



COVENTRY COMMUNITY UPDATE:

March 2015

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

MANAGER'S MONTHLY MEMO:

As we march into spring, a few words on winter, budget and several projects.

I know we all have had it with the long winter storms. They broke our snow budget and several of our trucks, and almost the spirits of our Public Works crews. We thank you for your patience but we have very long plow routes and when it is snowing at a rate of several inches an hour it is impossible for us to keep up. We are making adjustments and mentoring our newer staff. We appreciate the Town Council giving us an extra \$65,000 to hopefully get us through the rest of winter.

A few final winter tips:

- Please open a pathway to your doors at least three feet wide. Fire, EMS, Police and Building Inspectors can't provide service if they can't get to your house.
- Remember to clear air exhaust for heating systems and fuel refill areas.
- As the melting begins and rain comes, please try to clear your gutters to let water get away from your house. Remember the ground next to your basement thaws first and it is a recipe for a wet basement. Ice dams are not easy to clear but getting the snow off helps let the sun work on the ice. Watch out for power lines when using a roof rake.

Now you can think spring and think about gardens. If you are interested in working on a community garden planned for Creaser Park this spring, please contact Recreation at 860-742-4068.

Also, share your spring love of Coventry note with us at lovecoventry@coventryct.org and earn a static cling "Love Coventry" decal (decals go to first 100 respondents).

You can stay in touch with up to date Town activities by friending us on [Facebook](#) or subscribing to automatic notices through the "[Notify Me](#)" section of our website.

A couple of projects to note:

- CT DOT will be holding a [Public Information meeting](#) on the replacement of the Rt. 275 Bridge over the Willimantic River this fall on Wednesday, February 25th at the CHS lecture hall at 7 PM (snow date 3/3).
- The Town Manager's budget hearing is scheduled for Thursday, March 12, 2105 at 7 PM in the Coventry High School Lecture Hall.
- We expect that the Pucker Street Bridge over the Hop River will be closing in March through November. We await final approval to proceed from CT DOT. Watch for updates.

UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS:

- Weds, 2/25: Public Information Meeting, Replacement of Bridge on Rt. 275 over Willimantic River, 7 PM, CHS Lecture Hall
- Mon, 3/2: Town Council Meeting: 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex.
- Mon, 3/9: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Thurs, 3/12: [Manager's Budget Hearing](#), 7:00 PM, CHS Lecture Hall
- Mon, 3/16: Town Council Meeting: 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Mon, 3/23: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7 PM, Town Hall Annex

- Weds, 3/25: Inland Wetlands Agency, 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Thurs, 3/26: Board of Education, 7:30 PM, School Admin. Building

Please watch for Special Budget meetings of the Town Council to be announced soon.
For a complete monthly calendar of other Board & Commission events, click [here](#).

CANCELLATION:

No [fingerprinting services](#) at **Coventry Police Department on Wednesday, 2/25**. The next available service will be Saturday, 2/28 from 9 AM to noon.

COMING EVENTS:

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| Fri | 3/6 | <p>AARP Tax Aid, 9 AM – 12 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. The Senior Center is thrilled to offer AARP Tax Aid for tax preparation assistance. Appointments are available on the following Fridays: March 6, March 13 and March 27. The appointments are offered at 9 AM, 10 AM, 11 AM and 12 PM. Please call 860-742-3525 to schedule your appointment in advance and plan for at least one hour per appointment. Please indicate if you will need transportation. On the day of your appointment you will be required to complete an interview questionnaire, bring a form of photo identification, and bring the following documents as applicable to your financial situation: copy of last year’s tax return, proof of all income sources, proof of interest or dividends (all 1099 forms), all forms indicating federal income tax paid, dependent care provider information, all receipts or cancelled checks for itemized deductions (such as property tax, car tax, medical expenses), and Social Security cards for you and all dependents. <i>Please note:</i> AARP Tax Aid is free and is only possible due to the generosity of time given by these dedicated volunteers. In order for AARP Tax Aid to be offered in the future, Coventry will need to have our own volunteers make the commitment and be trained for next year’s tax season. If you or anyone you know would be interested in offering this service to directly help our community, please see Carrie at the Center to get more information. Thank you for your consideration.</p> |
| Mon | 3/9 | <p>Silver Sneakers, 9 AM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Silver Sneakers is a fitness program covered through several health insurance plans. We are thinking about bringing Silver Sneakers to you! Join us for a free demonstration with certified group instructor Patricia Flubacher. She will show us what a Silver Sneakers class is all about! We would also like to know if there is interest to schedule an ongoing class, which would be in addition to our current exercise class. This class would be open to anyone, either billed directly through qualifying insurance plans or at a cost of \$2 per class. Sign up at front desk. Info: 860-742-3525.</p> |
| Tues | 3/10 | <p>Teen Tech Week – iPad Cases, 3:00 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Make and personalize your very own case for your school iPad! Supplies will also be provided for decorating notebooks and covering textbooks. Library Teen website.</p> |
| Tues | 3/10 | <p>Community Supported Agriculture, 7:00 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Community Supported Agriculture or CSA, is a prepaid sub-scription to a farm's produce for the season. Most CSAs give shareholders a weekly supply of veggies, herbs, fruits and sometimes even eggs and meat. You know it's fresh and you get to meet the farm and people who grew your food. Three local farmers will be at the library to answer questions about CSA at this free program co-sponsored by the Coventry Garden Club. All are vendors at the Coventry Farmers’ Market so</p> |

weekly shares may be picked up on Sundays at the market. Info: 860-742-7606.

