



## COVENTRY COMMUNITY UPDATE:

April 2016

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

### MANAGER'S MONTHLY MEMO:

Spring has formally arrived and with it the start of construction season and end of Budget season. Please remember the Annual Town Meeting on Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10 AM in the Veterans' Auditorium at Coventry High School. This meeting will be adjourned to a May 3<sup>rd</sup> vote at both firehouses from 6 AM – 8 PM.

A significant amount of road work will begin this month. We strongly suggest that you sign up for [Road Alerts](#) to keep up to date on impacts.

- The long-awaited Main Street project is starting and at times will require alternating traffic from just north of Rt. 275 down to First Congregational Church. At the end of the project safety will be greatly enhanced, especially for pedestrians.
- Sewer work will be done at Rt. 31 and Lake Street beginning April 4<sup>th</sup>. Alternating one-way traffic will be necessary between 7 AM – 3 PM. It will take approximately 3 days to proceed across Main Street and an additional 9 days on Lake Street. We will ask that school buses receive expedited passage.
- In the Mountain Ridge Estates area, some drainage work will start off-road in late March. Mountain Ridge and Timber Trail will be milled in mid-April, with drainage adjustments made and paving in early May.
- Crack sealing town-wide will begin the week of April 11<sup>th</sup>. Look on the website nearer that time for a list of roads and please drive carefully in those areas.
- Other road projects coming soon: Hop River Bridge, South Street Bridge at Rt. 6, Flanders River Road Bridge and Jones Crossing Curve. Watch for details.

Projects are also moving forward in Laidlaw Park (construction of an additional soccer field and playscape) and continuing at Miller-Richardson baseball fields (unsafe tree removal and enhanced parking). The Hop River Rails to Trails have been graded with material provided by the State.

Working with Coventry Volunteer Fire, the Town has hired a temporary staffing agency to provide daytime EMTs for the ambulance service three days per week. The volunteers are still handling all nights, weekends and the other two weekdays. Volunteers are welcome to join to help out – training is provided. Contact Noel Waite, Fire/EMS Administrator, at [nwaite@coventryct.org](mailto:nwaite@coventryct.org) or (860) 742-4062 with questions, or attend the Firefighter Recruitment Open House on Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at both main firehouses between 10 AM – 2 PM.

### UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS:

- Mon, 4/4: Town Council Meeting: 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex. **Stream Council meetings live over the Internet! Tune in [here](#).**
- Thurs, 4/7: WPCA Meeting, 6:45 PM, DPW Conf. Room.
- Mon, 4/11: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:00 PM, Town Hall Conf. Room B
- Thurs, 4/14: Board of Education, 7:30 PM, School Admin. Building
- Mon, 4/18: Town Council Meeting: 7:00 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Sat, 4/23: [Annual Town Meeting](#): 10:00 AM, CHS Veterans Auditorium
- Mon, 4/25: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:00 PM, Town Hall Conf. Room B
- Weds, 4/27: Inland Wetlands Agency, 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Thurs, 4/28: Board of Education, 7:30 PM, School Admin. Building

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

### COMING EVENTS:

- Thurs 3/31 **Volunteer Recruitment Forum for Coventry Farmers' Market at Hale Homestead**, 7 PM, Town Hall Annex, 1712 Main Street. Come learn about ways to be involved in the fun by participating as a volunteer at the 2016 Market. No experience is necessary – everyone is invited – volunteer as much as you would like! Please contact Erica Pagliuco at [epagliuco@coventryct.org](mailto:epagliuco@coventryct.org) or call 860-742-4062 for more information.
- Fri 4/1 **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](#).
- Sat 4/2 **Trout Derby**, 8 AM – 2 PM, Manchester Coon & Fox Club, North River Road. \$19 adults, \$8 for children under 16. Cash prize for longest trout caught and trophies for longest trout by age group. No limits – no license required. Breakfast, lunch and beverages available. Info: 860-604-4467.
- Weds 4/6 **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](#).
- Tues 4/5 **Making Change: Managing Your Money**, 6:30 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Learn to set priorities, track spending and develop a spending plan. Managing family money can be challenging. This workshop provides an overview on how to gain more control over money, reduce debt, save and move closer to your financial goals. Presented by Faye Griffiths-Smith with UConn Extension and the Connective Saves Campaign. Registration Requested. Call 860-742-7606.
- Fri 4/8 **Sensory Playgroup**, 10:30 AM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. A multi-sensory playgroup that encourages participation from both caregiver and child. Ages 6 months—5 years. \*Some activities may get messy so please dress accordingly\* Children's Room [calendar](#).
- Sat 4/9 **Volunteer Firefighter Recruitment Open House**, 10 AM – 2 PM, CVFA & NCFD fire stations. Ever thought about volunteering to become a firefighter? Please visit the fire stations to see our operation and get the scoop on volunteering. For information call CVFA, 860-742-3510 or NCFD, 860-742-1606.
- Sat 4/9 **Turkey Community Supper**, 4:30 – 6:30 PM, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. \$12 adults, \$10 seniors, \$6 children ages 6-12. Free for children 6 and under. Takeout available for \$12. Info: 860-742-8487.
- Tues 4/12 **The Day the Crayons Came to the Library**, 1:30 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Join us as we explore the popular book, *The Day the Crayons Quit* by Drew Daywalt and Oliver Jeffers, through activities, crafts and games. Info: 860-742-7606.
- Weds 4/13 **Volunteer Luncheon**, 12 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. With performance by *We Got Rhythm* from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Help say thank you to the volunteers who bring their time and talents to the Senior Center and Van Program. Call 860-742-3525 to sign up.
- Weds 4/13 **Label Making 101**, 1 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Part of a series of technology classes, this will provide instructions in creating your own shipping, mailing or other types of labels using Microsoft Publisher. Info: 860-742-7606.
- Sun 4/17 **Rowing Team Race**, 8 AM, Patriots Park. UConn Men's rowing team will host the New England State University club teams in a race on Coventry

