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The
REMINDER

Local Business Spotlight - Page 11

R.I.'S FIRST WEEKLY SHOPPING GUIDE

A BEACON MEDIA PUBLICATION
1944 Warwick Avenue, Warwick, RI 02889 • (401) 821-2216 • Fax # (401) 732-3110 • www.rireminder.com

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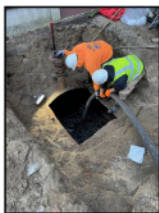


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**COVENTRY PUBLIC LIBRARY
AFTER-SCHOOL CRAFT PROGRAM**

Children in grades K – 3 are invited to an after-school craft program at the Coventry Public Library, 1672 Flat River Rd., Coventry, on Wednesday, January 29, at 2 p.m. Children will listen to winter stories and make their own suncatcher snowman! Registration is required. To register, please visit the library's website at coventrylibrary.org.



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Facebook

THE REMINDER

SATURDAY GRAB & GO WEEKLY MEALS

Are you or is someone you know an elder in Coventry or West Warwick? St. Vincent de Paul Society is offering a warm meal from their Saturday Grab & Go weekly meals. To schedule a delivery or pick up of a warm meal, please call 828-3090 before 3PM on Wednesdays. If picking up your meal, please go to the OLC School Gym, 445 Washington Street in Coventry, between 11AM-12PM on Saturday.

Coventry council voices alarm on \$5.8M school deficit

Editor's note: The following was submitted by John-Paul Verducci, vice president of the Coventry Town Council, on behalf of the council. The statement was approved by unanimous vote on Jan. 14, 2025.



The Coventry Town Council was recently notified by the Town Manager that the Coventry Public Schools' projected structural deficit has grown from \$4.7 million to \$5.8 million. This alarming, seven-figure increase — as outlined in a letter from the school department's Finance Director - is attributed to the FY23 audit process and FY24 closing process, which included consolidating prior fund deficits and correcting the recording of Retiree Benefit Fund expense transactions in the Keystone accounting system.

The Council is deeply concerned about the persistent and escalating nature of this structural deficit. This issue highlights a troubling pattern of financial mismanagement and lack of control over the financial reporting processes within the school department dating back to before the COVID-19 pandemic. The Council is particularly alarmed by the school department's inability to provide timely, complete, and accurate financial information, which has been a recurring problem over multiple years. This has

led to a complete breakdown in the Council's ability to trust any financial information provided by the school department. The Council's role is limited to appropriating funds for the school department; it does not have the authority to manage or oversee how these funds are spent. Because of that, the Council must rely on the school department for accurate, timely and trustworthy information. As this most recent financial mis-statement shows, the Council and the residents they represent are not receiving the data required to allocate proper funding for other town services and infrastructure.

This ongoing financial instability within the school department undermines the overall fiscal health of the entire town, due to the fact that the school's budget accounts for more than two-thirds of the town's overall budget. The Council has worked diligently to ensure responsible budgeting, strategic investments, and to build cumulative surpluses for the town - particularly over the last two years — and

it is disheartening to see these efforts threatened by the school department's fiscal mismanagement.

To address this critical issue, the Council emphasizes the need for the Coventry School Committee to acknowledge and rectify the significant management deficiencies within its administration. It is imperative that the School Committee takes immediate and decisive action to hold its leadership accountable for the ongoing managerial and financial reporting failures.

The Council is committed to collaborating with the School Committee to find a sustainable solution to this financial crisis. However, the primary responsibility for operational and fiscal management, including oversight of administrative staff and the effective use of funds from various sources, rests squarely with the school Committee.

The Council calls on the School Committee to demonstrate leadership and accountability in resolving this issue, with the future stability of both the school department and the entire town in mind. The Council is ready to support the School Committee in taking the necessary steps to ensure a stable and transparent financial future for Coventry Public Schools.

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EXPLORING LOCAL FLOWER FLIES & FUNGI

Join us at the Coventry Public Library, 1672 Flat River Road, Coventry, on Thursday, February 6, 6 - 7:15 p.m., for a special presentation on local mushrooms and flower flies of Rhode Island! Deanna Tempest Thomas of the R.I. Mycological Society and George Christie of the R.I. Natural History Survey will discuss all things fungi, as well as present findings on an important, under-studied pollinator group – flower flies. Registration is preferred but not required. For more information, or to let us know you're coming, please contact Jessica at 822-9104 or JCarsten@CoventryLibrary.org.

ONGOING FOOD DRIVE TO BENEFIT VETERANS

The High 5 Pantry at Flat River Tavern, 2260 Flat River Road in Coventry will have an ongoing Food Drive to benefit local Veterans. Please drop off your non-perishable donations anytime during their normal business hours. Call 407-2121 with any questions.

GAME DINNER - PHENIX SPORTSMEN's CLUB

Phenix Sportsmen's Club, 715 Main Street, West Warwick, is hosting a Game Dinner on Sunday, February 2, 1:00pm. \$40/ticket. Call Bobby: 401-368-1350 for tickets. Tickets are limited.

SIGN UP FOR IMPORTANT TOWN INFORMATION ALERTS

CodeRed is a very helpful service in which you can receive important town information in a timely manner. Alerts include important town matters, COVID-19 vaccinations, weather emergencies, sex offender notifications, etc. To sign up for automated calls and/or texts on your cell phone or landline, register your phone numbers at the town's website, www.coventryri.org or through the Coventry Police Dept. website, www.coventrypd.org

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January 22-28

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Boneless
Sirloin Strips
\$9.95 lb.

Fresh Throughout the Day
Ground Chuck \$4.99 lb.

Hadfield Classic
Hardwood
Smoked Bacon..... \$4.99 lb.

MARINATED SAME PRICE!
USDA Choice
Sirloin Tips \$12.99 lb.

FOR YOUR PULLED PORK!!
Boneless
Pork Butts..... \$2.99 lb.

14 oz. Kayem
All Beef
Fenway Franks..... \$5.99

FOR YOUR SOUP!!
Meaty Beef Shanks \$3.99 lb.

PREPARED

SAVE \$3 lb.!

Willow Tree
Chicken Salad
\$8.99 lb.

