



**Message from Julie Blanchard,
Town Council Chairwoman**

Dear Citizens:

An update on what the Council has accomplished to date is that we have decided to forward to the public for approval the purchase of an engine tanker and a used quint for our fire department. This is a necessary addition to our Town fleet of firefighting equipment. We have approved hiring people through Vintech to cover daytime ambulance shifts. We have approved funds to be spent to complete an additional soccer field at Laidlaw Park. We have heard from the Library Building Committee about a proposed addition to the Booth and Dimmock Library that we are still gathering information to make an informed decision.

Our next task was to review the budget prepared by our Town Manager and the Board of Education, deliberate, and present it to the Town at our Annual Town Meeting on Saturday, April 23, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. in the Veterans' Auditorium at Coventry High School. The Town Council's proposed budget is available for review on the Town's website at www.coventryct.org under Department tab, then Finance, then to the budget. The Board of Education budget can be found on their website at www.coventrypublicschools.org on the left there is a tab for the budget. You can email any council member from the Town's website: go to the tab for Your Government, then to Town Council and from there you may send an email by selecting any one of our names or to all of us by selecting email the Town Council. You are also welcome to attend a Town Council meeting on the first and third Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. and speak during the audience of citizens portion of our meeting. I would appreciate people exercising their right to vote on the budget referendum on May 3, 2016 at either District 1 at the Town of Coventry Fire Department CVFA Station 1755 Main Street or District 2 at the Town of Coventry Fire Department NCFD Station 3427 Main Street.

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TOWN MANAGER UPDATE

It is going to be a very busy summer with road and park projects and camps, concerts and lake issues. Please take time to read through the newsletter about your town. Enjoy the Memorial Day parade on Monday, May 30th; mark your calendar for the grand re-opening of the Coventry Farmers’ Market at Hale Homestead on Sunday, June 5th and save the date for Coventryfest on Saturday, June 25th.

The Village Main Street project, Lake/Cross Street and Village roads will require patience as construction takes place. Consider signing up for email alerts by going to the Notify Me section of our website at www.coventryct.org and checking the box next to “Road Closings” under

TOWN HALL HOLIDAYS:

- May 30: Memorial Day
 July 4: Independence Day
 Sept. 5: Labor Day

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TOWN MANAGER'S UPDATE

- Continued from page 1



New solar lights are saving energy and brightening up Patriots Park.

the Alert section. Inside the newsletter there is a long list of the summer road projects, too.

Stay involved and consider volunteering for your town. Consider serving on a Board or Commission, being a volunteer firefighter or EMT, serve as a Farmers' Market helper, or adopt a road to help clean up Coventry. A little effort by many makes this a better place to live.

Watch Town Council and Board of Education meetings on Channels 191 and 194 respectively. Council meetings are also being streamed live on the Internet—visit the CoventryVision page of the Town website at www.coventryct.org for the direct link. You can also watch meetings on our video-on-demand system through this section of the website.

PROJECT UPDATE

Working with Coventry Youth Soccer a new soccer field is under construction at Laidlaw Park. We hope to plant grass this month. An irrigation system

We also just completed installing State -provided gravel to the Hop River Rails to Trails from Hop River Road to just shy of Kings Road. The State has

“A little effort by many makes this a better place to live.”

Comings & Goings and Staff Accomplishments

A warm welcome to **Debbie Kratochvil**, new Town Accountant. Debbie brings a wealth of experience from previous positions at the Town of Union and in the private sector. Police Officer **Michelle Hicks** recently received an award of Meritorious Conduct for life-saving actions in administering Naxolone on two different occasions to individuals who had overdosed on opiates. Also notable in the Police Department, **Sgt. Ted Opdenbrouw** and Officer **Thomas Kuhns** received commendations for perfect attendance over the past year. Farewell to **Marjolaine Pruneau**, Revenue Collection Clerk, who has left to help manage her family's very successful business. We welcome Assessor **Michael D'Amicol** back to the office after a year-long deployment with the Army National Guard.

is planned to help this grass grow. This project is being funded by the Soccer Association, donations from Earth Dynamics, Water Wizards, fencing from Hartford Healthcare and many others. The playscape will be installed in conjunction with this project.

Continuing our partnership with Coventry Baseball, parking and safety improvements continue at Miller Richardson baseball field with additional parking being worked on and unsafe trees removed. The Town also worked with Coventry Football to clean up the front entrance to the football fields at Miller Richardson.

The Town has just been awarded two new grants. One, the America the Beautiful Grant, will allow additional tree planting along the sidewalk being constructed this summer on Main Street in front of Capt. Nathan Hale Middle School and Coventry High School. Additional trees will be planted at Miller Richardson and Laidlaw Park. We also received a grant to start construction of a new park on Depot Road at the dam on the mill stream. It will have an historic theme to recognize the old mill site that occupied the space. It will be a picnic and fishing place.

made commitments to restore several bridges and make the connection all the way to Willimantic to tie the Hop River Corridor to the full East Coast Greenway.

Eversource is upgrading the main transmission line from Sean Circle to the Skungamaug substation on North River Road. Major vegetative clearing and replacement of 38 or so poles is underway. Work will be staged to allow review of changing to steel instead of wood and to allow the height of several poles to be increased by 10 feet or so. Work may resume in October. Contact the Planning Office (860-742-4062) to review plans. Affected property owners have been apprised of work to date. As a regulated utility no local permits are required by Eversource for this work.

TAX SALE SCHEDULED

A Tax Sale is scheduled for Tuesday, May 17, 2016 at 10:00 AM in the Town Hall Annex.

For up-to-date information on the properties subject to the sale, please go to cttaxsales.com and scroll down by date to May 17th.

TAX COLLECTOR'S OFFICE

860-742-4066

Delinquent notices were mailed within the last few months for overdue taxes, sewer and COVRRRA bills. Intent to lien notices for COVRRRA were mailed in March and liens were filed in April against those properties which were not paid current. Sewer assessment bills will be mailed the end of April. Due date for the first installment is May 1st and taxpayers have 30 days to pay before late charges apply. Taxpayers are able to use credit cards to pay their bills online or through a toll free phone number. This service is provided by Official Payments Corporation and they do charge a convenience fee. A link to their website can be found on the Town of Coventry's website, www.coventryct.org. The toll free phone number for Official Payments is: 1-800-2PAYTAX (1-800-272-9829). You will need to know your list number, correct amount due and Coventry's jurisdiction code which is 1721. Please call the Tax Office before contacting Official Payments Corp. and we will be happy to explain the procedure.

An additional on-line payment option is also available to Coventry taxpayers who wish to pay by check. From the home page on the Town website, www.coventryct.org, click on the left blue box titled Pay your Taxes Online. You will be offered two options for online payments and the first option is the payment from a bank account. This will connect you to the link to find your bill. You can pay one or more bills. Once you have selected your bills and added them to your cart, you will proceed to checkout. At checkout, you will be at the Webster online bill pay site where you will be directed to set up your bank information. A charge of fifty cents per check may apply.

Please keep in mind those online payments by check or credit card can take up to ten (10) days to process due to weekends and holidays. Scheduling online payments during the last few days of any

PAYMENT DUE CALENDAR: MAY – Sewer Assessment fee 1st installment. JULY – Real Estate 1st installment; Motor Vehicle, COVRRRA and Personal Property **single** payment. SEPTEMBER – Sewer Use Fee **single** payment. NOVEMBER – Sewer Assessment fee 2nd installment. JANUARY – Real Estate 2nd installment and Supplemental Motor Vehicle tax only if applicable.

month may cost you in additional late fees due to the delay in moving your funds by your bank or credit card company.

