



## COVENTRY COMMUNITY UPDATE:

**April 2015**

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

### MANAGER'S MONTHLY MEMO:

Spring is struggling to take hold but April has many important Town events which are part of the cyclic rebirth. Please mark your calendar for the [Annual Town Meeting](#) on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM at the Veterans Auditorium at Coventry High School. The Council voted on the FY 2015/2016 budget which calls for an overall spending increase of 1.98% and a tax increase estimated at 1.47% or an estimated mil rate change of .45 mils. The budget documents and a revised tax calculator are being updated and should be available in early April. A notice will be placed on the Town Manager's [Facebook page](#) when the documents are ready.

We have been authorized to execute a contract to replace the Pucker Street Bridge. Construction is slated to start April 6. The bridge will be closed on April 10<sup>th</sup> and is anticipated not to re-open until December. Sign up for road closing information through the [Alert Center](#) section of the Town website for updates.

On Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM a [Special Town Meeting](#) has been called to bring two bonding questions to the voters on May 5<sup>th</sup>. The first question is to authorize bonding of \$3,000,000 for road improvements and various parking lot and hardscape surfaces. The second question is to authorize \$900,000 to purchase a fire apparatus to be used by North Coventry Volunteer Fire Department. Presentations on both projects will be made, followed by a question and answer period. Information will be made available for those who cannot attend.

Finally, we are wishing Council Chairman Jeffrey Shorts farewell as he moves out of state to accept a new job. April 6<sup>th</sup> will be his last Town Council meeting. We appreciate all the time and energy he has given to the Town, both as a Council member and coaching youth sports. Best wishes. The Council will select a new member and new Chairman in the near future.

### UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS:

- Mon, 3/30: [Special Town Meeting](#), Discussion of bonding for Road Improvements and Fire Apparatus, 7 PM, CHS Lecture Hall
- Thurs, 4/2 WPCA Meeting, 6:45 PM, DPW Conf. Room
- Mon, 4/6: Town Council Meeting: 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Thurs, 4/9: Board of Education, 7:30 PM, School Admin. Building
- Mon, 4/13: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Mon, 4/20: Town Council Meeting: 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Weds, 4/22: Inland Wetlands Agency, 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Mon, 4/27: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Sat, 4/25: [Annual Town Meeting](#), 10 AM, CHS Veterans Auditorium
- Thurs, 4/30: Board of Education, 7:30 PM, School Admin. Building

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

### HOLIDAYS:

**Fri, 4/3: Good Friday.** Town offices closed at 4:30 PM on Thurs 4/2 and all day on Friday 4/3. Trash collection on regular schedule.