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Sausage Spiced
Meatballs \$6.99 lb.

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Grilled Vegetables . \$5.99 lb.

Finger Lickin'
Sloppy Joe Mix \$4.99 lb.

Lemony
Sole Francaise \$12.99 lb.

Tom's Delicious
Seafood Salad \$7.99 lb.

Grilled Steak Tips w/Mushrooms and Onions
\$15.99 lb.

Jumbo
Steak and Cheese
Bombs \$6.99 ea.

Tom's Award Winning
Chili
\$6.99 24 oz.

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All 5.5-7.25 oz. Varieties
3/\$4

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2.6 oz. Varieties
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15-16.3 oz. Varieties
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16-24 oz. Varieties
Quaker Cap'n Crunch or Life Cereal..... 2/\$6

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Ragu Pasta Sauce.. 2/\$4

28-29 oz. Varieties
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Near East Rice or Couscous Mixes
Excludes Wild Rice..... 2/\$5

14-15.25 oz. Varieties
Food Club Corn, Peas, or Green Beans 5/\$5

15-16 oz. Varieties
Bush's Reduced Sodium Beans 3/\$4

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Romaine Hearts
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Fresh
Gourmet Croutons.. \$2.99 ea.

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4" Plants
3/\$9.95

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Sweet and Juicy
Strawberries or Blueberries..... \$3.99 ea.

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Extra Large
Green or Red Peppers \$2.49 lb.

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Omega-3 Rich Fresh Salmon Fillet
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Fillet of Sole \$8.99 lb.

FOR YOUR SALAD!!
Sliced Snails \$14.99 lb.

Wild Caught in the USA!!
Tubes and Tentacles
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Virginia Ham \$4.99 lb.

Boar's Head
Picante Provolone \$7.99 lb.

Tom's
Rare & Juicy
Roast Beef..... \$10.99 lb.

Farmland
Cooked Ham
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Deutschmacher
Liverwurst..... \$4.99 lb.

All Varieties
Boar's Head Hummus \$2.99

SANDWICH OF THE WEEK!
Grilled Vegetable Wrap w/Boursin
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52 oz. Varieties
Florida Natural Orange Juice
2/\$7

5 oz. Varieties
Oui French Yogurt. 2/\$3

16 oz.
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All Varieties
Green Giant Box Veggies..... 4/\$5

All Varieties
Ore Ida French Fries. 2/\$9

Planet Oak Milk or Creamers
32-52 oz. Varieties
2/\$6

12 oz.
Celentano Meatballs 2/\$7

All Varieties
Vans Waffles or Pancakes..... 2/\$7

All Varieties
Friendly's Ice Cream Bars, Cones, or Sandwiches..... \$4.99

Birdseye Steamfresh Veggies
All Regularly Priced \$2.49 Varieties
3/\$4

Friendly's Ice Cream
48 oz. Varieties
\$4.99

SPECIALTY

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30 oz. **\$9.95**

All Varieties
LaCroix 8 Packs \$4.99

17.5 oz. Varieties
De Cecco Gnocchi
Excludes Gluten Free..... 2/\$6

6-7 oz. Varieties
Old Croc Cheddars
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MUFFIN OF THE WEEK!
Chocolate Chip
4 pk. **\$5.99**

Delicious
Strawberry
Rhubarb Pie 27 oz..... \$5.99

Fresh Baked
Cranberry Pecan
Ciabatta 18 oz..... \$5.99

15.9 oz. 6 pk.
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Due to manufacturer's supply issues, some items may be in limited supply. Sorry, no rain checks. *Not responsible for typographic errors. Some items may not be available in all locations.



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COVENTRY DROPS
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Coventry Mart
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Olde Theatre Diner
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Sandy Bottom Rd
Crestwood Liquor
Coventry Senior Center
Cumberland Farms
Tiogue Ave
Tom's Market
Mobil
Tiogue Ave
Walgreens
Ocean State Job Lot
Gentleman Farmer
Woods Tavern
Shell
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Coventry PO
Coventry Urgent Care
Stop & Shop
Speedway
Cumberland Farms

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Salon 707
Condesa
Cumberland Farms
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Breads-n-Stuff
1669 Main St
Tumble Town Laundry
Main St
Gel's Kitchen
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Tiogue Ave
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Manchester Circle
Shell
642 Washington St
Phenix Square Restaurant
9 Pleasant St
Cumberland Farms
704 Main St
Sunoco
888 Main St
DeAngelis Manor I and II
Wakefield St
Thorpes Laundry
560 Providence St
Sam's Store
119 East Main St
Ray's Poly Clean
1015 Main St
West Warwick Library
1043 Main St
Shell
6 Providence St
Jerry's Market
25 Providence St
Brookside Package Store
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FLEA MARKET – Welcome 2025! The Old Mill Indoor Flea Market, 3 Bridal Avenue, West Warwick. Saturdays & Sundays 10am–4pm. 401-226-3377

“RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS...” We could all use a little good news to brighten our day... Have you witnessed a “Random Act of Kindness” lately? “The Reminder” would love to hear about it. Please submit your entry in writing and we will print them anonymously on a space available basis. Please mail your “Random Acts of Kindness” (with contact information) to **The Reminder, 1944 Warwick Avenue, Warwick RI 02889** or email your submission to mail@rreminder.com

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Now here's a tip! by Jo Ann Derson

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- “Plant banana skins in your garden, just below the surface.** They rot quickly and provide nutrients for growing plants.” -- A.R. in Ohio
- “Always keep two needles threaded,** one with black and one with white. When you have a rip, a button comes off or a hem comes out of your clothes, and you are in a hurry, you can use one of these for a quick repair.” -- J.R. in Virginia
- When you get near the end of a roll of paper towels,** save it to put in your car. Put together a kit to keep in the car with the following items: a small bottle of Windex or other cleaner, a squeeze bottle of water, some wet wipes and the short roll of paper towels. You will always be ready for a quick on-the-road cleanup.
- To kick the itch from bug bites,** make a mixture of half lime juice and half water. Apply to bug bite on a soaked cotton ball.