Any individual needing an immediate DMV clearance in order to register any vehicle is reminded to pay by cash or money order at the Tax Collector's office. Check payments (in person or online) and online credit card payments may delay your DMV clearance up to ten (10) business days.

Citizens are reminded that the tipper barrels are owned by All American Waste, the Town's contracted hauler, and must stay 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 pays for the disposal/recycle service only.

The current fiscal year will end June 30, 2016. In accordance with state statutes, liens will be filed before the end of the current fiscal year against properties with any outstanding balances on real estate taxes. Please contact this office if you have any questions concerning the status of your accounts.

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.

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

860-742-4067

Public records for the Assessor's Office can be viewed using the following links: <http://www.mapgeo.com/crcogct/> - CRCOG website
or <http://data.visionappraisal.com/CoventryCT/> - Vision Appraisal
or http://coventry.mapxpress.net/ags_map/ - Coventry Map Xpress

Property field cards, sketches, pictures, exemption applications and general information can be found on the Town's website. **Remember, that the October 1, 2014 revaluation information located at <http://data.visionappraisal.com/CoventryCT/>, will not be the most current or up to date information. It was last updated on November 17, 2014.**

The Elderly and Disabled homeowner program began February 1, 2016, and applications are being processed until Friday, May 13, 2016. Our office sent reminder letters to those people who have to re-file. Remember, this program is income driven from the State and income guidelines are set by the State for both single and married individuals. Please contact our office if your income is less than \$42,900 if married, or less than \$35,200 if single, both must include Social Security benefits from your SSA-1099 and your adjusted gross income from your 2015 Federal Income tax return.

Veterans must file their DD-214 with the Town Clerk prior to **October 1st** to be eligible for exemption. If you have already filed, you do not need to re-file. You will receive your exemption automatically. If veterans meet income guidelines, you may be eligible for Additional exemption. The program began February 1st, and applications are processed until October 1, 2016. Please call if your income is less than \$42,900 if married, or less than \$35,200 if single, both must include Social Security benefits from you SSA-1099 form and your adjusted gross income from your 2015 Federal Income tax return. You will be asked to provide proof of all the income documentation regarding both of the above mentioned applications

The Income and Expense forms will be mailed out by April 15th. The forms are to be filled out and returned to our office **no later than June 1, 2016.**

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

860-742-7966

JUNE IS DOG LICENSE RENEWAL MONTH!

****YOUR DOG COULD BE #1 CONTEST!**** Anyone who sends in their dog license renewal along with the appropriate fee in the month of May will have their name entered into a drawing for the most desired Tag #1. The Top Dog will also receive their license for free! The drawing will be held on May 31st, 2016 and the winner will be notified. All other license entries will be processed accordingly and mailed to you by mid-June.

Along with payment please include if needed a current rabies certificate, proof of spaying or neutering and a self-addressed stamped envelope with at least 2 stamps for postage. **GOOD LUCK!!!!**

- * \$8.00 for spayed or neutered dogs
- * \$19.00 for unaltered dogs.
- * Any dog license issued after June 30th is subject to a \$1.00 per month late fee.
- * Licenses will be available during business hours beginning June 1st.
- * **Check your dog's rabies expiration date. If that date has expired, NEW WRITTEN proof of a current rabies vaccination is required to renew your dog's license.**



IT'S FISHING SEASON

- * ALL lifetime licenses issued since October 9, 2009 are now required to renew annually.
- * All adults need to have a license to fish.
- * Children under the age of 16 do not need a license to fish. **Parents, please note:** If you will be handling your child's fishing pole or baiting the line, Connecticut Law requires that you carry a current fishing license.

Consult the 2016 Connecticut Angler's Guides each year for updates on DEEP regulations and other useful information online at www.ct.gov/deep or they should arrive in our office shortly before opening day.

Your 2016 fishing licenses are available at the Town Clerk's office or online at www.ct.gov/deep.

- * Hunting/Fishing-\$38
- * Inland fishing license-\$28
- * All Waters Inland and Marine Fishing-\$32
- * All Waters Hunting & Fishing -\$40
- * Non-Resident licenses are also available at \$22 for a 3-day pass or \$55 for season license.

FEDERAL AND STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS FOR THE TOWN OF COVENTRY

8th District – Tim Ackert 860-240-8700
35th District – Senator Anthony Guglielmo 860-240-8800
2nd Congressional District District – Joseph D. Courtney 860-886-0139
Governor – Dannel P. Malloy 860-566-4840
Senate – Senator Richard Blumenthal 860-258-6940
Senate – Senator Christopher Murphy 860-549-8463

RABIES CLINIC

May 21, 2016 2-4 p.m.

CNH Middle School

1776 Main St.

****Vaccination of domestic animals is an important component of rabies prevention programs. Connecticut state law requires vaccination of cats and dogs.**

Our Low Cost Rabies Clinic for cats and dogs is scheduled for Saturday, May 21, 2016 from 2-4 p.m. The fee is \$20.00 per vaccination. Cash only please. Look for reminders on **Charter Channel 191** and our web page at www.coventryct.org. Please bring written proof of last rabies vaccination. This clinic is made possible through the Connecticut Veterinary Medical Association.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- April 23 – Annual Town Meeting
- April 26 – Presidential Primary
- May 3 – Budget Vote

It is healthy to take your dog for a walk but please take along a bag to clean up after it and then properly dispose of the pet waste. Leaving pet waste on the roads, sidewalks or other people's lawns is not healthy. **Five reasons to pick up after your dog:**

- Storm water carries pet waste and other pollutants directly into waterways and lake.
- Animal waste adds nitrogen to the water. Excess nitrogen depletes the oxygen in water necessary for beneficial underwater grasses, wildlife and fish.
- Animal waste may contain harmful organisms such as Giardia, Salmonella and E. coli that can be transmitted to humans and other animals by ingesting contaminated water.
- Roundworms and hookworms deposited by infected animals can live in the soil for long periods of time and be transmitted to other animals and humans.
- Even if there is no restriction, cleaning up after your pet is always the right thing to do and your neighbors will appreciate it.



BUILDING DEPARTMENT

860-742-4064

Spring Clean-up Time: Mother Nature has been fairly kind to us this winter with only a couple of small snow storms and some high wind experiences, so we begin to look forward to spring and polishing up our homes to embrace the warmer, brighter days that are to come. This is the best time to really look around the exterior of your home and check

applications can take longer during the busy construction season and is based on a first-come, first-served basis. So drop by the Building Department to pick-up your permit packet and a copy of your plot plan. We are more than happy to take a few minutes to discuss your project with you and get you started.

Residents are encouraged to apply for permits as soon as possible for spring and summer projects.

out some potential problems with your home's roof, siding, chimney, decks, patios, etc. To assist in this process, we invite you to check out this handy springtime To-Do Check List courtesy of HGTV.com:

<http://www.hgtv.com/content/dam/documents/checklist.pdf>

Obtaining a Permit... We have seen very little slowing down of permits and projects this winter due to the milder weather conditions that we've experienced. Therefore, residents are encouraged to secure their contractors and apply for permits as soon as possible for their upcoming spring and summer projects. Many contractors are eager to assist you with new projects. If you are considering a building project this year, be sure to submit your application 2-3 weeks in advance. The review process for

Want your Building Plans? The Building Department is only responsible for retaining building plans on projects for a maximum of two (2) years. We are then allowed to dispose of them. Beginning July 1st and ending September 30, 2016, the Building Department is allowing property owners to obtain the building plans for residential construction only. You must own the property to obtain the building plans. A Certificate of Use and Occupancy must have been issued for the structure prior to June 1, 2014. Please call Brigit at 860-742-4064 with your name, address & daytime phone number and we will contact you within few days to let you know if there are building plans available. At that time, you will be given 2 weeks to pick up the plans. Plans that are not picked-up will be discarded under the State's disposal method.

