



# City of Cambridge

R-38.

IN CITY COUNCIL

October 2, 2000

COUNCILLOR DAVIS  
COUNCILLOR BORN  
COUNCILLOR BRAUDE  
COUNCILLOR DECKER  
MAYOR GALLUCCIO  
VICE MAYOR MAHER  
COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN  
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

WHEREAS: The Cambridge Post Office and the Council on Aging work together on Carrier Alert, an addition to the safety net needed by vulnerable senior citizens; and

WHEREAS: For seniors who enroll in Carrier Alert through the Council on Aging, the postal carrier and the Post Office notify the Council on Aging if mail is inexplicably accumulating in the mail box, and the Council on Aging uses the emergency contact information supplied by the seniors when they enrolled; and

WHEREAS: This innovative program was developed by the Cambridge Postmaster, the Cambridge Postal Customer Advisory Group, the Cambridge Consumers' Council and the Council on Aging; and

WHEREAS: Additional sponsors include the National Association of Letter Carriers and the Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities; now therefore be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record commending the developers and sponsors of this important addition to the safety net for vulnerable adults; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Council urge all senior Cantabrigians to be cognizant of Carrier Alert, a free program that authorizes the postal carrier to notify the Council on Aging if their mail is accumulating in the mailbox. (To sign up, call 349-6055 and leave a message).

In City Council October 2, 2000.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of eight members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "D. Margaret Drury".

D. Margaret Drury  
City Clerk

9/27 9/27

R-38 Ith

① W/A The Cambridge Post Office and the Council on Aging work together in a ~~program~~ Carrier Alert, ~~(a program to provide)~~ an addition to the safety net needed by vulnerable senior citizens;

② W/A <sup>En.</sup> <sup>who</sup> <sup>is</sup> <sup>in</sup> <sup>Carrier Alert</sup> <sup>Senior</sup> <sup>enroll</sup>, through the Council on Aging, the postal carrier & the Post Office notify ~~mail~~

~~the postal carrier~~

Council on Aging if mail is inexplicably accumulating in the mail box, and the Council on Aging uses the emergency contact information supplied by the seniors when they enrolled; and

③ This innovative program was developed by the Cambridge Postmaster, the Cambridge Postal Customer Advisory Group, the Cambridge Consumers' Council and the Cambridge Council on Aging; and

W/A Additional sponsors include the National Association of Letter Carriers <sup>and</sup> the Cambridge Commission for Persons w/ Disabilities; none therefore be it

R: That the CC go on record <sup>congratulating</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> developers and sponsors of ~~this important~~ <sup>in addition to the safety net for vulnerable elders;</sup> ~~Added~~; and be it further

R That the CC urge all senior Cambridgeians ~~[and relatives of senior Cambridgeians]~~ to be cognizant of Carrier Alert, a free program ~~[additional protection that seniors can sign up for to have]~~ that authorizes the postal carrier to notify the Council on Aging if <sup>their</sup> mail is ~~not being picked up by the firm~~ accumulating in the mailbox. (To sign up, call 349-6655 and leave a message.) ~~note~~



AD

5:12 9/27

Mgt  
Council  
Prider

September 27, 2000

Cambridge City Co  
City Hall  
795 Massachusetts Ave  
Cambridge MA 0213

Dear Mr. Mayor and C

The Cambridge Postmaster and the Cambridge Postal Customer Advisory Group is please to inform you that another outreach effort is underway to reach the most vulnerable Cambridge residents with a "safety net" effort called **Carrier Alert**. The attached mailing has just been sent to all Cambridge residents 70 years old and older to offer an opportunity to sign-up for this program if it seems to fit their situation.

The first effort to put this program in place in Cambridge occurred two years ago. Approximately 40 Cambridge seniors enrolled. These 40 seniors provided the necessary information to the Cambridge Council on Aging that could be important if the postal carrier noticed that their mail was accumulating in their mailbox. The carrier and the Post Office notifies the Council on Aging in such a circumstance and the emergency contact information the senior provided is then activated. This system certainly does not replace a 911 call or the Lifeline System but is a positive addition to the safety net needed for vulnerable senior citizens.

The Cambridge Consumers' Council and Council on Aging are the city departments most involved in the development of this program for the City. The National Association of Letter Carriers heartily endorses it because the letter carrier is the vital link to make it work. The Cambridge Post Office and a local non-profit agency that assists seniors, Paine Social Services, covered the cost of the printing.