- Weds 3/11 **Mobile Foodshare**, 10-10:30 AM, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. An outdoor food distribution service for persons of low income. Please bring your own grocery bag. More [info](#).
- Weds 3/11 **TVCCA Community Luncheon**, 12 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Join us for delicious meals twice a month! Enjoy oven roasted salmon, baked potato, broccoli and peach cobbler. The salmon lunch is \$7. Tickets need to be purchased at the Senior Center by Wednesday, March 4. If you are joining us for a TVCCA lunch, you can also purchase a ticket for takeout to bring a meal home with you for later. Please note that final meal counts are needed a week prior to the lunch and we can no longer offer refunds after the reservation deadline. We will save your meal in the refrigerator until Friday. Please call the Senior Center at 860-742-3525 for more information.
- Weds 3/11 **Teen Tech Week – Design A Font**, 3:00 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Sick of Times New Roman and Comic Sans? Create your very own font to use instead! [Library Teen website](#).
- Thurs 3/12 **Teen Tech Week – Minecraft**, 2:30 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Stop by the Teen Zone to play Minecraft, plus make your own creepers and zombies to take home! [Library Teen website](#).
- Sat 3/14 **Corned Beef Community Supper**, 4:30 – 6:30 PM, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. Cost: \$12 for adults, \$10 seniors, free for children 6 & under. Takeout available: \$12. [Email](#) for more info.
- Tues 3/17 **St. Patrick’s Day Party**, 2-3:30 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Join us on an early release day while we make St. Patrick’s day crafts, eat green snacks, and do a fun activity! No registration required. Info: 860-742-7606.
- Weds 3/18 **Music & Movement**, 10:30-11:30 AM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Join us for a music enriched program for anyone under the age of 5! Music & Movement is a noisy half hour of songs, dance and musical instruments. Parents are encouraged to participate with their young one to model active play. This fun program is designed to share new concepts with your child such as following directions, rhyme and rhythm, and creative play. Wednesdays through 4/22. Registration required. Call 860-742-7606.
- Fri 3/20 **Connecticut Women**, 9 AM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. March is Women’s History Month and the Coventry Senior Center is pleased to announce “300 Years of Connecticut Women,” a phenomenal presentation by Bambi Mroz of the Connecticut Women’s Hall of Fame. Learn about notable figures in the state’s history, from Prudence Crandall to Katherine Hepburn! Sign up at front desk. Info: 860-742-3525.
- Fri 3/20 **Cupcake Decorating**, 12:30 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Grab an early lunch then head to the Library for desert. Make frosting and then decorate cupcakes. YUM! For Teens grades 6-12. [Library Teen website](#).
- Weds 3/25 **Mobile Foodshare**, 10-10:30 AM, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. An outdoor food distribution service for persons of low income. Please bring your own grocery bag. More [info](#).
- Weds 3/25 **TVCCA Community Luncheon**, 12 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Join us for delicious meals twice a month! Enjoy a steak burger, baked beans, potato salad and apple crisp. The burger lunch is \$5. Tickets need to be purchased at the Senior Center by Wednesday, March 18.

If you are joining us for a TVCCA lunch, you can also purchase a ticket for takeout to bring a meal home with you for later. Please note that final meal counts are needed a week prior to the lunch and we can no longer offer refunds after the reservation deadline. We will save your meal in the refrigerator until Friday. Please call the Senior Center at 860-742-3525 for more information.

- Sat 3/28 **Pancake Breakfast with the Easter Bunny**, 8 – 11 AM, Coventry High School cafeteria, 78 Ripley Hill Road. Bring your camera! Pancakes, sausage, juice, milk, hot chocolate, coffee and a “take-a-chance” table. \$8 adults and children 10 & older, \$6 seniors, \$5 children 2-9, free for children under 2. Sponsored by Coventry High School Project Graduation and Coventry Youth Services. [Email](#) for more info.
- Sat 3/28 **Yoga at the Library**, 10:30 AM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Learn some basic yoga stretches and breathing exercises from local yoga instructor, Laura Jacque. Dress accordingly for this all ages family event! Info: 860-742-7606.

WANT NOTICES OF WEATHER-RELATED CLOSINGS AFFECTING TOWN SERVICES? Sign up to receive automatic alert notices on the “[Notify Me](#)” section of the Town’s website. Lots of other subscription options available here too, including job postings, newsletters, bid notices, meeting agendas, our new Senior Center monthly newsletter and more.

PROMAGANZA! Now accepting donations of prom dresses, shoes, accessories and services (hair, nails, alternations, etc.) for the 2nd annual Promaganza! This event helps offset expenses for youth at CHS who otherwise might not be able to attend the Junior and Senior proms. Items can be dropped off at Coventry Human Services, 1712 Main Street. Sponsored by Coventry Youth Services. For more information, call 860-742-5324.

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