Sewer Connections:

If you have not yet connected to sewers please contact Mike Ruef at 860-742-4064 or mruef@coventryct.org for more information. Low interest/deferred loans for sewer connections may be available for homes that meet federal income guidelines.

Summer Lake Level:

The lake level elevation is measured and adjusted at the lake street gate house. The gate will be lowered to allow for the level of the lake to rise naturally in preparation for spring and summer recreational activities. We will monitor the lake level and adjust the gate accordingly in order to bring the lake level up to summer level (93.0 feet) as Spring rain allows. For more information call Doug Reese at Public Works (860) 742-6588 or email dreese@coventryct.org.

COVENTRY FIRE DEPARTMENT

It has been a big year for the Coventry Fire Department. Based on recommendations made over the years in the Patrizz and Matrix reports, and in concurrence with the 2014 Capitol Region Council of Government's Strategic Fire Study, we have merged our two operations into a combined department called the Town of Coventry Fire & EMS Department. The entities of Coventry Volunteer Fire Association and North Coventry Volunteer Fire Department will continue their long legacies of service to our town, represented by a Board of Fire Officers and administered by a new Fire Administrator. Noel Waite, who has served as Fire Marshal and Emergency Management Director for many years, will function in the role of Administrator.

The Board of Fire Officers has been busy combining key operating structures, including development of joint guidelines, collaborative purchasing procedures, and training/development. These initiatives will result in savings for our town and the sharing of resources will support our volunteer members. One of the primary tasks has been a town-wide evaluation of apparatus needs. Following the failure of a new Quint aerial truck during last year's budget process, the Board went back to the drawing board to inventory our equipment and set priorities to acquire apparatus that can perform multiple tasks. This year's Capital Budget includes the replacement of two engine tankers that are approaching the end of their 25-year service lives with a new tanker and a used Quint. A third engine tanker which still has some serviceable life has been slated for refurbishment in the future. This approach will increase our capacity of water from 4,000 gallons to 6,000, providing an additional 3-5 minutes of firefighting time for a total of 10 minutes on the initial attack. Getting additional water to a scene during the crucial early minutes of a fire has been a common thread recommended by all three fire studies.

On the EMS front, we have been taking steps to support the volunteers who provide a tremendous contribution to our town. Attracting and retaining volunteers has been a continual challenge, particularly during daytime hours. We recently contracted with a staffing agency to provide paid ambulance staffing 3 days a week and early results are very positive. Daytime coverage has improved and response times are faster. Having reliable schedules is taking some of the stress off our regular volunteers and allowing them to focus on nighttime and weekend coverage. Morale is getting a boost as a result, as we see improvement in our ability to deal with all facets of emergency response and effectively function as the first line of defense within our local community. We are proposing in the budget to increase this staffing arrangement to five days a week beginning July 1, 2016.

We welcome you to drop by either fire station to see our operation. If you have ever thought about volunteering, we would be delighted to have you. Contact CVFA at 860-742-3510 or NCVFD at 860-742-1606. Noel Waite, Fire Administrator, can be reached at 860-742-4064 or by email at nwaite@coventryct.org.

SUMMER ROADS PROGRAM

In an effort to continue to provide a high level of maintenance to town roads the Public Works Department has identified the following roads as priority work for the 2016 Summer Roads Program:

Full Depth Reclamation & Overlay:

- 1) Mountain Ridge Dr.
- 2) Timber Tr.
- 3) Tall Oak Dr.
- 4) Wildwood Dr.
- 5) Bradbury Ln.
- 6) Mason St.
- 7) Woods Ln.
- 8) Maple Dr.
- 9) Homestead Dr.
- 10) Bellevue Dr.

Cold in Place Recycling & Overlay:

- 1) Case Rd.
- 2) South River Rd. (Case Rd. to South St.)
- 3) South St. (South River Rd. to Silver St.)

Bituminous Overlay 1.5 inch compacted:

- 1) South St. (Rotary to Cross St.)
- 2) Waterfront Heights

Bituminous Shimming:

- 1) Grant Hill Road
- 2) Brewster Street
- 3) Richmond Road (Sam Green Rd. to eastern intersection RT.44)
- 4) North River Road (Rt. 31 to Rt. 44)
- 5) Upton Dr. and Nathan Hale Dr.
- 6) Zeya Drive, Satari Dr., Noor Dr., Heather Ln.
- 7) Springdale Ave.
- 8) Sean Circle, Oak Leaf Dr.
- 9) Gerald Park, Waterfront Manor and Actor's Colony

Roads to be Chip Sealed:

- 1) Grant Hill Rd.
- 2) Flanders Rd. and Flanders River Rd.
- 3) Springdale Ave.
- 4) CVFA Parking Lot

Crack Seal (Rout and Seal):

Selected roads to be determined for fall 2016 application

Road Sweeping Schedule for the Spring of 2016 is available by calling the Public Works Department at (860) 742-6588. Rake the sand and salt residue from your property edge to the roadside for clean-up.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT 100 Olsen Farm Road • 860-742-6588

Director / Tree Warden Mark Kiefer mkiefer@coventryct.org
Superintendent of Operations Douglas Reese dreese@coventryct.org
Admin. Secretary / COVRRR Donna Wrubel dwrubel@coventryct.org

TOWN/STATE PROJECTS

Main Street Reconstruction: (CDOT #32-130): Connecticut Department of Transportation's project will start in Late March 2016. The Project will take two construction seasons and be complete in Fall of 2017. Major changes to the vertical and horizontal alignments near Teleflex, updates to the storm drainage and sanitary sewer facilities, and streetscape features are included in the project. The corridor will remain open to traffic, but delays can be expected due to alternating one-way traffic by traffic control personnel.

Lake and Cross Street Improvement (LOTICIP): This Town project will be bid in April 2016 and construction to start in June 2016. Paving improvements, sidewalk construction, stormwater improvements and traffic calming will be implemented. The corridor will remain open to traffic, but delays can be expected due to alternating one-way traffic by Traffic control personnel.

Main Street Streetscape/Sidewalk (CDOT #32-145): The

Project extends the Streetscape components of CDOT #32-130 down to Booth-Dimock Library. Project improvements will be constructed by the CDOT Contractor, RED Technologies, during their execution of the Main Street Reconstruction Project (#32-130)

Coventry Lake Gate Improvements: The Army Corp of Engineers (ACOE) and Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection permits has been submitted. Construction is still expected to start in September/October 2016.

Main Street Sidewalk Extension (CDOT #32-147): This Town project extends the limits of the sidewalk constructed last spring to the Ripley Hill Road Intersection. Project will be bid in April with construction to take place starting at the commencement of Coventry Public School's summer vacation. Project should be substantially complete before the start of the 2016-17 school year.

Anticipate alternating one-way traffic during Main Street construction projects this season.

