



COVENTRY COMMUNITY UPDATE: February 2014

...a periodic update of news and events around town.

MANAGER'S MONTHLY MEMO:

Groundhog Day is almost here. A day which some believe is a forecast of an early spring or long winter. Or some believe in Bill Murray's version where you keep doing the same thing until you get different results. Both are lessons we can learn from. Sometimes we do need to keep working on things to make them better; trying slightly different techniques. We also know the groundhog is no better a forecaster than our favorite local weather personality.

So let's look at snowplowing. Each storm must be treated differently. There are times when the storm is predicted to change to rain/ice. In these cases we do not want bare roads since they will turn to black ice and be impassable. Some crumble snow is purposefully left on the road. Some storms are long duration of over a day. Our crews need to be pulled to let them rejuvenate to be able to outlast the storm. So we rely on weather predictors and will continue to change approaches to improve our outcomes.

This month I want to highlight two special events:

On February 13th at 7:00 PM at the Patriots Park Lodge, Steve Reviczky, Commissioner of Agriculture, will be the featured speaker at a **Community Gardens Planning Summit**. Creating community gardens is a new Town initiative. Come and help plan how and where it will blossom. More info [here](#).

On Thursday, February 20th at 7:00 PM in the Town Hall Annex, a [Public Information Meeting](#) to receive feedback on where the best routes for completing the **Millbrook Walkway** in the Village will be held. We urge all interested parties to come and share your thoughts.

Also, the Town is preparing a grant application for housing rehabilitation for code issues. If your house needs code repair work for items such as heating, plumbing, roof, septic (or sewer connections), please contact Peter Huckins, Community Consulting, at 860-456-0782. We need to demonstrate community need to qualify for the grant. Click [here](#) for more information.

UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS:

- Mon, 2/3: Town Council Meeting: 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Thurs, 2/6: WPCA, 6:45 PM, DPW building
- Mon, 2/10: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Thurs, 2/13: Board of Education, 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Tues, 2/18: Town Council, 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Mon, 2/24: Public Hearing, Community Development Block Grant Small Cities Program, 7:00 PM, Town Hall Conference Room B
- Weds, 2/26: Inland Wetlands Agency, 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Thurs, 2/27: Board of Education, 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex

For a complete monthly calendar of other Board & Commission events, click [here](#).

CLOSINGS:

Monday, 2/17: **Presidents' Day holiday.** Town Hall and schools closed. Trash pick-up on regular schedule.

COMING EVENTS:

Sun 2/2 **Coventry Regional Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Coventry High School, 78 Ripley Hill Road. Info: www.coventryfarmersmarket.com.

Mon 2/3 **Fitness Center Equipment Orientation**, 10:30 AM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. The Fitness Center is up and running! Stop by the Senior Center to pick up a Fitness Center packet, which has all the information you need to get started. Attendance at an Equipment Orientation Session is mandatory before using the Fitness Center. Please call the Senior Center at 860-742-3525 to register or for more information.

Tues 2/4 **Free English as a Second Language Classes**, 6:30-8:30 PM, Presbyterian Church of Coventry, 55 Trowbridge Road. Offered every Tuesday through April 29. Students can begin any week. Free childcare is available. The book cost is \$20. Questions? Call the church office at 860-742-7222 or email director Ruth Dagg at rldagg@gmail.com.

Weds 2/5 **AARP Tax Aid**, 9 AM – 12 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Tax Aid Appointments will once again be available at the Senior Center! This is a free service provided by AARP and they are prepared to file electronic returns as well as the traditional 'paper and pencil' returns. All information is kept confidential. Appointments will be available February 5th & 19th, March 5th & 19th and April 2nd. Please call the Senior Center at 860-742-3525 to schedule your appointment.

Weds 2/5 **Early Literacy Playgroup**, 10:30-11:30 AM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. An opportunity for children to make new friends as their adults network with each other. Developmentally appropriate toys, crafts, sensory materials, books, musical instruments and activities provide a literacy rich environment that will help with future reading success! *For ages birth to 5.* Older siblings are welcome. *No registration is required.* Wednesdays, Feb. 5, 12, 19 & 26.