### COMING EVENTS:

- Weds 4/1 **Illusion and Magic Show and Silent Auction**, 7 PM, CHS Veterans Auditorium, 78 Ripley Hill Road. *Will CNHMS teacher Jeff Spivey survive being sawn in half?* Boy Scout Troop 65 will host an April Fool's Day Illusion and Magic Show featuring Illusionist David Garrity and a silent auction. The show starts at 7 PM, but arrive early to bid on some great deals on gift certificates and products for local businesses. For advance tickets call [860-268-6935](tel:860-268-6935) - \$10 adults, \$8 ages 12 & under, \$2 more at the door. Refreshments will also be available. Proceeds will support Scouts attending high adventure camp in Maine this summer.
- Thurs 4/2 **Transfer Station Thursday [summer hours](#) begin**. 325 Main Street, noon-6PM.
- Weds 4/8 **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 4/8 **Computer Classes**, 12 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Christopher Carney from Booth & Dimock Library will be at the Senior Center two afternoons this month. Whether you are a beginner or an advanced computer user, he will answer questions based on audience request. Sign up at front desk. Info: 860-742-3525.
- Weds 4/8 **"Let's Get You Hired,"** 4 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Finding a job these days can be tough, and this program aims to help. Topics include: using the web, search engines, social networking sites and personal visits to find a job. Also covered will be interviewing skills, why your cover letter and resume are like a can of soup, and five questions you can use to get hired. Wayne English, author, writer and speaker will present this program free of charge as a public service by Web Content Rx and the Booth & Dimock Memorial Library. More info: 860-742-7606.
- Thurs 4/9 **Paschal Creations (or Where do all These Eggs Come From?)**, 7 PM, Patriots Park Lodge, 172 Lake Street. Yvonne Klancko, Connecticut's "Eggspert", will discuss the history of the egg at Easter, provide some of the classic tales, show examples of the various egg art forms. Her collection was recently on display at the Knights of Columbus Museum in New Haven as well as Southern CT University. \$10. Refreshments will be served. For reservations call 860-465-9437 or [email](#) the Coventry Historical Society.
- Sat 4/11 **Opening Day Of Fishing Season**. Stop by the [Town Clerk's office](#) for a fishing license or apply online at [CT DEEP](#).
- Sat 4/11 **Homestyle Meatloaf Community Supper**, 4:30 – 6:30 PM, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. Cost: \$12 for adults, \$10 seniors, free for children under 10. Takeout available: \$12. [Email](#) for more info.
- Sat 4/18 **American Legion Family Children's Walk**, Patriots Park, 124 Lake Street. Registration 8:30 AM, race begins a 9 AM. Walk the entire 3-mile route or a portion of it to help support the Children's Miracle Network Hospital. Really fit? Walk it more than once! Registration forms and pledge envelopes available at Town Hall in the Parks & Recreation Department. Info: Bill Root, 860-508-3482.
- Weds 4/22 **TVCCA Community Luncheon**, 12 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Enjoy cheese manicotti, garden salad, garlic bread and chocolate cake. \$5. Tickets need to be purchased at the Senior Center by Wednesday, April 15. 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 note:** there is only one TVCCA lunch in April due to a scheduling

conflict, but we will return to two lunches next month. Please call the Senior Center at 860-742-3525 for more information.

- Weds 4/22 **Computer Classes**, 12 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Christopher Carney from Booth & Dimock Library will be at the Senior Center two afternoons this month. Whether you are a beginner or an advanced computer user, he will answer questions based on audience request. Sign up at front desk. Info: 860-742-3525.
- Weds 4/22 **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](#).
- Mon 4/27 **ZUMBA Gold Demonstration**, 9 AM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Do you like to dance? Zumba Gold is a fitness class using dance moves and upbeat music. It is meant for active participants but the class is less intense than a traditional ZUMBA class. ZUMBA Gold is coming to Coventry Senior Center in May! Join us for a demonstration to see if it is a good fit for you. The FREE demonstration will be 30 minutes of movement, please dress accordingly. Sign up at front desk. Info: 860-742-3525.
- Thurs 4/30 **Annual Used Book Sale**, 5-8 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Support the Booth & Dimock Memorial Library and get a few new used books in the process! Proceeds go toward library events and museum passes. Donations of gently used books and DVDs can be made during normal library hours through April 24<sup>th</sup>. The 4/30 event is free to members, \$7 admission for non-members. Event continues 5/1 from 10 AM – 6 PM and 5/2 from 10 AM – 3 PM.

**NEW PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS AVAILABLE:** The Coventry Early Childhood Center (CECC) has new affordable preschool programs available, including School Day (6 hours/day) Part day (2.5 hours/day) and before and after school. Financial Assistance is available to Coventry families who qualify. A family of four can earn up to \$78,000 to qualify for assistance. Please call CECC at 860-742-5859 or visit them online at [www.coventryecc.org](http://www.coventryecc.org).