TREE WARDEN: Connecticut laws protect trees in Town Right of Ways and properties. Planting, pruning or removal of trees within the Town Right of Ways (ROW) at roadside requires approval of the Tree Warden. State Statute requires a written request for permission to remove or plant trees in the ROW area. Unapproved work in the ROW is subject to fines and damages. Call before you cut. Rights of Way vary from Road to Road. Trees removed unlawfully are subject to a fine equal to the appraised value of the tree. The Tree Warden's email address is mkiefer@coventryct.org. Do not use email to contact the Tree Warden for

emergencies – call Public Works at (860) 742-6588 or the Police Department at (860) 742-7331.

EMPLOYMENT: If you like outdoor physical work, have a valid driver's license and are 18 or older, we are looking for you. The Public Works Department has an opening (pending budget approval) for a summer laborer paying \$10.00/hr. for a 40 hour week. Accepting applications immediately. For more information call the office at (860) 742-6588.



TRANSFER STATION

325 Main Street

Spring Ahead! Transfer Station hours of operation from April through November will be every Thursday from noon until 6 pm and every Saturday from 9 am until 3 pm (excluding holidays). Proof of residency required.

Materials acceptable with cost:

- Construction and demolition debris. Free of cardboard, metal and garbage.
- Land clearing debris; stumps & brush.
- Appliances with CFC's (Freon) \$10 each, no weigh-in necessary.
- Tires – automobile size – on or off rim \$5 each.

Materials acceptable no cost:

- Textiles – clean, dry, contained in a bag
- gas grill propane tanks for recycling
- corrugated cardboard in the specially marked cardboard dumpster
- leaves for composting
- Electronics, fluorescent light bulbs, batteries
- Metal materials (**metal tanks must be cut open and crushed**).

Materials NOT acceptable:

- Garbage or recyclable items picked up curbside
- Grass clippings
- Furniture
- Hazardous waste

Commercial Users Must Remember:

The Town of Coventry Transfer Station is not intended for commercial use although small repair/remodeling contractors doing work for Coventry residents may be allowed limited use to dispose of materials incidental to their work within the limits of the Town of Coventry. Proof of residency and **building permits, as applicable**, will be checked as part of normal facility operations to insure the facility waste stream remains residential in nature.

Come to the Transfer Station for some free compost. Bring your own shovel/bucket.

TEXTILE RECYCLING PROGRAM

For your convenience Bay State Textile has provided The Town of Coventry three collection boxes to recycle textiles. One is located at our transfer station, one next to the Annex behind the Town Hall and the other is located at Public Works, 100 Olsen Farm Road. **All** of the following items are acceptable and can be donated in any condition as long as they're clean and dry. Must be in bags.

Belts, blankets, boots, bras, coats, comforters, curtains, draperies, dresses, flip flops, Halloween costumes, hats, jackets, jeans, jerseys (sports), napkins (cloth), pajamas, pants, pet beds, pet clothing, pillow cases, pillows, purses, scarves, sheets, shirts, shoes, shorts, skirts, slippers, socks, stuffed animals, suits, sweaters, sweatpants, sweatshirts, table linens, ties, towels, t-shirts, undergarments.

Donate – Recycle – Don't throw away



The Town of Coventry Department of Public works has installed a 1000 gallon tank to be used for waste oil storage at the Public Works Facility. The tank was removed by DPW from the North Coventry Fire Sub Station on Merrow Road and will be reused to supply waste oil to heat the Public Works Fleet Maintenance bays.

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY:

Projects Update/News:

- Main St. reconstruction in the Village is scheduled to begin in March and includes significant sewer work. The majority of this cost will be paid by the State. We are also installing new sewers on Lake Street to serve 2 properties before the road is paved this summer. Please expect delays if you travel through the Village.
- We will be extending sewers approximately 200 ft up Cross Street, moving the main out of the road, and installing 4 dry 'sleeves' under the road before it is re-paved this summer. The sleeves will allow for any future sewer extensions to be completed without digging up the road.
- We have been working with our engineers and officials from Bolton and Manchester to set the table for the Western Route 44 Sewer Planning Area.

Wipes:

Cloth baby wipes and cleaning wipes have become a serious problem in our sewer system. Some brands have started to market their wipes as 'flushable' but just because you can flush something down your toilet does not mean it won't cause problems down the line! The pumps and valves at our Treatment Plant become clogged with gnarled balls of wipes and other cloth items (feminine hygiene, dental floss, cigarette butts). Yup, it's gross. Now think about being the person who has to put on rubber gloves and pull them out...ewwww! Please help us by doing your part to keep these types of items out of our sewer system.

Information related to the WPCA can be found on the Water Pollution Control Authority page on the Town website (www.coventryct.org). Our page can be found by clicking on Your Government > Boards & Commissions > Water Pollution Control Authority. You may subscribe to WPCA Agendas & Minutes by clicking on the 'Notify Me' feature and adding your contact information.

TRASH HOLIDAY SCHEDULE:

All American Waste will observe the following legal holidays thereby altering the pickup ALL of these weeks to Tuesday through Saturday:

Monday, May 30th – Memorial Day
Monday, July 4th – Independence Day
Monday, September 5th – Labor Day

Dumpsters available at the Public Works Department for residents who occasionally have trash or recycling in excess of their carts or are going on vacation. To use the trash dumpster you must pay \$1 for each bag that you toss in. Bring your trash and recycling to Public Works during work hours for disposal. Residents must stop in the office (7 am – 3 pm) for the dumpster key.

Pickup missed? Call All American Waste at (860) 289-7850 if your curbside trash or recycling is not picked up. This direct communication allows for pickup arrangements to be made. This same number should be called if you have monthly items out that don't get picked up or if your cart is broken. PLEASE CALL DURING THE WEEK OF THE PICKUP TO RECTIFY THE SITUATION.

Curbside Monthly Oversized Items Pickup: On the 2nd Monday of every month residents may place at curbside by 6:30 am up to three oversized items to be picked up for free. These large nonmetal items must be out on Monday regardless of your regular trash day. Examples are dresser, mattress or recliner chair w/metal removed.

Coventry's Best Kept Secret -- "In yard" trash/recycling service available:

Do you know someone who might benefit from having their trash or recycle cart picked up right at their back door? (A mutually agreed upon location somewhere along the driveway may be necessary for those extra long driveways.) No more struggling to wheel their carts to the curb!! The town has a **few** slots for those special needs people (no additional fees involved) who are elderly or handicapped and have no one living with them or visiting regularly who can assist them with this task. Call Human Services (860) 742-5324 to apply for this service.

COVRRRA questions? Call Public Works at (860) 742-6588 or e-mail dwrubel@coventryct.org.

TRASH & RECYCLING

ITEMS ACCEPTABLE FOR RECYCLING CART

All the following items are ok to put in the blue tipper cart. They should be empty and rinsed clean: Paperboard boxes, corrugated cardboard & paper bags, mail, paperback books & phone books, file folders, office paper, magazines, catalogs, newspapers & inserts, jar lids and bottle caps, paper egg cartons, #1 – 7 plastic food and beverage containers, aluminum foil and pie pans, beverage cans, empty aerosol cans, paper milk / juice cartons, glass beverage / food bottles & jars. **THANK YOU !!**

NO PLASTIC BAGS! NO ELECTRONICS! NO STYROFOAM / COOLERS! NO FOOD / TRASH!

HOUSEHOLD CHEMICAL WASTE DROP-OFF FACILITY

57 Hancock Road - Willington, CT 06279 - Phone: (860) 684-3163
Open from 9 am to 2 pm on the first and third Saturday of the month from
April 16, 2016 through November 5, 2016.
Closed July 2, 2016 and September 3, 2016.