Lake, launching from Patriot's Park. In attendance will be the University of Connecticut Men, University of Massachusetts Men, University of Rhode Island Men, University of New Hampshire Men and Women, University of Vermont Men and Women, and University of Massachusetts - Lowell Men and Women. Racing will begin at 8 AM and run into the early afternoon. Admission is free. Info: 860-742-4068.

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| Tues  | 4/19 | <b>Teen Maker Club: Raspberry Pi</b> , 3 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Have you ever wondered what a Raspberry Pi is and what you can do with one? Come and help us set up the Library's newest mini-computers. Teen Zone <a href="#">webpage</a> .   |
| Weds  | 4/20 | <b>Mobile Foodshare</b> , 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 <a href="#">info</a> .   |
| Thurs | 4/21 | <b>Annual Used Book Sale</b> , 5 PM – 7 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. More <a href="#">info</a> .   |
| Fri   | 4/22 | <b>Annual Used Book Sale</b> , 10 AM – 6 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street.  |
| Sat   | 4/23 | <b>Annual Used Book Sale</b> , 10 AM – 2 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street.  |
| Sat   | 4/23 | <b>Girls' Night Out GHR Fundraiser</b> , 6-9 PM, Patriots Park Lodge, 172 Lake Street. Sponsored by G.H. Robertson School PTO. Live music; unique artisan vendors; chair massages; psychic readings; fun photo ops; light refreshments and desserts including a chocolate fountain; wine and non-alcoholic beverages; raffle baskets; and the view of a beautiful sunset on Coventry Lake! \$20 at the door or \$15 in advance. Ticket price includes five raffle tickets and a glass of wine. Must be 21 years of age or older to attend. Email Tammy at <a href="mailto:TLCSPR@HOTMAIL.COM">TLCSPR@HOTMAIL.COM</a> for more information.   |
| Weds  | 4/26 | <b>Comics Club</b> , 4 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. A book club for comic and graphic novel lovers! Read the book beforehand and come ready to discuss it and do an activity. April's book is <i>Secret Coders</i> by Gene Luen Yang and Mike Holmes. Copies are available at the Children's Room desk. For grades 2-5. Info: 860-742-7606.  |
| Tues  | 4/26 | <b>Dinner* and a Movie: A Walk in the Woods</b> , 6 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Pack some snacks or bring take-out and join us for dinner and a movie (dinner not provided). Info: 860-742-7606.  |
| Weds  | 4/27 | <b>TVCCA Bistro Lunch</b> , 12 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Join us for oven roasted top round of beef, jeweled rice, bean medley and peach cobbler. The meal is \$7 and must be ordered by Wednesday, April 20 through the Senior Center Office. Call 860-742-3525 to sign up.  |
| Weds  | 4/27 | <b>After School Club</b> , 4 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. A club for school age kids (K-5) that meets every other week. Join us for a different project or activity each time. Check our <a href="#">Facebook</a> page or <a href="#">website</a> for more information.  |
| Weds  | 4/27 | <b>The Path to Successful Digital Marketing Strategies</b> , 6:30 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. <i>Calling all local businesses!</i> The explosive growth of the internet and social media has changed consumer purchasing behavior and competitive environments. This seminar presented by Dr. Jane Gu, Assistant Professor of Marketing at the University of Connecticut, will discuss the key components of and how to avoid pitfalls in developing, implementing and evaluating successful digital marketing and social media strategies. The latest evidence for what works, and compelling thoughts about the future of digital marketing strategy and social media |

marketing are raised and explored. This event made possible through the continued generosity of the Porter Library Association. Info: 860-742-7606.

