Riverside Branch Library 475 Bullocks Point Ave. East Providence



By Appointment : Please call 401–246-1678 after February 1st to schedule an appointment

RECIPE OF THE MONTH



CHEF LALA'S CHINO-LATINO CHICKEN LETTUCE WRAPS

- Ttablescoon canola oil
- Cound ground chicken
- 4 ounces Chef LaLa Homemade Carne Asada Marinado
- 1/3 cup jicama, diced small
- 1/3 dup green on'ons, thinly sliced
- T/4 cup peanuts, chooped
- 12 large lettuce leaves.

HEAT oil in large skillet over medium-high heat. Add chicken; cook and stir 2 to 3 minutes or until chicken is cooked through.

STIR IN Chef LaLa Homernade Carne Asada Marinade. Stirfry 2 minutes or until sauce boils. Remove from heat, stir in jicama, green onions, and peanuts.

DIVIDE filling even y among lettuce leaves; ro I up.

SERVE warm or at room temperature. Do not let filling stand at room temperature for more than 2 hours.

(Courtesy of NewsUSA)

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ARTICLE OF THE MONTH

DEVICES FOR SENIORS

As the population in the United States continues to gray, the technology industry is waking up to the needs and spending power of seniors. Since most older adults say they want to age at home instead of moving to a senior community, a growing number of resources are being devoted to tech products that make it easier to do just that.

Some products are designed to support specific needs, such as managing medication or locating an adult with dementia who wanders. Others focus on helping older adults stay connected with the world around them.

If you aren't familiar with these technologies, here's an overview of some that are garnering the most attention.



TECHNOLOGY FOR OLDER ADULTS

Robotic Pets: The health benefits of pet therapy are numerous. From decreased clocc pressure to a greater sense of joy, people, ove animals. For adults with cementia, the constant companionship of a pet can boost the spirit. Unfortunately, it can be difficult for a senior with a memory impairment to care for an animal. A robotic pet can be a solution. Tielike cats and dogs provide an experience that is realistic and fun.

Medication Management:

Mistakes with medicine can have deadly consequences. For seniors who take multiple medications, the odds of making an error are high. There are a variety of tech products that can help. Some devices, like the Med Minder, work off wireless technology that sounds an alert at dosage time. It can also text a contact person if a dose is missed.

GPS Tracking Devices:

Being able to guickly locate a loved one with a memory impairment who wanders away is vital. There are a variety of devices that make that easier to do. GPS SmartSole is one. It's a smartphone sealed in a water-resistant shoe sole. If the adult wanders from home, cellular technology allows. them to be tracked in realitime. Freedom Cuardian Medical Alert Smartwatch and the TheoraCare are two discreet wearables that can also be used to locate an adult who has wandered.

ElliQ Robot: This little robot uses art ficial intelligence (AI) to support seniors in a variety of ways: You can use ElliQ to viceo conference with friends and family, play cognitively stimulating games, receive cally reminders, save photos, and much more.

VitalBand: This innovative watch fulfills a variety of essential tasks. It can sound an alert when it's time for a medication, locate the wearer using GPS technology, track steps taken and calories burned, and detect falls.

GrandCare Systems: This comprehensive tech platform for order adults combines nome monitoring with telehealth and social engagement. The user can video chat with friends and family, receive alorts when it's time for an appointment or medication, communicate with their physician's office, and a variety of other tasks.

Whether you are looking for a tech product to manage activities of daily living or safety devices to alert a family member in the event of an emergency, senior care technologies are heading in the right direction. They can help improve the quality of life for older adults and caregivers.

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Rhode Island Department of Health 3 Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908 | www.health.ri.gov

January 15, 2021

Rhode Island COVID-19 Vaccination Update

The Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) is writing to provide an update on the current status of Rhode Island's COVID-19 vaccine efforts. As of this afternoon, **41,977 people** have received one dose of vaccine. A total of **9,243 people** have received two doses of vaccine and are fully immunized against COVID-19. <u>See the data</u>.