Prepare the materials by:

- ✓ Packing carefully in original containers only, seal and label
- ✓ Do not mix materials
- ✓ Drive carefully to prevent tipping
- ✓ No smoking while handling and transporting materials
- ✓ Residential limits of 10 gallons liquid and 100 pounds dry materials

As a Coventry resident you may bring residential quantities of hazardous waste to the facility at no cost but bring proof of residency. If you operate a small business in a MidNEROC town, then contact the MidNEROC Administrator at (860) 289-2296 to find out if you qualify as a "conditionally exempt small quantity generator" and to make an appointment. There is a fee for this service.

Chemical waste is a problem for the environment! When hazardous wastes are poured down the sink or toilet, dumped "out back", poured into a street drain or put out into the trash, they eventually make their way into our water supply.

Acceptable Materials:

Bug spray
Mercury thermometers
Dry cleaning fluid
Fluorescent bulbs
Arts & crafts supplies
Rechargeable batteries
General purpose cleaners
Hazardous Aerosol cans
Drain cleaners
Metal polishes
Floor cleaners
Oven cleaners
Wax & polishes
Tile cleaners
Toilet cleaners
Gasoline
Engine/radiator flushes
Fire starters
Chemistry kits
Paint (latex, oil or lead based)
Rust preventative
Wood preservative
Solvents
Degreasers
Wood strippers
Paint thinner
Fertilizers with pesticides & herbicides
Herbicides
Muriatic acid
Pesticides
Insect spray
Pool chemicals

Non-Acceptable Materials:

- **Medication.** Do not flush down the toilet or drain. Many prescriptions may be disposed of at the Coventry Police Department (860) 742-7331
- **Asbestos.** Double bag and seal this material. One cubic foot can be disposed with trash. For large quantities, contact an asbestos removal company.
- **Explosives, fireworks, ammunition.** Contact your state police barracks.
- **Water reactive materials.** For peroxides and metallic sodium, contact a licensed environmental contractor.
- **Biologically active materials.** Contact a licensed medical & infectious waste contractor.

Recycled through your town:

Car batteries	Motor oil
Transmission oil	#2 fuel oil
Brake fluid	Kerosene
Gas cylinders	Diesel fuel
Antifreeze	

LAND USE OFFICE

860-742-4062

COVENTRY FARMERS' MARKET AT HALE HOMESTEAD

The Town continues to prepare for the Farmers' Market next season at the Hale Homestead in 2016 with an opening day on June 5th! In January, the Town Council appointed Farmers' Market Operating Committee formally began as the managing entity of the market after nearly a year's worth of foundational work had been accomplished by the Economic Development Farmers' Market Subcommittee. Please visit the Town's website and on the homepage is a link to a dedicated web page for the 2016 Market where one can sign up to receive updates via ongoing newsletters as well as connect to the Market's Facebook page. The web page also has a great deal of information that shows the subcommittee's progress over the past year. Please contact Erica Pagliuco, at epagliuco@coventryct.org or 860-742-4062 for more information.



Looking to be part of the Coventry Farmers' Market fun this summer?

Consider a volunteer role where you can donate your time to be part of your favorite themed event or simply contribute to the weekly operation 'in the field'! The Friends of the Market program is another opportunity where you can donate your time to help with the Market and receive special discounts and opportunities. Contact Erica Pagliuco at through the methods listed above..

EAGLEVILLE LAKE AQUATIC INVASIVES

For the second year in a row, the Towns of Coventry and Mansfield have been awarded grant funds from the State of CT DEEP to address an aquatic invasive species infestation of Fanwort in Eagleville Lake. An initial treatment occurred last summer and achieved excellent results. A second treatment the following year is strongly recommended. Fanwort can significantly impact the quality and allowance for recreational use of the Lake if not properly addressed. The Towns have partnered to share in the required match for the grant and will work together to educate the public on the problem and create a plan to address it. Public outreach and communications will begin during the spring. The consultant, who will be hired to professionally apply an herbicide treatment, must be authorized by the State of CT DEEP. The work will

occur during the summer with two separate treatments likely being required. Questions regarding this project can be directed to Eric M. Trott, Director of Planning and Development, at 860-742-4062 or etrott@coventryct.org.

ADOPT A ROAD PROGRAM

The Coventry Conservation Commission and Land Use Office continue to sponsor the Adopt a Road program for the community. The program entails 'adopting' a portion or all of a Town road and pick up the roadside trash that accumulates. Residents can do as much as they like and at their own pace. Standard garbage bags are available in the Land Use Office and can be disposed of at the Public Works Garage at no charge. The Town also has a lending program for trash grabbers to assist with picking up materials. Please contact Eric M. Trott at 742-4062 or etrott@coventryct.org for further details and application forms.

FLYBOARDS ON COVENTRY LAKE

Last year, a new recreational craft appeared on Coventry Lake. Flyboards, or Jet Articulated Vessels (JAV), are a type of water jetpack attached to a personal watercraft which supplies propulsion to drive the flyboard through the air and water. A rider stands on a board connected by a long hose to a personal watercraft. Water is forced under pressure to a pair of boots with jet nozzles underneath that provide thrust for the rider to fly up in the air or through the water. Due to the nature of the use and the overall environmental sensitivity of Coventry Lake, the Town conducted an initial analysis to evaluate potential impacts to the Lake ecosystem last fall. The Town is currently working with the State of CT DEEP to explore funding options to assist in conducting a more detailed follow up report. This report will enable the Town and DEEP to consider proper management of these devices on Coventry Lake and potentially other waterbodies. The State Legislature is currently considering Raised Bill No. 136 'An Act Regulating the Use of Jetted Articulated Vessels and Certain Water Skiing Devices'. The Act seeks to regulate the nature of the use and areas of operation of the JAVs. More details will surface on this as the legislative session continues. Questions regarding this matter can be directed to Eric M. Trott, Director of Planning and Development, at 860-742-4062 or etrott@coventryct.org.

HYDRILLA THREATENS LAKE HEALTH— INFORMATION FROM THE COVENTRY LAKE ADVISORY & MONITORING COMMITTEE

In September 2015 fragments of hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*), a highly invasive aquatic plant, were discovered in Coventry Lake near the state boat launch, suggesting the possibility that an incoming water craft or trailer introduced this menace. Connecticut's DEEP hired Aquatic Control Technology (ACT) to complete a survey of the lake in November and found multiple patches of hydrilla growing in shallow cove waters diagonally across from the boat launch (Woodland Road area).

This is the first identification of hydrilla in northern Connecticut. There are only a handful of confirmed cases in southern Connecticut. For decades, hydrilla has damaged countless lakes in Florida by out-competing native ecosystems. Unfortunately, once established hydrilla is difficult to control, causing grave concern for this public water body which supports a tremendous volume of recreational use.

It is essential to take steps to positively identify hydrilla prior to taking any action which may disrupt it. Reproducing by fragmentation, small parts of this plant grow into mature clones of the original. Any natural or manmade disruption to the plant can help it spread. DEEP and CAES IAPP along with Coventry town officials are in the process of finalizing an action plan to address the hydrilla infestation. Questions regarding aquatic plants can be addressed to CAES IAPP at (203)974-8512 or Coventry Lake Advisory & Monitoring at coventrylakeadvisor@coventryct.org.