Thurs 4/28 **Board to Death**, 6 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Adults: are you looking for a group to game with? A chance to try out new and different games? Then join our table top gaming group with games like Ticket to Ride, Settlers of Catan, Munchkin, Pandemic and more. [Info.](#)

Fri 4/29 **Spring Clean Your Medications**, 12 – 3 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. By appointment only. Pharmacist Katie Mattox will provide individual guidance on your medications. Call 860-742-3525 to schedule an appointment.

**COVENTRY PUBLIC SCHOOLS - FREE DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING:** As part of our Child Find Identification Procedure, the Coventry Board of Education, through the Coventry Early Intervention Services (CEIS), is offering a free developmental screening for all Coventry children between the ages of three and four years old. The screening will be held at the North Coventry Fire Association, 3427 Main Street, Coventry (across from Dimitri's), on Thursday, April 21, from 9:00 a.m. to Noon and 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. This developmental screening will be performed by early childhood educators and will review the child's development in the following skill areas: self-help, concepts, speech, hearing, vision, language, motor skills, and social emotional development. Parents will receive information which will assist in fostering their child's growth. The screening will take approximately twenty-five minutes, and parents will be given feedback on their student's skill areas when the screening is completed. Appointments are scheduled at [www.signupgenius.com](http://www.signupgenius.com), *Find A Sign Up, Search by Email: cecc07@yahoo.com*. It's that easy! If you need additional information or wish to learn more about the CEIS program, please call 860-742-4550.

**INTRODUCING THE TWIN PROGRAM:** Do you need a TWIN, someone you can Trust While In Need? The Coventry Senior Center is helping to form partnerships between seniors in Coventry. What does a TWIN do? Some of the tasks could be friendly phone calls, safety checks, social visits (in home, out to lunch, shopping, outings, etc.) A TWIN is a mutually beneficial relationship, whether you are living alone and want more socialization or if you are already very active and want to keep busy! Call the Senior Center at 860-742-3525 to get an application.

**RID LITTER WEEKEND:** The Coventry Conservation Commission is sponsoring a Rid Litter Weekend on April 23 & 24. This coincides with annual Earth Day celebrations. The Conservation Commission is encouraging residents to do roadside cleanups along their property and neighborhood. This is a great opportunity for civic groups and neighborhood organizations to organize cleanup crews. The spring season is a perfect time to remove some of the trash and litter that has accumulated on our streets and properties over the long winter season. The Commission will provide free garbage bags that can be picked up at the Land Use Office at Town Hall. Info: 860-742-4062.

**WANT TO CHANGE YOUR TIPPER BARREL SIZE?** In response to citizens' requests, we are offering another opportunity to exchange your tipper barrels for a different size at the reduced fee of \$25. If you would like to swap, contact the Tax Office at (860) 742-4066 for various options and rates. They will help you with the next step. **The swap order must be requested and paid for by May 18, 2016 in order to receive this reduced price.** The swap will occur the last two weeks of June in conjunction with the billing cycle for the new fiscal year. Consider upsizing your recycling barrel. There is no increase in your annual bill for a larger recycling barrel. Citizens are reminded that the tipper barrels are owned by All American Waste, the Town's contracted hauler, and must remain with the property to which it has been assigned. Each barrel is identified with a serial number for a specific property address. If you sell your house

and/or move, *please do not take the barrels with you.* Your annual payment (\$170-\$250) pays for the disposal/recycle service only.

**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE:** The Coventry Scholarship Foundation, Dollars for Scholars, an affiliate of Scholarship America, announces that scholarship applications are now available online at the [coventry.dollarsforscholars.org](http://coventry.dollarsforscholars.org) website. Information is available from guidance counselors at Coventry High School, East Catholic High School, Windham Regional Vocational Technical School, E.O. Smith Regional High School, Howell Cheney Regional Vocational Technical School and Great Path Academy for all graduating Coventry seniors who plan to further their education. Awards are based on merit and need. Last year \$53,000 was awarded to graduating seniors. Deadline: April 22, 2016!

**TEXTILE RECYCLING PROGRAM EXPANDS:** There is a new receptacle for textile recycling at the Town Hall near the side entrance of the Annex Building. Don't throw away that old clothing, curtains, sheets, stuffed animals, etc. Recycle and keep these items out of the waste stream. More info about the textile recycling program [here](#).

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