



## COVENTRY COMMUNITY UPDATE:

**February 2016**

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

### MANAGER'S MONTHLY MEMO:

February reminds us of Groundhog Day and the feeling that you are stuck in the same routine. You live in a town with many programs and options to get out of the house and be an active community member. I urge you to change your routine and break the winter doldrums cycle. You may also consider volunteering for a Board or Commission (see more information and vacancy list [here](#)) or join the Fire or Emergency Management services (contact Noel Waite, [nwaite@coventryct.org](mailto:nwaite@coventryct.org).)

This winter has allowed several park projects to be worked on. The largest is working with Coventry Youth Soccer to construct another full-sized field at Laidlaw Park. The soccer association is kicking in \$40,000 towards the project and has been matched by \$30,000 from the Town Council. Work is underway with the hope of a spring 2016 seeding and opening in spring of 2017. Parking improvements by the town are also underway and several contractors are generously donating time and equipment. If you would like to donate to help get fencing or goals, please make your check payable to Coventry Soccer Inc. and mail it to them at P.O. Box 361, Coventry, CT 06238.

Crumbling foundations have been in the news. Please go to the CT Department of Consumer Protection for information at <http://www.ct.gov/dcp/cwp/view.asp?Q=569328>. It is vital that if this unfortunate situation applies to your home that you report it on the link provided on that page. There will be power in numbers for developing solutions.

Bits & Pieces - Focus on recycling:

- Waste oil can be dropped off at the Public Works facility, 100 Olsen Farm Road, between 7 AM – 3 PM Monday-Friday to be used to heat the building via our waste oil furnace.
- Electronics, fluorescent bulbs and batteries can be recycled free of charge at the [Transfer Station](#) (not curbside).
- [Textile recycling](#) is available free of charge at the Transfer Station and in the container in the front parking lot at Public Works. A third container will arrive soon to be located behind Town Hall – watch for an announcement.

### UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS:

- Mon, 2/1: Town Council Meeting: 7:00 PM – Public Hearing, proposed ordinance prohibiting simultaneous service on Land Use Boards. Regular meeting - 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex. **New! Stream this meeting live over the Internet! Tune in [here](#).** More details about live streaming below.
- Thurs, 2/4: WPCA Meeting, 6:45 PM, DPW Conf. Room.
- Mon, 2/8: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Thurs, 2/11: Board of Education, 7:30 PM, School Admin. Building
- **Tues**, 2/16: Town Council Meeting: 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Mon, 2/22: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Weds, 2/24: Inland Wetlands Agency, 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Thurs, 2/25: Board of Education, 7:30 PM, School Admin. Building

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

## HOLIDAYS:

**Monday, 2/15: Presidents' Day holiday.** Town Hall offices and schools closed. Trash pick-up on regular schedule.

## COMING EVENTS:

- Sat 1/30 **Ice Fishing Derby Postponed to 2/13.**
- Weds 2/3 **Warm Up Winter Potluck**, 10 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Bring a pot luck dish if you choose, or just bring yourself or a friend! Call 860-742-3525.
- Weds 2/3 **After School Club**, 4 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. A new club for school age kids (K-5) that will meet every other week. Join us for a different project or activity each week! Check our [Facebook page](#) or [website](#) for information on what we plan to do each week.
- Thurs 2/4 **Cookbook Club**, 6 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Join us the first Thursday of every month for dinner and a discussion of our cookbook author of the month. Cookbooks are available for checkout at the front desk. If you like, try out a recipe and bring a sample to share with our group. Featured book: *Ina Garten, the Barefoot Contessa*. [Website](#).
- Fri 2/5 **Father-Daughter Valentine's Dance**, 7:00 – 9:30 PM, Capt. Nathan Hale Middle School gym, 1776 Main Street. This popular, semi-formal event is back for another year of valentine's fun! This year's festivities will include professional DJ services providing the music for dancing, refreshments for sale, and fathers and their daughters will have the opportunity to have their picture taken as a souvenir of the evening by Capstone Photography! As always, daughters are FREE! Fathers \$10 with pre-registration or \$15 at the door. More info on Recreation [website](#).
- Fri 2/5 **Quiet Corner Contra Dance**, 8-11 PM; lessons at 7:30, Patriot's Park Lodge, 124 Lake Street. Adults: \$10, Students: \$5. Co-sponsored by Coventry Parks & Recreation. Info [here](#).
- Sun 2/7 **Coventry Winter Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Coventry High School cafeteria. Fresh produce, prepared foods, CT-grown products, artisans and more. [Website](#).
- Tues 2/9 **Tea and Chocolate**, 7 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Kim Larkin, of Klassic Kreations Gourmet will offer samplings of three teas, and two tea-infused baked goods. She will pair them with several chocolate varieties while discussing the history of tea and chocolate, and the health benefits of each. Registration requested. 860-742-7606.
- Tues 2/9 **First Aid for our Plants**, 7 PM, Presbyterian Church of Coventry, Rt. 44 at Trowbridge Road. Sponsored by the Coventry Garden Club. Joan Allen, a plant diagnostician with the Home and Garden Education Center (a division of the UConn Cooperative Extension System) will help us discover a variety of plant problems and how to repair or prevent them with organic controls. For more information, call Kit Bensen, 860-498-0115.
- Weds 2/10 **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 2/10 **TVCCA Bistro Lunch**, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Join us for crab-stuffed flounder, scalloped potatoes, green beans and apple pie. **This meal is \$7 and must be ordered by Tuesday, Feb. 2.** Call 860-742-3525.
- Thurs 2/11 **Lego® Club**, 4-5 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. We provide the bricks – you provide your imagination. Each monthly meeting will now include a challenge! (*Lego® is a trademark of the LEGO*