Learn about hydrilla and other invasive species during upcoming town wide events. Check local newspapers the town's website for details. Visit www.coventryct.org for a more detailed version of this article.



COVENTRY YOUTH SERVICES

Counseling Services –

Free counseling services are available to Coventry youth and their families at Youth Services. A licensed clinical social worker provides brief, solution-focused therapy and can address numerous struggles (depression, stress, self-esteem, divorce, etc.) that youth may be having. To set up an appointment, contact Crystal Morawitz, Youth Services Coordinator.

Youth Job Bank-

For Adults: Could you use some help with spring clean up, inside or outside? Need a babysitter; lawn mower, or other odd-jobs around the house done? Hire a student from the Youth Job Bank! Youth Job Bank students range in age from 12-18 years old and can assist with yard work services, clean homes, provide animal care, babysit and more!

For Youth: Any student in grades 7-12 interested in becoming part of the job bank should contact Youth Services to schedule an appointment. We will go over program policies and procedures, in addition to learning basic job skills, safety measures and other key components to landing a job. Once students have completed this step, they can become part of the youth job bank pool.

Babysitters Training –This annual training will be held in June. Please contact Youth Services if you are between the ages of 12 and 18 and interested in taking this training. Registration information will be available online and in schools mid-May.

“Gearing up to Learn” Back to School Program - provides new backpacks, school supplies and Payless Shoe cards to Coventry families with school aged children, who meet the income guidelines. Please watch Coventry cable channel 13 and the local newspapers after July 18th for more information.

For more information on any of the programs listed above, please like and share Coventry Youth Services on Facebook, or contact Youth Services Coordinator, Crystal Morawitz at 860-742-5324.

HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

860-742-5324

FOOD BANK

The Coventry Food Bank is available to any individual or family experiencing difficult times and may need help with food. We have a variety of staple foods in stock which include: cereal, pasta, soup, canned vegetable, peanut butter/jelly and school snacks. We are solely a donor funded program and receive generous donations from many local residents, churches, schools, civic organizations and groups. If you are in need and wish to utilize the food bank, please call the Coventry Human Services Office to schedule an appointment.

of their rent and utility expenses. The program, administered by Office of Policy and Management, provides for payments ranging up to \$900 for qualified married persons and up to \$700 for qualifying single persons. The rebate amount is based on a graduated income scale and the amount of rent and utility payments (excluding telephone) made in the calendar year prior to the year in which the renter applies. In order to qualify, married persons must have an annual income not greater than \$42,900 and single persons must have an annual income not greater than \$35,200. Eligible person may apply between April 1-

Please “like” Coventry Human Services on Facebook and see what’s new in the office.

FOODSHARE

Mobile FoodShare is an outdoor food distribution for persons in need and is available every other Wednesdays from 10-10:30 at the 1st Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street, Coventry. Food choices vary from week to week but usually include bread and several types of fresh produce. Other items may also be offered depending on availability. Please remember to bring a bag or box with you to carry your food. If you have any questions please call FoodShare at 860-286-9999 or www.foodshare.org

October 1 each year and should contact the Coventry Human Services Office for any questions regarding the program and to schedule an appointment.

OPERATION FUEL ~ SUMMER UTILITIES

Human Services will also be taking applications for Operation Fuel, an emergency energy assistance program for households that are in financial crisis. This will be for summer electric utilities, only. Financial crisis is defined as “the inability of a family to pay for an outstanding gas or electric bill, a household faced with the decision to choose between paying for their energy needs, buying food, paying rent or mortgage, paying medical bills as a result of unemployment, limited or fixed income, illness, death, or other emergencies”. Please call the Coventry Human Services Office for further details and income guidelines.

RENTER’S REBATE PROGRAM

APRIL-OCTOBER, 2016 OFFERED FOR ELDERLY & DISABLED RENTERS

Connecticut’s Elderly Renters’ Rebate Program provides direct, partial reimbursement to lower income elderly or disabled renters to help offset a portion



Campership Donations- We are requesting donations for the 2016 summer campership fund. All donations go to help families in need pay for the Parks and Recreation Summer Adventure Camp. Checks can be made payable to The Town of Coventry. The number of camperships available is based on donations received.

Camp Connri - The Salvation Army’s Camp Connri, located in Ashford, will soon be accepting applications for youth ages 8-12 to attend the 2016 overnight summer camp. Due to the community’s generous donations collected through Bell Ringing efforts in December, Coventry Youth Services is able to send children to this camp at no cost or low cost based on financial eligibility. Applications are available in the Human Services office.

Info: Crystal Morawitz, 860-742-5324.

SENIOR CENTER

172 Lake Street • 860-742-3525

COME JOIN THE FUN!

The Coventry Senior Center welcomes seniors 60 years and older to enjoy a variety of social, educational and wellness programs. Join us for recreational activities and instructional classes, luncheons and health services. There is no membership fee. The Senior Center is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Stop in to see us at our beautiful location in Patriots Park. To see our monthly calendar and special events, visit the Town website or call to inquire about our mailing list.

UPCOMING EVENTS

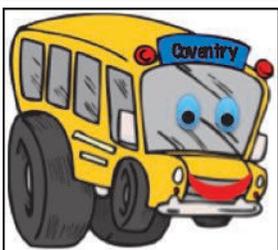
- Spring Clean Your Medications, Friday, April 29, 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. for individual appointments with Pharmacist Katie Mattox from Medical Pharmacy.
- AARP Driver Safety, Tuesday, May 3, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost: \$15 for AARP members or \$20 for non-members.
- Memorial Day Cookout, Monday, May 23 at 12 p.m., the grill will be full of burgers and hotdogs for the annual summer feast.
- End of Spring Fling, Wednesday, June 8 from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m., get ready to dance while Entertainer Brian Gillie plays Hits of the 20th Century.
- Welcome Summer Ice Cream Social: Monday, June 20 from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m., start the summer right with make-your-own sundaes.

INTRODUCING THE TWIN PROGRAM

Do you need a TWIN, someone you can Trust While In Need? We want to help 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.) Who would make a great TWIN? Everyone! It 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 or visit the Senior Center Office to get an application.

TAX PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS

We had a successful tax season with a record number of appointments. We want to thank our dynamic group of volunteer tax preparers! We hope to expand this program next year and we need your help! Call or visit the Senior Center Office for more information.



Free Transportation for Coventry Seniors and Disabled Residents

Are you no longer able to drive?
Do you need a ride to your doctor?
Would you like to go grocery shopping or shopping at the mall? Do you have other errands to do? Would you like to spend a little time at Senior Center?

The Coventry Rides! senior handicap accessible van and handicap accessible minibus will take you where you need to go. We make regular trips to locations in Coventry, Manchester, Vernon, and Tolland.

It's easy and our drivers are the best!

Please call Coventry Senior Center for a ride at least 2 business days ahead.

For rides to the Willimantic Area, please call Dial-A-Ride at 860-456-1460.

**Additional volunteer drivers are needed.
Please call the Senior Center for more information.**

What is Coventry STEPS?

Coventry STEPS is a team of parents, professionals and community leaders working together to ensure that Coventry Children are Nurtured, Healthy & Engaged and Successful Learners.

For more information visit our website at www.coventrysteps.com or contact Kathryn Hassler at www.coventrysteps.com.