Send your tips to *Now Here's a Tip*, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.
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☐ Job Market

☐ Home Improvement

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Classified Ad Deadline is THURSDAY AT 3PM

To Place a Novena
Please indicate the prayer to be published, include your initials, and mail or bring to:
THE REMINDER
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Warwick, RI 02889
(401) 821-2216 • FAX: (401) 732-3110
*Novenas can be placed by phone if using a credit card
☐ Prayer to the Blessed Virgin
☐ Prayer to St. Jude
☐ St. Jude Novena
☐ Thanksgiving Novena to St. Jude
☐ Novena to the Sacred Heart
☐ Other (indicate below or send a photo copy)

Don't Forget Your Initials! _____
Indicate Initials Here
\$12 per Novena
Please enclose payment
Checks Payable to: **Beacon Media RI**
Deadline is Thursday at 3 pm for publication in the following Wednesday's edition of The Reminder

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Thanksgiving Novena to
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near kinsman of Jesus Christ. Faithful
intercessor of all who invoke this
special patronage in time of need. To
you I have recourse from the depth
of my heart and humbly beg you,
to whom God has given such great
power to come to my assistance.
Help me in my present and urgent
petition. In return, I promise to make
your name known and cause you to
be invoked. Say three Our Fathers,
three Hail Marys and three Glory
Be's. Publication must be promised.
St Jude pray for us and all who invoke
your aid. Amen. This novena has
never been known to fail. It helped
me. Thank you St. Jude for answering
my prayers.

RSTP

Coventry
Eye Care Associates
&
Optical Center

860 Tiogue Avenue, Coventry
828-2020



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Dry Eye Treatment | Contact Lenses
Laser Vision Correction
Fashion Eyewear

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MUSEUM PASSES AT
THE COVENTRY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Did you know you can borrow passes to local museums from
the Coventry Public Library? Our museum passes can be picked
up from the library at 1672 Flat River Road, and allow free or
discounted entrance to museums such as the Nathaniel Greene
Homestead, the Paine House Museum, Mystic Seaport Museum,
Plimoth Patuxet Museums, and more! Stop by, see our website,
or give us a call at 822-6200 for more information. Passes are
available on a first-come, first-served basis.

WEST WARWICK PUBLIC LIBRARY
HOMEBOUND OUTREACH SERVICES

The West Warwick Public Library offers free delivery of most
Library materials to the homebound, free of charge. If you
are either permanently or temporarily unable to come to the
Library, and you are a resident of West Warwick, this program
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Defend Your Home from Harsh Winter Conditions

7 pro tips to avoid long-term damage

(Family Features) Harsh winter elements like snow, ice and wind can wreak havoc on your home — if it's not properly prepared and maintained. Make home maintenance both indoors and out a priority this winter to ensure it's safe, warm, secure and operating efficiently.

While winterizing can be a daunting task, you don't have to do it alone. Whether you need help installing gutter guards, sealing cracks in your concrete or ensuring your sump pump is ready for winter, the experts at Thrasher Foundation Repair provide precise repairs for every project.

They've seen it all through 50 years of serving more than 150,000 happy customers - from basement flooding to damaged concrete — and know how to prevent these issues before they start. Recognized with the International Torch Award for Ethics by the Better Business Bureau Mid-west Plains, they set the standard for excellence in their field as a trusted industry leader in home protection.

"Winter can really take a toll on your home, but a few proactive steps now can save you headaches later," CEO Dan Thrasher said. "At Thrasher Foundation Repair, we help protect what matters most — your home and peace of mind. We're happy to share our pro tips to help you keep your home safe, dry and ready for whatever winter throws your way."

It all begins with homeowners taking proactive steps to recognize small problems before they spiral out of control. Use this checklist from Thrasher's experts to prepare your home for a warm, secure and stress-free winter season.

Clean and Maintain Gutters and Downspouts

When debris like leaves clog gutters, it causes water to overflow and freeze, leading to ice dams and roof leaks. These blockages can cause water to damage your roof, siding and foundation, meaning it's critical to remove debris. Run water through gutters and check for proper water flow — if you notice pooling or slow drainage, there may be a blockage that needs attention. Make sure downspouts direct water away from the foundation and walkways



by extending them at least 10 feet away from the home. Also be sure to inspect and tighten any loose gutter brackets and fasteners so they can withstand the weight of snow and ice.

Insulate Rim Joists

Rim joist insulation plays a big role in your home's energy efficiency. If your insulation is more than 10 years old, consider upgrading to a more efficient material to reduce heat loss.

Protect the Basement and Foundation

Now is a good time to inspect your foundation for any cracks or damage. Bringing in the experts to address problem areas can help avoid larger issues when spring storms arrive. A working sump pump is critical for preventing basement flooding caused by snowmelt or winter storms, so it's important to test it to ensure proper functionality. It's also important to inspect discharge lines for potential freezing issues to avoid water backup into the basement. Consider grading soil to ensure the ground slopes away from your home, preventing water from seeping through.

Seal and Protect Concrete

Carefully inspect walkways, drive-

ways and patios for cracking. During winter, water can seep into cracks, freeze then expand, causing long-term damage. Seal them with a penetrating sealant (rather than a topical one) for long-lasting protection from moisture, salt and other winter elements.

Optimize Humidity

Turn on your furnace's humidifier to maintain proper indoor humidity levels and adjust your dehumidifier settings to match winter's low humidity. This helps keep your home comfortable while preventing moisture-related issues.

Clear Debris Around the House

Along with cleaning gutters and downspouts, it's important to clear window wells and clean up around the foundation, too. Debris in window wells can block drainage, causing water from snowmelt to pool near the foundation then seep into the basement.

Manage Snow and Ice

Leaving snow and ice on concrete surfaces can erode and weaken the material over time. Regularly shoveling snow from driveways, sidewalks and patios helps prevent ice buildup and protects the concrete from long-term damage.

Find more winter home maintenance tips and contact the pros for assistance by visiting GoThrasher.com.