We believe this is another good example of the Cambridge Post Office and the Customer Advisory Group working together to ensure not only good mail service in Cambridge but to seize opportunities for the Post Office to be a vital member of this community.

Sincerely,

Marsha A. Cannon  
Cambridge Postmaster

Paul Schlaver for the  
Cambridge Postal Customer Advisory Group

2000 JUN 27 12 45 52  
RECEIVED  
SHEPHERD



September 27, 2000

Cambridge City Council  
City Hall  
795 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge MA 02139

Dear Mr. Mayor and City Councillors;

The Cambridge Postmaster and the Cambridge Postal Customer Advisory Group is please to inform you that another outreach effort is underway to reach the most vulnerable Cambridge residents with a "safety net" effort called *Carrier Alert*. The attached mailing has just been sent to all Cambridge residents 70 years old and older to offer an opportunity to sign-up for this program if it seems to fit their situation.

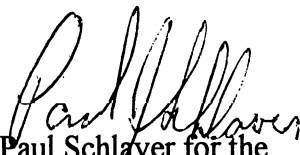
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Sincerely,

  
Marsha A. Cannon  
Cambridge Postmaster

  
Paul Schlaver for the  
Cambridge Postal Customer Advisory Group



# **Carrier Alert** - A program for the Elderly and Disabled who live in Cambridge

## **What is Carrier Alert?**

Carrier Alert is a free program that offers home-bound adults an extra measure of personal security.

It works by cooperation between the United States Postal Service and the Cambridge Council on Aging.

This service has been operational in Cambridge for two years and is also available in some other communities in the U.S

## **How Does it Work?**

- You fill out an application form. You provide the names of family members or friends to be contacted in case you need help.
- The Cambridge Council on Aging keeps this information confidential and uses it only if an emergency exists.
- Your letter carrier will check to make sure you pick up your mail from your mailbox. If mail starts to accumulate, the letter carrier will contact the Council on Aging.
- The Council on Aging will get in touch with your designated family member or friend to see if assistance is needed.
- To obtain an application form and more information telephone the Council on Aging at 349-6055.

## **How Much Does it Cost?**

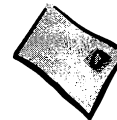
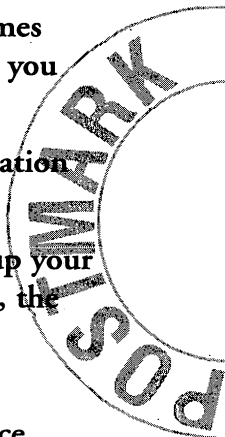
It costs nothing. This service is available to those who wish to participate provided that you have a mailbox accessible to your postal carrier. Mail slots are ineligible, but if you are interested in having your delivery changed to a mailbox, the Council on Aging can offer free assistance.

## **What if You are Away from Home?**

Be sure to notify the Cambridge Post Office if you are away from your home by completing an official hold card.

## **How To Sign Up?**

Simply call the Council on Aging at 349-6055 and leave a message with your name and telephone number on Voice Mail. The Council on Aging will call you to answer any questions and arrange to send you an application form. After you designate emergency contacts and send back your application, we will notify the U.S. Postal Service of your enrollment in Carrier Alert.



**Sponsors include:** Cambridge Council on Aging; Cambridge Postal Advisory Group; United States Postal Service; National Association of Letter Carriers; Cambridge Consumers' Council; Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities; Paine Social Services  
**Endorsed by:** Cambridge Police Department & Cambridge Fire Department

**Carrier Alert**

P.O. Box 390649

Cambridge, MA 02139-0001



**FIRST-CLASS MAIL**  
**POSTAGE & FEES**  
**PAID**  
**USPS**  
**PERMIT NO G-10**



# City of Cambridge

R-38.

## IN CITY COUNCIL

October 2, 2000

### COUNCILLOR DAVIS

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R1176

**Resolution #38**

Carrier Alert, a free program to alert the postal carrier to notify the Council on Aging if mail of senior Cantabrigians accumulates in their mailboxes.

(To sign up, call 349-6055 and leave a message).

**Councillor Davis**

**In City Council October 2, 2000**

**ORDER ADOPTED**