**COVENTRY HISTORICAL SOCIETY WANTS TO DISPLAY STORIES AND PHOTOS OF COVENTRY LAKE!** Do you have pictures of activities, fishing, boats or boating excursions, family picnics, swimming events, ski shows or a fishing derby? The Coventry Historical Society is preparing an exhibit for display at the Strong Porter Museum on South Street. All photographs will be considered for the exhibit. To submit, provide descriptions of the activity, with dates and photographer's name if known, names of people, places and things that will help the display come alive. If you have stories to go with the pictures that would be great. You may send duplicates or the originals and CHS will make copies and return the originals to you. Mail to Coventry Historical Society, P.O. Box 534, Coventry, CT 06238. When mailing photographs please use proper mailing containers to protect the pictures. Deadline for submission is June 1, 2015. For more information, call Pat at 860-465-9437.

**COMMUNITY GARDENS:** The Coventry Parks & Recreation Department is teaming up with the Coventry Agricultural Committee to offer Community Garden plots at Creaser Park this coming season. We need people to serve on the committee, more volunteers and gardeners. Currently we are asking for your input via a [survey](#) that will take just a few minutes to fill out. Please take some time to help us understand the needs and desires of our community so we may plan a better community garden. More information including applications for plots will be available soon. Watch the Town Parks & Recreation website for more details [www.coventryrec.com](http://www.coventryrec.com) . Thank you!

**CECC GOLF TOURNAMENT COMING UP:** The 10th Annual Coventry Early Childhood Center Scramble For Our School Golf Tournament will be held on Friday, May 8th with a shotgun start at 10am at Skungamaug River Golf Club. Please visit [www.scrambleforourschool.com](http://www.scrambleforourschool.com) to register to play or to become a sponsor!

**TOWN WIDE TAG SALE – IT’S TIME TO REGISTER!** Do you have an excess of clothing, shoes, handbags, jewelry, furniture, and/or toys that are not being used, but are taking up space in your garage, basement and closets? Participate in the Town-wide Tag Sale on May 2<sup>nd</sup>! You can complete the Tag Sale Registration form with a short description of the items you would like to sell, and send that in with your registration fee. Parks & Rec. will do the advertising for you, and your contributions will help benefit a Town-based cause. Each participating home will receive 2 road sign signs, and the logos & sign designs will be made available to you upon request. Reach more people and join your neighbors for a fun day! Interested in knowing where the tag sales are? Contact Parks & Rec. after 4/30 for a complete listing of tag sales in Town, and what kinds of items are being sold. **Please register your tag sale NO LATER THAN Wednesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>.** This gives us adequate time to compile the list of tag sales, and get them out for people to take in advance of the sales. Click [here](#) for more information and the registration form. **Proceeds Benefit the Camp Scholarship Fund**, a donations fund managed by Parks & Rec. and Youth Services for the benefit of Coventry families in need of financial assistance to send their child(ren) to the Coventry Recreation Summer Day Camp. Applicants are screened for eligibility by financial need and other pertinent information, and are kept confidential.

**APRIL EVENTS AT THE LIBRARY:** Lots of things are happening at the Booth & Dimock Memorial Library this month, including April vacation activities, “Music & Movement” activities for children, an Early Literacy Play Group, and games and craft activities in the Teen & Young Adult Zone. Click [here](#) to view the Library’s spring newsletter. For more information call 860-742-7606.

**COVENTRY DAFFODIL PROJECT:** Help beautify our town by planting daffodils around stone walls and yards. \$3.50 per dozen. To order, call 860-214-9567. Sponsored by the Village Improvement Society.

**RABIES CLINIC DATE SET:** Saturday, May 16, 2015, 2 PM – 4 PM, Capt. Nathan Hale Middle School, 1776 Main Street. \$20 cash only per animal. If previously vaccinated for Rabies, bring written proof. Dogs must be on leashes, cats in carriers. Individuals on State Assistance may present their identification cards for one free vaccination for their own animal. For more information, contact the Coventry Town Clerk’s office, 860-742-7966.

**To list your event in next month’s bulletin, contact Laura Stone at [LStone@coventryct.org](mailto:LStone@coventryct.org) by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.**