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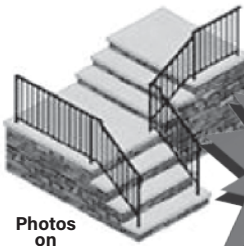
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Installing Bathroom Tile Like a Pro

(Family Features) Updating the flooring can help infuse new life into tired, outdated bathrooms. For an upscale, polished look that doesn't have to break the bank, consider installing tile flooring.

Before you get started, you'll want to make some decisions about the look and feel of your flooring:

Ceramic or stone? Weigh factors such as porosity, how slippery the surface may be when wet and how well it retains heat or cold. Ultimately, your decision hinges on the needs and uses of your family.

Complement or contrast? Define the overall style you want as well as the colors and tones that will help best achieve your vision.

Big or small? Generally, the larger the tile, the fewer grout lines, and too many grout lines in a smaller space can create the illusion of clutter. However, smaller tiles can eliminate the need to make multiple awkward cuts, and small tiles are perfect for creating accent patterns or introducing a splash of color.

When you've got your overall look and materials selected, keep these steps in mind as you begin laying the flooring:

1. Prepare your subfloor. Use a level to check for uneven spots; you need an even surface to prevent cracks in the tile or grout as well as rough spots that could pose tripping hazards.

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to create a consistent surface. Apply a thin layer of mortar then attach your cement backer board with screws. Cover joints with cement board tape, apply another thin layer of mortar, smooth and allow to dry.

2. To ensure square placement, draw reference lines on the sub-floor using a level and carpenter square. *Tile should start in the middle of the room and move out toward the walls*, so make your initial reference lines as close to the center as possible. Mark additional reference lines as space allows, such as 2-foot-by-2-foot squares.

3. Do a test run with your chosen tile by laying it out on the floor. There are color variations in most tile patterns, so you'll want to verify each tile blends well with the next.

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4. Mix tile mortar and use the thin side of a trowel to apply mortar at a 45-degree angle. Use the combed side to spread evenly and return excess mortar to the bucket. Remember to apply mortar in small areas, working as you go, so it doesn't dry before you're ready to lay the tile.

5. When laying tile, use your reference lines as guides. Press and wiggle tile slightly for the best adherence.

6. Use spacers to create even lines between one tile and the next, removing excess mortar with a damp sponge or rag.

7. As you complete a section of tile, use a level and mallet to verify the tiles are sitting evenly.

8. Let mortar dry 24 hours before grouting.

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9. Remove spacers then apply grout to joints, removing excess as you go.

10. Allow grout to dry per the manufacturer's instructions then go back over tile with a damp sponge to set grout lines and clean grout residue.

11. Once grout has cured — usually at least a couple weeks — apply sealer to protect it.

Find more ideas and tips for updating your bathroom at **eLivingtoday.com**.



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(NAPSI)—If your home is like most, one of the biggest sources of energy consumption is the HVAC system, and that can be expensive. Fortunately, the U.S. Department of Energy reports, families can cut their energy bill by as much as 20% to 30% simply by doing proper equipment maintenance. Air duct cleaning, for instance.

Understanding HVAC

As air recirculates through the system, contaminants build up in the ductwork and other components. Dirty HVAC systems work harder, use up to 30% more energy to heat or cool the home and are more likely to need replacing sooner.



Hunkered down while it's cold outside? Clean air ducts improve your indoor air quality and can save money.

What To Do

Replacing filters can help to maintain air ducts, however, filters can't catch everything. Having your home's air ducts properly cleaned helps your HVAC system run more efficiently by removing debris from mechanical components.

The most effective way to clean the HVAC system is through source removal. This requires a professional contractor to place the system under negative pressure using a specialized, powerful vacuum. While the vacuum draws air through the system, brushes, air whips and compressed air nozzles remove any debris that might be stuck to interior surfaces.

Contacting a Contractor

To be sure you're getting a qualified contractor so the job is done right, use one who is certified by the National Air Duct Cleaners Association (NADCA). That organization offers a handy Homeowner's Guide to Air Duct Cleaning with helpful tips for finding reputable contractors and an online directory to find a nearby NADCA member with advanced training and certification in HVAC system cleaning, at www.NADCA.com.



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URI discusses L.A. wildfires: RI has ‘heavier fuel load’ leading to fire risk

KINGSTON, R.I. – Although fires are usually thought of as a Western problem, as seen in Los Angeles right now, wildfires do happen in Rhode Island — close to 500 acres burned near the University of Rhode Island’s Kingston Campus two years ago, in nearby Exeter and West Greenwich.

Those fires were also driven by high wind, with added fuel from dead trees and wood in Rhode Island woodlands, according to Rhode Island’s Department of Environmental Management. And fall 2024 was a historic fall fire season for the state with more than 42 wildfires burning in October and November alone.

Locally, URI faculty members predict the trend toward increased wildfires will continue, with climate change causing more forest insects and diseases to shift into Rhode Island forests, resulting in dead and dying trees and more extreme weather patterns (hotter and dryer) for longer durations.

Laura Meyerson in the department of Natural Resources Science notes that invasive plant species can worsen wildfires. The 2023 fires in Maui were fueled in part by invasive grasses introduced for forage, she said.

“In Rhode Island, we have a heavier fuel load due to the dead standing and fallen trees from the spongy moth (formerly the gypsy moth),” she said. “The state’s plentiful stands of the tall reed grass *Phragmites australis*, found near the coast and around ponds, are a focus of her research. “This species poses a huge fire risk because of the large amount of dead standing biomass that persists.”

She says that Rhode Island also faces increased risk from a newer invasive species outbreak that is rapidly

devastating the state — beech leaf disease.

Her colleague Brett Still directs the University’s Master of Environmental Science and Management program (MESM) and frequently welcomes a recent graduate, now working in the field, to speak with undergraduates. Still discussed the fires in California in an interview.

What is fueling the wildfires in California and is it different from other wildfires that have impacted that part of the country?

Southern California has a Mediterranean climate that is characterized by periods of warm temperature and limited precipitation during the summer and early fall. More consistent rains typically do not arrive until the fall and winter months. Add high winds and dry conditions, which are occurring now, and you end up with high fire risk, where a spark can accelerate through the dry brush and gain intensity very quickly.