Weds 2/5 **Teen Gaming Club**, 3-5 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Click [here](#) for more information about teen programming at the Library.

Fri 2/7 **African Culture Presentation & Luncheon**, 11 AM – 1 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Travel to Africa without ever getting on a plane! African Native Rita Wagener will captivate you with her informative and fun presentation on African culture. Rita will take you on a journey as she shares the customs of her motherland, including traditional African fashion and dancing. Lunch will be provided. Please call the Senior Center at 860-742-3525 to register by January 31st.

Fri 2/7 **Father-Daughter Valentine Dance**, 7-9:30 PM, Capt. Nathan Hale Middle School, 1776 Main Street. DJ music for dancing, refreshments for sale, games & art projects led by the Parks & Recreation staff. Professional photos available. Daughters are free. Fathers \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door. Information and registration [here](#).

Sat 2/8 **Roast Pork Community Supper**, 4:30 – 6:30 PM, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. \$10 adults, \$9 seniors, \$6 children ages 6-12, takeout \$9. For more information call 860-742-8487.

Sun 2/9 **Coventry Regional Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Coventry High School, 78 Ripley Hill Road. Info: www.coventryfarmersmarket.com.

Mon 2/10 **Spa Days**, 9:30 AM – 12 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Michelle DeLuco of Kennedy & Co. Salon & Spa will offer spray bottle variety haircuts, clipper cuts and eyebrow or beard trimming. The price for haircuts is \$10, payable directly to Michelle at the time of the appointment. Hope Charette of Hope & Wellness Salon will also offer nail clipping, manicures & pedicures. The price for nail clipping is \$10; add scrub and polish for an additional \$10, payable directly to Hope at the time of the appointment. Please call the Center at 860-742-3525 to make an appointment or for more information.

Tues 2/11 **Open Meeting - Coventry Garden Club**, 7 PM, Presbyterian Church of Coventry, 55 Trowbridge Road. Topic - Born to Fly: Raising and Releasing Monarchs. Joanne Miller has seen hundreds of Monarch butterflies born at her home, take flight in her backyard and begin their migration. She will discuss her operation of a Monarch nursery and her hopes of increasing the Monarch population. Garden Club Info: [Carole Miller](#).

Weds 2/12 **LEGO® Club**, 4-5 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Join us for our LEGO Club! We provide the bricks-you build with them! Drop-in program, registration is encouraged but not required (2/12 is a school early release day). *For ages 5+.* *LEGO is a trademark of the LEGO Group, which does not sponsor, authorize, or endorse this program. See the Library [website](#) for more info and other events.

Thurs 2/13 **Podiatric Footcare Clinic**, 9:30 AM – 12 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Podiatrist Dr. Anthony Morgan will provide toenail clipping and podiatric evaluation. Dr. Morgan accepts Medicare and private insurance, so please remember to bring your insurance card with you to your appointment. For all questions regarding fees and insurance coverage, please call Dr. Morgan's office directly at (860) 537-5520. Please call the Senior Center at 860-742-3525 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

Thurs 2/13 **Community Gardens Planning Summit**, 7 PM, Patriots Park Lodge, 172 Lake Street. Steve Reviczky, Commissioner of Agriculture for the State of Connecticut, will provide a brief introduction to community gardening and lead a lively discussion on how we can bring community gardens to Coventry! Seating is limited – for more information and to reserve a spot, click [here](#).

Sun 2/16 **Coventry Regional Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Coventry High School, 78 Ripley Hill Road. Info: www.coventryfarmersmarket.com.

Tues 2/18 **Massage Therapy & Reflexology Sessions**, 9:30 AM – 2 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Increase blood flow to all major organs and relieve muscle tension in your neck, shoulders & lower back with a 20 minute chair massage by Deb Turner, L.M.T. Or, treat your feet and increase joint mobility & balance through body awareness with a reflexology session. There is a \$15.00 fee payable directly to Deb at the time of the appointment. Please call the Senior Center at 860-742-

3525 to schedule an appointment.

Weds 2/19 **Teen Gaming Club**, 3-5 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Click [here](#) for more information about teen programming at the Library.