Do you have a child under the age of 5? Make sure you visit www.coventrysteps.com and click on the Sign up for Information button. There is a brief form to fill out and then you will receive periodic emails about news, events and resources all geared for families with young children! All families who are signed up will be eligible to win a spring fling prize package, with lots of outdoor games and activities and a \$25 gift certificate to the Famers Cow! The winner will be announced April 29! Please like us on Facebook for even more early childhood news and resources! www.facebook.com/CoventrySTEPS/

TUITION ASSISTANCE FOR PRESCHOOL SPACES AVAILABLE!

Are you a Coventry resident who has a child age 3 or 4 that will be going to preschool in the fall? The Coventry Early Childhood Center located in the Hale Early Education Center (CECC) serves 3 and 4 year old children and is the only NAEYC accredited preschool in Coventry.

There are part day (2.5 hours) and school day (6 hours) preschool spaces available at CECC. The CECC program is currently a school year program (there is a 4 week summer program being offered this summer and an expanded summer program in 2017!). There is also before and after school care available.

There is financial assistance available to help families pay for the cost of preschool. Coventry receives two State grants from the Office of Early Childhood to help reduce the portion families need to pay. Tuition assistance is based on family size and income but for example, a family of 4 would need to earn under \$78,000 to qualify for a reduction in the amount owed.

If you qualify for assistance, then the most you will pay for the school day/school year program is \$2.20 an hour! Contact CECC at 860-742-4550 or www.coventryecc.org for more information!



COMING EVENTS & NOTABLE ITEMS

CALL TO VISUAL, PERFORMING AND LITERARY ARTISTS

The newly-formed Coventry Arts Guild is planning its First Annual **Arts and Music Festival** at Patriots Park on September 10th, 2016, from 10 to 4, with a rain date of September 11th. In order to promote Coventry artists, we are planning to have student and professional art exhibits, all day musical performances, food vendors and many activities for both children and adults. A fun filled family day. If you are interested in participating, contact the Coventry Arts Guild at festival@coventryartsguild.org with your area of interest and your contact information.

The Coventry Arts Guild in conjunction with the Song-a-Day Music Center is pleased to host An **Instrument Petting Zoo** on Saturday, April 23. The event will be held from 1 to 4 P.M at the Song-a-Day Music Center, 2809 Boston Turnpike. It is open to the public, especially for students considering learning to play a band instrument and joining the school band.

All types of Band, String, Percussion instruments will be on display for visitors to inspect, explore and in some cases try out. Song-a-Day Instructors and students will demonstrate use (and care) of instruments. Music Center Directors will be on hand to discuss instrument rental and purchase options.

The event is Free, but donations will be accepted, the proceeds of which will go directly to the newly formed Coventry Arts Guild.

For more information, contact the Song-a-Day Music Center at 860-742-6878.



April 23 & 24 - Rid Litter Weekend. 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 Commission will provide free garbage bags that can be picked up at the Land Use Office at Town Hall. Info: 860-742-4062.

May 7 - Town-Wide Tag Sale: Register your tag sale with the Parks & Recreation Department by April 25th. See their website at www.coventryrec.com or call (860) 742-4068 for information and registration forms. A complete list of participating tag sales will be available after 4/25.

May 7 - Mothers' Day Rose Sale. The Coventry Lions Club is sponsoring a Mothers' Day Roses Sale. One dozen long stem roses bouquet is selling for \$15. Roses can be ordered by calling Cindy at 742-8709 or Gary at 742-6128. Orders can be picked up on Saturday at the parking lot at Coventry HS between 9am and noon. All proceeds go to supporting Lions Club scholarships and other community service activities.

May 8 - Mothers' Day Tea, 2-4 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. High tea Downton Abbey style with 4-course servings & choice of teas served by butler & scullery maid. \$25/person, CTL members \$20. Info: 860-742-6917.

May 13 - Father-Daughter Dance, 7-9:30 PM, CNH Middle School. \$10 for dads who pre-register, \$15 at door. Register online at www.coventryrec.com. Info: 860-742-4068.

May 15 - Brick Schoolhouse Reopens: Merrow Road at Goose Lane. 1-4 PM on the first and third Sundays of the month mid-May through early October. Free admission. Donations welcome. More information at Coventry Historical Society website at www.ctcoventryhistoricalsociety.org.

May 22 - Car Wash for Camp Scholarships, 11:30 AM—1:30 PM, First Congregational Church parking lot. Let the Youth Group make your car sparkle! Free will donation.

May 30 - Memorial Day Pancake Breakfast: 7-10 AM, First Congregational Church, 1172 Main Street. Sausage, pancakes and eggs. \$5 per person or \$12 per family. Children under 5 are free. Come enjoy breakfast while waiting for the parade. All proceeds benefit the Lions Club Coventry Scholarship Program.

May 30 - Memorial Day Parade: 10 AM. Kicks off at G.H. Robertson School on Cross Street, stopping at Veteran's Memorial Green for services, and continuing down Lake Street to Main Street and up to Bradbury Road. Sponsored by American Legion Post 52. On Sunday, May 29, wreath-laying services will be held at 2 PM at St Mary's Cemetery, Main St., proceeding to the New Cemetery, Center Cemetery-Rt.#44, Grant Hill Road, Silver St. and Wrights Mill Road Cemeteries, and Nathan Hale Cemetery on Lake Street.

June 4 - CT Trails Day. Free admission to the Nathan Hale Homestead.

June 12 through Oct - Coventry History Showcase, Strong Porter Museum, 2382 South Street. The Strong Porter Farmhouse (c.1730), features a Carpenter's shop, carriage shed with antique hearses, and barn with vintage tools. Exhibit rooms in the house provide a glimpse of Coventry History and an archival research office for those wanting to explore more of Coventry's history. Museum and grounds are open starting each Sunday beginning June 12th through October from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. A great place to visit on your next trip to the Farmers Market at the Nathan Hale Homestead each Sunday when it opens for the 2016 season. The museum begins its activities with a Tag and Tool sale June 11 & 12th from 9 – 2 p.m. For more information - email info@ctcoventryhistoricalsociety.org.

June 19 - Sundae on a Sunday at the Brick Schoolhouse. 1-4 PM. Merrow Road at Goose Lane. Toppings include fresh strawberries and homemade hot fudge sauce. Sundaes are \$2.00 each; Dad's sundaes are free.

June 25 - CoventryFest: 3-10 PM, Patriots Park. Music, games, vendors, food, fun and fireworks. Coordinated by Coventry Knights of Columbus. Rain date June 26. Info at www.coventryfest.org.

Get monthly notices of upcoming events by subscribing to the Town's e-blast. Visit the "Notify Me" section of the website at www.coventryct.org and click the box next to "Coventry Community Update."

Planning is already underway for **Christmas in Coventry Village**, scheduled for **Sunday, December 4**. Are you, your group or organization interested in being a part? **If so, contact one of us at 860-918-5957 or 860-617-3588. Christmas in the Village is sponsored by the Coventry Lions Club. Thank you in advance.**



BOOTH & DIMOCK MEMORIAL LIBRARY

1134 Main Street • 860-742-7606 • www.CoventryPL.org

We are here to help you...

Learn how to use your devices

One-on-one technical assistance is available by appointment. We can help you set up your device, learn about great apps and utilize digital services the library provides.

Apply for jobs

Public access computers as well as free Wi-Fi are available to assist in your search. Trained staff will help you upload your resume upon request. Printing and faxing is also available for a nominal fee.

Connect you to your family & friends in Coventry and beyond

A wide range of programs, events, and groups for every age and many interests are provided at the library. We encourage you to visit our website for a full list.