We are working hard to distribute vaccines, but supply is very limited. Right now, we're receiving enough first doses each week for just over 1% of our population. Other states are in the same position. RIDOH is ordering the maximum allotment of doses available to the state on a weekly basis. While it is clear we still have far to go in this process, it's important to note that Rhode Island ranks among the top states nationally in terms of first doses administered per 100,000 people.

We have received a lot of questions this week on whether the State will be opening up vaccination opportunities for individuals age 65 and older. The federal government recently announced that it will release second doses of the vaccine to the states so that individuals age 65 years and older can get vaccinated. However, we have not received any additional information on these plans. In Rhode Island, there are close to 190,000 Rhode Islanders age 65 or older. As much as we want to expand vaccination to older adults, we simply do not have enough doses to make appointments available for this entire population. We are hopeful that the federal government will increase our supply in the near future, which will allow us to expand vaccination to additional groups. The state now has a doctor-recommended, COVID-19 treatment for people who test positive for COVID-19, and are 65 or older or have an underlying health condition. More information about this treatment is available below. We will continue to share more information about vaccine eligibility as it becomes available. For more information,

visit https://covid.ri.gov/vaccination.

When Will I Receive My Vaccine?

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused unprecedented hardship and loss for so many of our families, friends, and neighbors. Given this, we understand that many Rhode Islanders are anxious to know when they and their loved ones will be eligible to receive vaccine.

Eligibility

In Phase 1 we continue to focus on vaccinating healthcare providers. This will help us reduce strain on our hospital system and ensure a safe, functioning healthcare system. It will help us make sure we can care for Rhode Islanders who need health services. It will also allow us to partner with healthcare workers to expand vaccination to additional groups. We are also focused on protecting vulnerable Rhode Islanders in long-term care facilities that have been hit hard by this pandemic. The chart below shows the progress in vaccinating groups in Phase 1 of our vaccine distribution plan.

We are now working to expand vaccination to additional groups in Phase 1, including outpatient healthcare providers, dentists, and adults age 75 and older. RIDOH will communicate more information to outpatient providers this week. Once we have started vaccinating this group, and dentists, we will be able to begin vaccinating adults age 75 and older. **Please note that there is no action that older adults need to take at this time to get a vaccine.** When we are ready to start vaccinating this population, we will communicate with the public, healthcare providers, and community organizations to provide instructions.

Please keep in mind that outpatient providers, dentists, and adults age 75 and older represent very large numbers of Rhode Islanders. It will take some time to reach everyone eligible for vaccination as part of these groups. We are grateful for everybody's patience as we work to distribute our limited supply of vaccine as quickly as possible.

Please check the Rhode Island Department of Health website for further updates WWW.covid.ri.gov









BICYCLE REPAIR PROJECT

Are you mechanically inclined?

Are you interested in giving back to your community?

Looking for Senior volunteers who would like to repair bicycles . Refurbished bicycles will be donated to East Providence residents in need of a bike.

Please contact the E. Prov. Senior Center at 401-435-7800 for more information.

SENIOR SHOPPING SERVICE



Come join us for a safe shopping excursion on Tuesdays

Who is eligible?

- City of East Providence residents
- Seniors 55 years or older or disabled.

How do I sign up?

• Call 401-435-7800 to make an appointment.

Service is offered on Tuesdays. to Stop and Shop and Shaws in East Providence.

For more information or to make an appointment call the Senior Center at 401-435-7800.

SNOW PATROL

Are you a Senior living in East Providence who needs assistance with Snow Removal?

The Boys and Girls Club is partnering with the East Providence Senior Center to connect Seniors, who are in need of assistance with snow removal, with volunteer youth.

Please contact the East Providence Senior Center for more information.

Please contact us before it snows so you can be matched up with a youth and are ready to go for the next storm.

Call: East Providence Senior Center at : 401-435-7800.