*Group, which does not sponsor, authorize or endorse this program.)*

- [Calendar](#) of children's events at the Library.
- Fri 2/12 **Anti-Valentine's Day Party**, 4-6 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. If the thought of Valentine's Day, smooching couples, and lovey-dovey Valentine cards make you want to hurl, then join us in the Teen Zone for some anti-valentine's themed crafting, snacks, and games! [Calendar](#) of teen events at the Library.
- Fri 2/12 **Valentine's Day Crafts**, 4 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Make a Valentine for someone special in your life. Info: 860-742-7606.
- Sat 2/13 **Ice Fishing Derby**, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Patriots Park Lodge. The CT Department of Environmental Protection is holding their annual ice fishing derby! Ice fishing jigs will be available for use or you can bring your own, and fishing instruction and demos will be available. Free! Fun for the whole family. More [info](#).
- Sun 2/14 **Coventry Winter Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Coventry High School cafeteria. Fresh produce, prepared foods, CT-grown products, artisans and more. [Website](#).
- Weds 2/17 **After School Club**, 4 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. A new club for school age kids (K-5) that will meet every other week. Join us for a different project or activity each week! Check our [Facebook page](#) or [website](#) for information on what we plan to do each week.
- Fri 2/19 **Small Business Forum**, 7:30 – 9 AM, Coventry Town Hall Annex, 1712 Main Street. The Coventry Economic Development Commission will host a small business forum about search engine optimization (SEO). Come learn how to best position your business when someone searches for your product on the Internet! RSVP to Eric Trott at [etrott@coventryct.org](mailto:etrott@coventryct.org) or 860-742-4062.
- Fri 2/19 **Magic: The Gathering**, 3-5 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Use your own deck or borrow one of ours! Battle your friends in all-out card combat! Presented by the Library Teen Zone. [Calendar](#) of teen events at the Library.
- Sun 2/21 **Coventry Winter Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Coventry High School cafeteria. Fresh produce, prepared foods, CT-grown products, artisans and more. [Website](#).
- Weds 2/24 **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 2/24 **TVCCA Quick Bite Lunch**, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Join us for a hot dog, baked beans and a chocolate chip cookie. **This meal is \$3 and must be ordered by Tuesday, Feb. 16.** Call 860-742-3525.
- Thurs 2/25 **Board to Death**, 7 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Are you looking for a larger group to game with? A chance to try out new and different games? Then help us get our table-top gaming club for adults off to a great start. Come for great games like *Ticket to Ride*, *Settlers of Catan*, *Munchkin*, *Pandemic* and more. [Website](#).
- Sun 2/28 **Coventry Winter Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Coventry High School cafeteria. Fresh produce, prepared foods, CT-grown products, artisans and more. [Website](#).

**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, the Senior Center monthly newsletter and more.

**SAND/SALT:** Would you like some salt/sand mix before the next storm? The Coventry Boy Scouts are selling 5 gallon buckets for \$8 each as a fundraiser. Contact Kristin at [ktingey@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ktingey@sbcglobal.net) for more information about where to pick them up. If you'd like 2 or more buckets they can deliver them to your house or business in town at no additional charge.

**DON'T HAVE CABLE BUT WANT TO WATCH TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS LIVE?** Beginning with the Town Council meeting on February 1, 2016, you can stream Town Council meetings live over the Internet. Bookmark [this link](#) on your Internet browser and tune in at meeting time. Watch from anywhere! This initiative was made possible through a grant from the State of Connecticut's Nutmeg Network Demonstration Project, administered by the Capital Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) and the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology (CCAT). Coventry is one of 6 towns statewide in the initial phase of this project. We are pleased to offer this additional method for citizens to be informed about important matters in our town.

**FREE TAX PREPARATION ASSISTANCE:** Coventry Senior Center is pleased to bring you FREE tax preparation assistance for your Federal and State tax returns. Our team of highly trained tax volunteers will be here eight Fridays in the winter and spring (weather permitting). Appointments will be available on February 12, February 19, February 26, March 4, March 11, March 18, April 1 and April 8 **by appointment only**. There are multiple appointments available each day from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Transportation is available. Everyone is welcome! Please call the Coventry Senior Center Front Desk at 860-742-3525 to schedule your appointment. **Please note:** On the day of your appointment, plan to be at the Senior Center for at least one hour. Both spouses need to be present if you are filing jointly. You will be required to complete an interview questionnaire and bring a form of photo identification. Please bring the following documents as applicable to your financial situation: copy of last year's tax return, proof of all income sources (W2 for earned wages, unemployment compensation, SSA-1099 for Social Security, 1099-MISC for miscellaneous income, 1099-R for pension or annuity income), 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. You will need a check with printed bank information if direct deposit of refund is requested.

**NOTICE FROM THE REGISTRAR OF VOTERS:** Tuesday, January 26, 2016 is the deadline for enrolled party members to transfer enrollment from one party to the other for voting in your "new" party's presidential primary. For more information, call 860-742-4061.

**3<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL PROMAGANZA!** Coventry Human Services is now accepting donations of prom dresses, shoes, accessories and services (hair, nails, alterations, etc.) to help offset the cost of attending prom for Coventry High School students. Items can be dropped off at Coventry Human Services during office hours, 1712 Main Street. For more information call 860-742-5324.

**INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING TO HELP AT THE FARMERS' MARKET THIS SUMMER?** Please contact Erica Pagliuco, Market Master at [epagliuco@coventryct.org](mailto:epagliuco@coventryct.org). For more information about Coventry Farmers' Market at Hale Homestead, click [here](#).

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