

Updates, Monday December 28th, 2020

OK, here's a reminder; If you traveled for the holidays you must quarantine or test. For more information visit [Mass.gov/holidays](https://www.mass.gov/holidays)  
Enough said about that.

As you know, Massachusetts law requires drivers who are age 75 or older to renew in person. The RMV has designated Wednesdays in January to serve these customers. Between the hours of 9:00 am and 10:30 am, service centers will be dedicated to processing license renewals for older customers whose licenses expire in January, 2021. The North Adams site is available. A reservation is required. A renewal letter has been sent to eligible individuals who currently hold a driver's license or ID card expiring in January. If you are a AAA member, you may make a reservation now to renew your driver's license/ID at an AAA location to schedule your visit.

If you are not a AAA member, visit [www.Mass.Gov/RMV](https://www.Mass.Gov/RMV) Mass. Gov/RMV to make a reservation to renew. Select the "Seniors License Renewal" option on the "Make/Cancel a Reservation transaction"

I have heard that the process works very smoothly. That's a good thing, dontcha think?

Goodwill Industries of the Berkshires and Southern Vermont is offering scholarships to North County residents who are interested in adapting to a new work world. The next virtual Employability Skills Certificate Program, featuring skills that can help you get jobs, is on the following dates: January 5, 6, and 7 from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM and January 18, 19, and 20 from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM.

There is a new option starting in January for Customer Service Certification. This program is 4 weeks long, meeting Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of each week beginning January 12, 2020 and ending February 4, 2021. Please visit their [website at Goodwill-berkshires.org](https://www.goodwill-berkshires.org) to register. Or you can call Kathy Anker at 413-442-0061 x14 for registration. Check it out yourself or share with someone you know who might be interested.

Community Legal Aid provides free legal service to low-income and elder residents. They have received funding to launch a new COVID-19 Eviction Legal Help Project to provide legal assistance in pandemic-related eviction cases. Their local offices are in North Adams and Pittsfield.

The project is part of a statewide deployment of legal services, community agencies and local attorneys to fight potential evictions arising out of the coronavirus pandemic and its economic fallout. The project is funded by the Baker-Polito administration's Eviction Diversion Initiative. Here's a link to that program;

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-eviction-diversion-initiative-overview> Legal assistance through the project is being offered to tenants who live in households with income up to 200 percent of the poverty level (for 2020, \$4,367 a month for a family of four). Here's a link; [www.communitylegal.org](http://www.communitylegal.org)

Remember, if you're a Williamstown resident affected by Covid 19, there are also options available through the Williamstown Affordable Housing Trust/Berkshire Housing initiative. You can call Berkshire Housing at 413-499-1630 Ext. 100 to leave a message, they will call you back, or you can visit their website at [www.berkshirehousing.com](http://www.berkshirehousing.com) to find an online application.

See you later

Brian