Were these fires anticipated? With wildfires recurring, did any prevention efforts help mitigate what is happening now?

Fire season in Southern California typically runs through the fall but has been extending later into the winter season given precipitation patterns. According to CalFire, there were January fires in 2021 and 2022.

In terms of mitigation, areas that have previously burned and have reduced fuel loads, such as through controlled burns, can result in lower intensity fires if the vegetation does not have a chance to get reestablished. However, at the moment it is difficult to know for sure the efficacy of such efforts.

In this part of the country,



URI faculty and alumni like Patrick MacMeekin (MESM '22), now at Rhode Island DEM, are assessing wildfire risks in the state.

New Englanders were aware of increased fire risk after the fall drought. Locally, what are we facing for fire threats and what can homeowners, business owners and residents do to mitigate wildfires?

Fire season in southern New England is punctuated with higher risk in the spring prior to leaf out of the tree canopy, and again, after the leaves come down in the fall. If we have prolonged dry conditions, low humidity, and high winds, during these periods of the year, the fuels can dry out and increase the fire risk. We have had increases in the number of brush fires in Rhode Island and southern New England over the past few years, and recently this fall given the very dry conditions.

Our region is predicted to have increased precipitation with the changing climate; however, we are also experiencing and are projected to experience more erratic patterns of precipitation. It is possible the brush fire risk can increase in our region if we continue to see these prolonged

periods with little rain and low humidity occurring during periods of the year with elevated fire risk.

What kind of education about wildfires is happening in URI programs like the undergraduate Natural Resources Science major or the online Master of Environmental Science and Management program?

Recent MESM alumni Patrick MacMeekin, an expert in wildland fire, came to our program with extensive experience working in fire-prone landscapes out West before arriving in Rhode Island. Pat was able to gain additional skills and network with individuals across the region, conducting Firewise Community Risk Assessments for a few of our local communities. Now Pat is working with Rhode Island’s Department of Environmental Management, sharing expertise and insight into the state wildland fire program and risks for Rhode Island communities. He also leads a field trip in my forest science and management

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Fri. 1/24: Cauliflower tomato soup, meatball sandwich, broccoli salad, whole wheat roll, sliced peaches. OPTION: corned beef Reuben sandwich.
Mon. 1/27: Vegetable soup, lasagna roll-up with/meat sauce, wax beans, whole wheat roll, sliced peaches. OPTION: Roast beef on roll.
Tues. 1/28: Tomato soup, roasted chicken, roasted potatoes, peas & carrots, whole wheat roll, brownie. OPTION: Cobb salad.

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Thurs. 1/23: Chicken soup, meatloaf w/gravy, mashed potatoes, peas & onions, roll, dessert. OPTION: chopped salad w/chicken.
Fri. 1/24: Cauliflower tomato soup, meatball sandwich, broccoli salad, roll, dessert. OPTION: corned beef Reuben sandwich.
Mon. 1/27: Vegetable soup, lasagna roll-up with/meat sauce, wax beans, roll, dessert. OPTION: Roast beef on roll.
Tues. 1/28: Tomato soup, roasted chicken, roasted potatoes, peas & carrots, roll, dessert. OPTION: Cobb salad.

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class for NRS students to learn about wildland fire in Rhode Island and southern New England.

He can talk to students with firsthand experience about how wildfires happen in Rhode Island or in other parts of the country like California.

At URI, Pat was able to build his wildfire knowledge and bolster his skills in analyzing and communicating about it; our program let him adapt his classes to the topic in a student-centered program that offers flexible curriculum. He created a wildfire evacuation communications plan for a capstone project, analyzed and mapped state ecosystems using GIS technology, and

even developed a wildfire mitigation plan for the town of Charlestown.

URI’s Nancy Karraker, another professor in the Natural Resources Science department, also studies the effects of wildfire and prescribed burning on reptiles and amphibians, in Rhode Island and New Mexico. She can discuss fire, both wildfire and prescribed fire used for management purposes, and the impact on wildlife.

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BY JENNIFER COATES

In today’s competitive and often over-crowded business environment, finding the best way to highlight your own business is more important than ever. How do you set yourself apart from your competitors? How do you best allocate your marketing funds, and stretch your dollars while getting the most exposure possible? How do you get the word out?

The best thing you can do is to find the right person who can answer all these questions and help pave the way for your business to be seen and to thrive.

That person is Melissa Miller, one of Beacon Media’s busiest and most productive account executives. Melissa has been helping customers across every line of work since 2016. Her primary objective is to serve those who have placed their

trust in her, and by extension, have laid their businesses in her trust. It is a responsibility that she does not take lightly.

Melissa is an experienced professional who will be your greatest advocate and contact person at Beacon Media’s widely circulated local newspapers, including The Reminder. She is meticulous, accessible, experienced, and diligent without being pushy or pesky.

The Reminder is a popular shopping guide that has been informing, serving, and raising awareness about local businesses since 1954. This local guide is packed full of ads featuring small businesses across the region including Coventry, West Warwick, Exeter and West Greenwich. It is also free to its readers.

If you are a business owner, from a convenience store owner to an attorney to a

doctor to a fuel delivery service to a tradesman to a salon owner to a restaurant to an auto repair shop — you name it, The Reminder is an excellent place to highlight whatever you are promoting. Advertisers from every imaginable business know that readers are scouring its pages to find out what they need and where to find it.

The Reminder is published weekly and can be found at many drops throughout the city. It is delivered directly to homes and is available online on Monday evenings, even before the paper edition hits the stands. This is extraordinary exposure — and an extraordinary opportunity for any business.

Melissa is well-acquainted with this popular local paper and knows all its advertising options, from this Business Spotlight section and full-page ads to smaller, two-inch visual ads — and everything in between. There are countless options that can be customized to fit your budget and objectives. As an Account Executive, Melissa serves businesses in Coventry, Exeter, West Greenwich and West Warwick.

Melissa Miller can be reached by phone at 401-732-3100, or by email at melissam@rhodybeat.com, Monday through Friday.



Meet Melissa Miller, serving local businesses with print and digital advertising options in The Reminder, the Cranston Herald, the Johnston Sunrise, and the Warwick Beacon — let her bring your business to the forefront of your customers’ minds.