FOOD DISTRIBUTION

East Bay Community Action Food Pantry Food Pantry Hours By Appointment Only—401-437-1000 ext. 127

Monday	12 pm to 4 pm
Tuesday	12 pm to 4 pm
Wednesday	12 pm to 6 pm
Thursday	12 pm to 4 pm
Friday	8 am to 12 pm

If you need your pantry items delivered call us at the Senior Center 401-435-7800



GRAB & GO Lunches

Home Delivery is available within the City of East Providence

Please make your reservations at least 24 hours in Advance by calling :

East Providence Senior Center Cafe Phone: (401)-270-1814

For Goldsmith/City View Cafe Phone: (401) 434-7645

Boxed lunches are for people aged 60/+ or disabled individuals.

A suggested donation of \$3.00 per boxed lunch will help to sustain the program



PUZZLES OF THE MONTH

Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9.



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DIFFICULTY: 🛨 🛧 🖄

ТΜ. enigma CRYPTOGRAM

Enigma pryptograms are greated from guotalions and proverbalificm around the world. Each letter stands for another letter. Hvit: "G" = "G"

"JPAJZP KBZZ YEF DTFIXBTV IXDI'G ATP IA D SEGIARPU."

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37 Saltwort

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47 Health resort 50 Indic language 52 Husband of Jezebel TDA JEAS ADAH SEITAA OIAM 9ITITIO 53 Wings 54 Or nearest offen (abbr.) 55 Cleave 56 Age 57 Soak flax 58 Atlantic standard tir (abbr.)

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dormouse Tea box River into the



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constellation

OLPI





In last month's newsletter a memoriam was given to all the East Providence Senior Center Members who had passed in 2020. It was brought to my attention that Alberta Roy passed in March of 2020.

Alberta joined the East Providence Senior Center in 2018. She will be sorely missed by all.



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MONDAY	THECDAY	MEDNECDAY	THIDCDAY	EDIDAY
1 Juice	2 Juice	3 Juice	4 Juice	5 Juice
Bologna & Cheese on Whole Wheat w/Mustard	Hamburger on a Roll w/Relish	Shrimp Salad on a Roll	Roast Chicken & Cheese w/ Mayo on Multi Grain	Roast Beef & Cheese on a Roll w/Mayo
Pretzel	Fig Newtons	Fresh Fruit	Chips	Chips
Granola Bar	Milk	Milk	Chocolate Chip Cookies	Fresh Fruit
Milk	GRÖUNDHOG DAY		Milk	Milk
8 Juice	9 Juice	10 Juice	11 Juice	12 Juice
Low Sodium Hot Dog on a roll w/Mustard	Baked Ham & Cheese on 9-Grain w/Mustard	Chine	Grilled Chicken on a Bulky Roll	Corned Beef & Swiss on Rye w/Mustard
Pudding	Chips	Fruit	Brownie	Chips
Milk	Cookie Milk	Milk	Milk	Lorna Doones Milk
15	16 Juice	17 Juice	18 Juice	19 Juice
<u>CLUSED</u> President's Dav	Buttalo Chicken Salad on Oatmeal Multi Grain Chips	Iuna Salad on 9-Grain Chips	Ham & Cheese on Kye w/Mustard Chips	Seatood Salad on wheat Chips
	Fruit Cup	Fruit Bar	Fresh Fruit	Graham Crackers
PRESIDENTS' DAY	Milk	Milk ASH Wednesdav	Milk	Milk
22 Juice	23 Juice	24 Juice	25 Juice	26 Juice
Roast Beef & Cheese on Oatmeal w/Mayo	Italian Style Chicken on a Roll w/ Mayo	Ham Salad on a Croissant	Meatloaf on 9-Grain w/Ketchup	Tuna Salad on wheat
Chips	Chips	Chips	Chips	Chips
Fruit	Yogurt	Cookie	Pudding	Fig Newtons
Milk	Milk	Milk	Milk	Milk
FFRRIIARY	۲	MENU ITEMS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE	Funded in part by the US	All menu items may contain
BLACK HISTORY MONTH			state funds by the Rhode state funds by the Rhode Island Department of Elderly Affairs.	nuts, seeds, beans, wheat bran, and other allergens