Thurs 2/20 **Parenting Workshop: "Getting the Behavior you Want,"** 6-8 PM, Patriots Park Lodge, 172 Lake Street. Learn how to gain more cooperation and improve your relationship with your child. Appropriate for parents, grandparents, foster parents, teachers and other caregivers of children in grades K-8. Presenter, Joe L. Freeman, M.Div., LCSW. Free. To register contact Crystal Morawitz, Youth Services Coordinator, at 860-742-5324.

Thurs 2/20 **Public Planning Forum: Millbrook Greenway Linear Trail System**, 7:00 PM, Town Hall Annex, 1712 Main Street. Discuss ideas for extending the trail from Historic Coventry Village downstream to connect with the Willimantic River. Questions on the forum can be directed to Eric M. Trott, Coventry Director of Planning and Development, at 860-742-4062 or etrott@coventryct.org.

Sun 2/23 **Coventry Regional Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Coventry High School, 78 Ripley Hill Road. Info: www.coventryfarmersmarket.com.

Tues 2/25 **Commissioning Ceremony, Electric Vehicle Charging Station**, 9:30 AM, rear parking lot at Town Hall, 1712 Main Street. Join State officials from CT DEEP, students from Capt. Nathan Hale Middle School's Nature and Environment Enrichment class, members of the Coventry Energy Conservation/Alternative Energy Committee and Town staff as we formally celebrate the arrival of our new electric vehicle charging station. One-hundred percent funded by grants, the station charges two vehicles at a time and is free for public use. For more information about the station, click [here](#).

Tues 2/25 **Crafts for Teens: Dream Catchers**, 3:00 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. In Native American lore, dream catchers are used to trap bad dreams from harming your sleep. Create your very own wire dream catcher. See the Library [website](#) for more info and other events.

Weds 2/26 **Community Luncheon**, 12 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Join us this month for a delicious meal of pot roast, mashed potatoes, baby carrots and chocolate cake. The cost for the meal is \$5.00, and tickets need to be purchased at the Senior Center by February 12th. Please call the Senior Center at 860-742-3525 for more information.

Weds 2/26 **The Burning Question of Nathan Hale**, 7:00 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. **(This is a date change.)** Was there a connection between Nathan Hale and the great fire which nearly destroyed New York City the day before his capture? This lecture will provide new insight into Hale's life, death and heroism. Presented by Connecticut State Historian, Professor Walter Woodward. See the Library [website](#) for more info and other events.

REVALUATION VISITS UNDERWAY: Coventry town officials remind homeowners of the revaluation project being conducted for the October 1, 2014 grand list by representatives of the firm, Vision Appraisal Technology. It will consist of data collectors visiting these properties confirming data. Data collectors will be wearing an identification badge and representatives will have their vehicles registered with the police department, the Assessor's and Town Manager's Office. Homeowners are encouraged to ask for this identification prior to admitting anyone into their homes. If a homeowner has any

question as to the identity of a data collector, they may call the police or the tax assessor's office for further confirmation.

EARLY LITERACY STATIONS AT THE LIBRARY: The Booth & Dimock Library is excited to announce the arrival of their AWE Early Literacy Stations. These self-contained, educational touch screen computer stations are loaded with programs for children ages 2-8. They contain over 60 top-rated, educational games which support early literacy and school readiness skills while making learning exciting and engaging. *These machines are funded through donations from our Membership Drive.* We hope you'll stop by the Children's Department and try them out!

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION SEEKING MEMBERS: The Anne Wood Elderkin Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) is seeking new members. The DAR seeks to honor and preserve the legacy of our Patriot ancestors. The society conducts various programs that support historic preservation, promote education and patriotic endeavors. Membership requires establishing your lineage and there are many tools to help accomplish this. For more information contact Valerie Chase, Regent, at 860-649-2737 or email vichase@earthlink.net.

FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS ON PEGCENTRAL: Watch an interview with Courtney Chan of the Coventry Human Services Department as part of our continuing "Coventry Conversations" series. View Town meetings and other special programming from your computer - no cable TV required! Click here to visit [Pegcentral](#) online.

To list your event in next month's bulletin, contact Laura Stone at LStone@coventryct.org by the 15th of the month.

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