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Real Estate Transactions

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ADDRESS	SELLERS	BUYERS	DATE	PRICE
COVENTRY				
120 W Shore Dr	Entrepreneur LLC	Boyer, Amy M and Killmurray, Thomas J	12/30	\$450,000
15 Gentry Farm Dr	Kicia, Kevin and Kicia, Sonya	Merkel, Jean P	1/2	\$850,000
16 Ironwood Dr	Dispirito, Jaclynn K	Hazelton, Samantha and Hazelton, Brandon	12/30	\$665,000
16 Old Summit Rd	Boulay, Bertrand	Brown, Heather and Realejo, Mario	1/3	\$315,000
221 Provident Pl	Habas, Szymon J	Aguebor, Arlington	12/30	\$525,000
44 Read Ave	Wilcox Adam J Est and Wilcox, John	Silva, Evan M	1/3	\$330,000
51 Hornbeam Rd	Golembewski, Andrew and Flores, Santos	Nicholson, Laura	12/30	\$675,000
52 Angus St	Ouellette, Mark J	Blanchard, Taylor and Fullam, Vanessa	12/30	\$379,000
67 Windsor Park Dr	Edward F Bucklin Iv T and Bucklin 4th, Edward F	Myers, Randy Q and Nelson, Amanda L	12/30	\$398,900
84 Acres Of Pine Rd	Dennis J Rossi T and Rossi Sr, Dennis J	Brussard, John	1/3	\$300,000
9 Columbia Ave	Belanger, Roland G and Rhodes, Joudi L	Atwood Properties LLC	1/2	\$265,000

CRANSTON				
130 Woodland Ave	Prak, Sokchenda	Then, Kacelin and Natareno, Rashar	12/30	\$410,000
1336 Cranston St	Lagniappe Rlty LLC	M Dos Corp	12/31	\$600,000
1340 Cranston St	Lagniappe Rlty LLC	M Dos Corp	12/31	\$430,000
140 Sinclair Ave	Deasley, David A and Deasley, Naomi	Almeida, Ashley A	1/2	\$395,000
16 Maple St	Collins, Lisa	Lerebourspayano, Jhon and Reyes, Lourdes E	12/31	\$472,000
175 Concord Ave	Elmwood Rlty LLC	Paulino, Jose and Paulino, Noga	1/2	\$560,000
21 Hope Hill Ter	Saint Pierre, Lucille G & Saint Pierre, Nicholas G	Miller Prop LLC	12/30	\$490,000
210 Macklin St	Loc Const LLC	Ortiz, Leonicio E	12/30	\$465,000
31 Intervale Rd	Wynn, Suzanne N	Harris, Eric J and Harris, Elizabeth L	12/30	\$410,000
349 Aqueduct Rd	Iacono Deborah A Est and Iacono, Matthew R	Garrick, Hope Y and Garrick, Sharon	12/30	\$385,000
46 Roslyn Ave	Mclp Asset Co Inc	Mclp Asset Co Inc	12/31	\$352,362
51 Oakland Ave	Thomas H Defusco Ft and Marsella, Karen B	Mota-Quiroa, Elder	12/30	\$500,000
51-53 Oakland Ave Lot 855	Thomas H Defusco Ft and Marsella, Karen B	Mota-Quiroa, Elder	12/30	\$500,000
58 Rose Hill Dr	Mariorenzi, Stephen	Cw Rodrigues Enterprises	1/2	\$225,000

EAST GREENWICH				
94 Division St	Tudino, Michael and Tudino, Cynthia J	Watson, Michael D and Watson, Michelle R	1/2	\$1,199,000
96 Friendship St	Cammuso, Karen T and Greene, Clark M	Gerstberger, Tobi	12/30	\$754,000

EXETER				
126 Sheffield Hill Rd	Disano, Stephanie	Vaughn, Kristen and Welch, Tristan	1/2	\$649,900

JOHNSTON				
116 CalumetAve	Dennis D Pimental RET & Pimental-Spicuzza, R D	Gaboriault, Jon	1/8	\$300,000
19 ContilloDr	Broccoli, Andrew and Broccoli, Harley C	Santilli, Phyllis R and Santilli, Ronald C	1/2	\$460,000
38 KingSt	Poons, Lynn	Sanchez, Wesley	1/3	\$310,000
41 LeeSt	Beaucage, Patricia A and United Asset Mgmt LLC	United Asset Mgmt LLC	1/6	\$140,000
51 Winston Way Lot 12	Mendizabal, Roberto and Mendizabal, Nancy	St Pierre, Lucille G	1/2	\$401,000

WARWICK				
1 Willow Glen Cir Lot 82	Grayko, Kayla J and Couture, Michelle	Coffey, Taylor	12/30	\$297,500
1027 Toll Gate Rd	Major, Kaitlyn E	Aslan Cap LLC	12/30	\$475,000

ADDRESS	SELLERS	BUYERS	DATE	PRICE
1027 Toll Gate Rd Lot 49	Major, Kaitlyn E	Aslan Cap LLC	12/30	\$475,000
107 Meadow St Lot 239	Pleasant Hill Hldg LLC	All Purpose Storage Warwi	12/31	\$1,075,000
11 Possner Ave Lot 95	Archambault, Rhonda and Ulricksen, Wayne	Mcguire, Brandon T and Madera, Nicole	12/30	\$309,000
12 DrakeRd	Gavigan, Mary J and Gavigan, William F	Durkin, Kristine and Morris, Christopher	12/31	\$580,000
18 Possner Ave Lot 101	Archambault, Rhonda and Ulricksen, Wayne	Mcguire, Brandon T and Madera, Nicole	12/30	\$309,000
18 Possner Ave Lot 96	Archambault, Rhonda and Ulricksen, Wayne	Mcguire, Brandon T and Madera, Nicole	12/30	\$309,000
2881 W Shore Rd	Vanasse, Michael P	Yang, Neng and Mui, Sokantheara K	12/30	\$380,000
30 Bangor St	Blasbalg, Joshua	Montanez, Victor M	12/30	\$366,000
31 Sagamore St	Bartholomew, Ginger and Zubrisky, Wendy L	Aljammal, Issam and Aljammal, Elizabeth	12/31	\$250,000
31 Verndale St	Cepeda, Dionisio A	Mc Golden Space Prop LLC	12/31	\$240,000
31 Verndale St Lot 93	Cepeda, Dionisio A	Mc Golden Space Prop LLC	12/31	\$240,000
5 John St	Pierce Jr, Frederick R and Birmingham, Donna L	Kulacz, Adam	12/30	\$305,000
62 Lincoln Ave	Garcia, Marys R	Samayoa, Jose	12/30	\$415,000
72 Bayonne Ave	Estevao, Dennis G	Pro Bldrs Ri LLC	1/2	\$180,000
89 Naushon Ave	Myers, Michael A and Myers, Patricia A	West Bay Hm Solutions LLC	12/31	\$280,000

WEST GREENWICH				
330-B Plain Meeting House Rd	Smith, Sandra and Smith 3rdRhuben	Macko, Patricia M and Macko, Paul P	12/31	\$624,400

WEST WARWICK				
10 ArthurSt	Toolan, Tyler J	Louis, Flore M and Joseph, Tchery N	1/8	\$530,000
6 KentSt	Gomez, Kelly and Gomez, Emanuel	Laprade Jr, John G	1/7	\$397,500
92 HamiltonSt	Pardington 3rd, James	Lake, Justin K and Carley, Miranda N	1/2	\$435,000



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One letter stands for another. In this sample, **A** is used for the three L's, **X** for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.

GPROZ OR KXQDJDNE HSL
QWNE XLJN GJTOZ O SJBL
LWZQPWHLXLF OW GE NOML.
— HQG K LHHE

ANSWER: MUSIC IS PROBABLY THE ONLY REAL MAGIC I HAVE ENCOUNTERED IN MY LIFE.
— TOM PETTY

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Weekly SUDOKU

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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

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King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Pickle holders
5 Klutz
8 Pre-weekend yell
12 Layered cook-
ie
13 School org.
14 Nozzle site
15 Complaint
16 Mahal preced-
er
17 Memory meth-
od
18 Jungle trek
20 Apple product
22 "Lunch break
is over!"
26 Sports bar fix-
ture
29 "Mangia!"
30 Avril follower
31 Marsh plant
32 "Blue Bloods"
airer
33 Nov. honorees
34 401(k) alterna-
tive

35 Notable time
36 Trig terms
37 Consecutive
40 Puerto —
41 Small apes
45 Help a hood
47 Fanatic
49 Aswan's river
50 Roster
51 Compass dir.
52 Radiate
53 — -bitty
54 Carried out
55 Lushes

DOWN

1 Want-ad list-
ings
2 Region
3 Coral forma-
tion
4 Sleeper
5 Eye-related
6 One-time link
7 Tex-Mex wraps
8 Toss
9 Favorable sign
10 Follower (Suff.)

11 Service charge
19 Squealer
21 Soup cooker
23 Skewered
entree
24 Assess
25 Smooch
26 Chicago paper,
briefly
27 Actress
Farmiga
28 "American
Idol" host
Ryan
32 Sang softly
33 Minnesota
footballers
35 Catchall abbr.
36 Learning ctr.
38 Poker pot
39 Played a part
42 Actor O'Shea
43 Conspiracy
44 Stitches
45 Boxing legend
46 Morsel
48 Numerical pre-
fix

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53						54				55			

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MAGIC MAZE

●

THINGS THAT
PILE UP

F G D T S B Y W T R P M K I F
D S B S S E N I Z A G A M Y S
W U T S R I V Q O M K I F D E
B Z X E W E L A U N D R Y U H
S Q O N S L P O E J H S F S S
D C A Y K O W A D L Y V A T I
S Q P N O L L K P O I R H F D
E C P R O J E C T S T B E D B
S L L I B Z Y W V U W O N S S
R Q P N G N I L C Y C E R M L
J I H T S I L W E D Y E N O H

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: DIRTY — IN THE SINK

Bills	Honeydew list	Newspapers	To-do list
Books	Laundry	Projects	Toys
Closets	Leaves	Recycling	Trash
Debt	Magazines	Snow	

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Weekly SUDOKU

Solution time: 25 mins.

THINGS THAT PILE UP

Solution time: 25 mins.



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Family Owned & Operated

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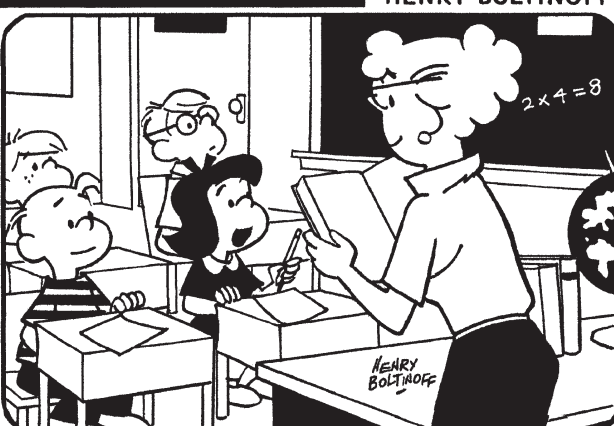
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BY
HENRY BOLTINOFF

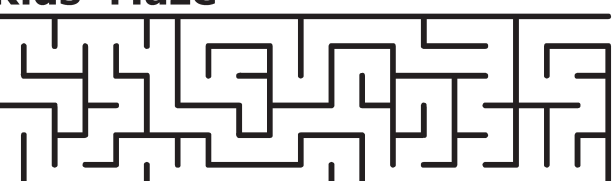


Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Desk leg is missing. 2. Book is missing. 3. Door knob is higher. 4. Blackboard is wider. 5. Bow is missing. 6. Pencil is added on desk.

Kids' Maze



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Entertainment & Events

ALL R.I. STUDENTS IN 8TH & 9TH GRADE ARE INVITED TO SCITUATE'S

OPEN HOUSE

WEDNESDAY | FEB. 5, 2025 | 6 P.M.
Snow Date: Feb 12th



10:1

STUDENT TEACHER RATIO

5

RIDE-APPROVED CTE PATHWAYS

12

PATHWAY ENDORSEMENTS

WHY SCITUATE?

- Explore a variety of opportunities in the arts and athletics, and participate in innovative student-led clubs.
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- Learn from teachers rated among the best in Providence County according to Niche.com.

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Out of this World

SPACE FACTS

by Jason Major



In January of 1610 Italian astronomer Galileo Galilei used his homemade telescope to look at Jupiter. He could see four "stars" next to it that changed position every night, thus discovering the first moons beyond our own Moon!

Support Our Local Businesses!

SHOP LOCAL



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821-2216





885 OAKLAND BEACH AVE, WARWICK, RI

IGGY'S BOARDWALK

\$10 OFF

A Purchase of \$50 Or More

Valid for in-store food and non-alcoholic beverage purchases only at IGGY'S Boardwalk. This coupon may not be redeemed on holidays or combined with any other offer. Exp. 2/28/2025.

EXPRESS ONLINE ORDERING FOR TAKE-OUT @ IGGYSRI.COM

IGGY'S BOARDWALK

BUY ONE, GET ONE FREE SANDWICH OR ENTREE with the purchase of a beverage! SUNDAY-THURSDAY ONLY

Not valid at Iggy's Doughboys & Chowder House. Not valid with takeout or online orders (including GrubHub, DoorDash, UberEats) or on holidays. Cannot be combined with any offer. Dine-in ONLY with minimum of 2 guests. Excludes all Lobster and 10oz Filet Mignon. No substitutions allowed. Taxes not included in promotion. 20% Gratuity will be added before discount. No separate checks allowed. One time use only. Must purchase a beverage. Show coupon to team member and provide email or phone number upon ordering. Exp 2/28/2025.

IGGY'S BOARDWALK

Monday - Friday 3pm - 6pm

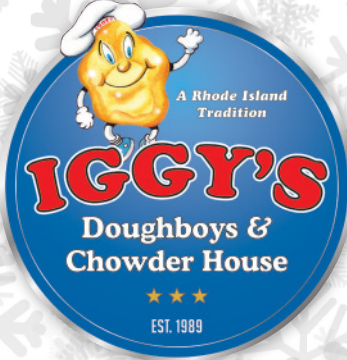
Restrictions do apply

APPY HOUR

1/2 priced appetizers from a select menu

BUCK & SHUCK

\$1 Littlenecks & Oyster



It's Always Summer at IGGY'S

OPEN YEAR ROUND WARWICK AND NARRAGANSETT

IGGY'S SPECIAL

A PURCHASE OF \$30 OR MORE

\$5 OFF

Must present coupon at time of order. Valid for in-store food and beverage purchases only at Iggy's Doughboys & Chowder House. This offer cannot be combined with any other offers. Exp. 2/28/2025.

ANY TWO DINNERS

Includes: Chowder or Salad, 6 Clam Cakes & 6 Doughboys

\$39.99

plus tax

Not valid at Iggy's Boardwalk, online orders including GrubHub, DoorDash, UberEats) or on holidays. Excludes lobster. Cannot be combined with any offer. No substitutions allowed. Taxes not included in promotion. Participating locations may vary. Show coupon to team member upon ordering. Expires 2/28/2025.



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Locally Served

PROVIDING QUALITY PRODUCE AND FRIENDLY SERVICE
TO OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 1954

WEEKLY SPECIALS



Large
California
Seedless
Oranges

\$1.49

lb.

Florida Small
Grapefruit

Fresh Imported
Blueberries

Asparagus

Florida Large
Tomatoes

Grape
Tomatoes

Persian Mini
Cucumbers

3/99¢

\$2.99 cont.

\$3.99 lb.

\$1.49 lb.

\$1.99 pkg.

\$1.49 pkg.



Golden Delicious
Apples

\$1.29

lb.

BUTCHER SHOP

Fresh Grade "A" Whole or Split
Bone-In
Chicken Breasts

USDA Boneless
Pork Chops or Roast

Perdue
Oven Stuffer
Roaster



GROCERY

8.5-8.8 oz.
Assorted Varieties
Ben's
Ready Rice



2/\$5

15 oz.
One Pie Pumpkin

16 oz.
Vlasic Pickles

\$2.49 ea.

2/\$6

128 oz.
Arizona Tea

12 oz. Assorted Varieties
Brianna's
Dressing

2/\$7

2/\$7

24 oz.
Mott's
Applesauce

\$2.99 ea.



FROZEN FOODS

NEW IN STORE!!
10.9-15 oz.
Against
the Grain
Gluten Free
Bread Products



\$5.99 ea.

DAIRY

16 oz.
Egg Beater
Cage Free



\$4.29 ea.

BAKERY



6 oz. Assorted Flavors
Steve's
Whoopie Pies

2/\$5

20 oz. Assorted Flavors
Jessica's Brick Oven
Bakery Pane Bread

Strawberry
Shortcake

Assorted
Cake Slices

\$2.99 ea.

\$15.99 ea.

\$3.99 ea.

DELI

Harvest
Oven Roasted
Turkey
Breast



\$9.99

lb.

Provolone
Cheese

\$5.99

lb.

5 oz. BelGioioso
Shredded or Shaved
Cheese Cups

\$3.99 ea.

PREPARED FOODS

Breaded Boneless
Pork Chops

\$6.99

lb.

Stir Fry
Vegetables

\$5.49

lb.

Grilled Boneless
Chicken Breast

\$8.99

lb.

White Cheddar Mac & Cheese
w/Breaded Chicken
& Broccoli Entrée

\$7.99

lb.

Local Market
Locations:

Visit us online at
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West Greenwich

10 ARNOLD FARM ROAD
WEST GREENWICH, RI 02817
401-397-7624
HOURS: MON - SAT: 7AM - 7PM SUN: 7AM - 6PM

Narragansett

1183 BOSTON NECK ROAD
NARRAGANSETT, RI 02882
401-284-2900
HOURS: MON - SUN: 7AM - 7PM

Prices
in Effect
January
22-28