Prepare you to excel in school

Programs rich in early literacy expose young children to unique words needed to succeed in school. Homework help is always available at the Teen Desk for research and writing assistance.

Survive vacation with your in-laws

With unlimited checkouts plus access to downloadable books, magazines and movies from wherever you are, the library's resources are sure to keep you entertained even in the most awkward of circumstances.

Learn something new

Free public programs with local experts introduce subjects, while our extensive non-fiction collection encourages readers of all ages to take up a new hobby or become a local expert themselves.

Understand what those squiggles on a page mean

Weekly storytimes promote early literacy and expose kids to unique words needed to be successful readers.

Find out what happens to your favorite character in book 7

Explore fandoms and travel to new places in the latest fiction bestsellers.

Work with your friends to conquer a new level

Video games are loaded on the children's and teen computers, while board games are always available for family and friends to play while visiting the library.

Tinker and create

Learn through doing in our Makerspace which provides access and guidance in 3D printing, circuitry, robotics, and coding as well as other hard and soft sciences.

Programs and services can be found at www.coventrypl.org. Spring offerings include:

Financial Literacy and Marking, Mindfulness, Geocaching, Photography, Book Clubs, Teen Maker Club, Crafts, Storytimes, Playgroups, Comics Club, and much more.

Be sure to check back in June for lots of information about Summer Reading. On Your Mark, Get Set, Read!

Contact the Library at bdlibrary@coventryct.org or 860-742-7606.



Interested in knowing more about the finances of the Town side of your government? We are proud to announce that we are partnering with a software provider, OpenGov, to allow access to the Town's financial system (updated monthly.) Look for a link under the Finance Department's page on the Town website at www.coventryct.org. You are able to look at multiple years of data, both expenses and revenue, and filter to the level you want. Built-in graphics allow you to visualize your inquiry. This includes access to our Accounts Payable checkbook and special funds. If you have suggestions for Frequently-Asked Questions to be added (with the answer), please contact Beth Bauer, Coventry Finance Director, at 860-742-3528 or by email at bbauer@coventryct.org.



UPDATE ON CRUMBLING CONCRETE FOUNDATIONS

Some houses constructed in Eastern Connecticut between what is presently thought to be 1983 to 2003 are experiencing rapid deterioration and spider cracking in their concrete foundations which can make the homes unsafe. The State is conducting a study to try to determine causes and the possible number of homes involved. A meeting has been scheduled. Expected presenters include officials from the CT Department of Consumer Protection, insurance carriers and Lt. Governor Wyman.

Wednesday, May 11, 2016
6:30 PM
E.O. Smith Auditorium
1235 Storrs Road
Mansfield, CT

For additional information on this issue, please visit www.ct.gov/DCP/concrete or call CT Consumer Protection at 860-713-6100.

2016

CAMP WANGUMBAUG

Dates, Activity Information & Registration is Available NOW!

www.coventryrec.com

Following up on our success with the Solarize Coventry campaign a few years ago, and in response to continued interest from our citizens in residential solar installations, the Town is considering the launch of a phase 2 of this initiative. To find out more please contact the Town Manager's office at 860-742-6324 or email JElsetter@coventryct.org.



COVENTRY BOARD OF EDUCATION

860-742-7317

COVENTRY BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS: William Oros, Chairman; Jennifer Beausoleil, Vice-Chairman; Michael Sobol, Secretary; Michael Griswold, Frank Infante, Mary Kortmann, and Eugene Marchand.

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS: The Board of Education generally meets on the second and last Thursday of each month. The remaining regular Board meetings for 2016 are: Wednesday, April 27, May 12 & 26, June 9 & 23, July 21, August 11 & 25, September 8 & 29, October 13 & 27, November 10 and December

8. Unless noted on the agenda, all meetings are held in the Administration Building conference room, 1700 Main Street, at 7:30 p.m.

BUDGET Q & A SESSIONS: Have you ever had questions about how your public school system manages your taxpayer dollars? It is the intent of the Coventry Public Schools to not only be extraordinarily prudent and efficient but to also keep the public well informed. In that interest, we will be holding a public Budget Q & A session on Tuesday, April 26th from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the Administration Building conference room.

OPEN DOOR MEETINGS:

Interested in learning more about our schools? Come meet with Superintendent of Schools, David J. Petrone. One of his initiatives is to meet with as many parents and members of our Coventry community as possible. Open communication is a key component for true collaboration. Keep informed about education in our town by attending any of his Open Door meetings this school year. These informal gatherings will be held in the Administration Building Conference Room at 1700 Main Street. The remaining 2015-16 date is Monday, May 2 at 6:00 p.m.

GRADUATION:

Provided that we have no further school closures this spring, graduation will be held on Saturday, June 11th as indicated on the school calendar. Weather permitting, the ceremony will be held outside at Coventry High School. In case of inclement weather, graduation will be held in the Veterans Auditorium with closed circuit coverage in the Lecture Hall at the high school.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

APPROVED: The Board of Education approved the 2016-17 Coventry Public Schools calendar at the January 14th Board meeting. The calendar can be found on our website at www.coventrypublicschools.org.

“Open communication is a key component for true collaboration.”

COVENTRY PUBLIC SCHOOLS TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Technology plays a critical role in our daily lives. In order to help ensure students are prepared to enter the 21st century workforce, the Coventry Public Schools continues to integrate it into the lives of students in meaningful ways. This year, in our Challenge and Enrichment Program, students are learning about 3D printing through a variety of hands-on experiences. First, we have partnered with the global organization, *Enabling the Future*, to help build prosthetic hands for children in developing countries. Second, our high school student technology team is using 3D printers to create items for use in the labs. Lastly, and to take this one step further, students have built a 3D printer from a kit, and have created one using the 3D printer itself. These real-life engineering projects have allowed our students to go through the process of design and manufacturing in an authentic manner.



As a district, we are continuing to move forward with the integration of Google Apps for Education. Google Apps for Education is a free resource made available to educational institutions by Google and includes a comprehensive compilation of resources that can be utilized on any web-

enabled device, including our iPads. All staff and students from grades 3-12 have accounts that allow them to create, collaborate and share their work. Teachers are utilizing Google Classroom to share resources, and to distribute and grade assignments. Google Apps for Education as a whole allows for both increased collaboration and communication throughout the entire learning community, items essential to promote 21st century skills in this increasingly global society.

To further enhance the educational experience of our students, we are happy to announce that we received a grant from the CT State Bond Commission, which we will use to purchase additional iPads for the Capt. Nathan Hale School with the goal of extending our one-to-one initiative to grade 8. We are excited for the opportunity to further integrate technology into all facets of the curriculum to benefit the learning of our students.

Building STEAM at Coventry Grammar School!

There's a buzz around Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics (STEAM) education at the Coventry Grammar School this year.

During the 2015-2016 school year, the classroom teachers worked closely with middle school Science and Challenge and Enrichment teacher, Sarah Landry, to delve deeper into science and technology topics in an effort to provide hands-on inquiry and open-ended exploration opportunities for all students. Stacey Fortin, who supports the staff at the Coventry Grammar School and the George Hersey Robertson School, has joined Mrs. Landry in her efforts this year. These two teachers have worked with the Coventry Grammar School staff to develop the theme of *STEAM through the SEASONS* in an effort to link STEAM topics from grade to grade.

Through on-going staff development opportunities the staff has focused on science and math standards to develop STEAM lessons that are guided by the engineering design process. Teachers are learning first-hand that STEAM education is active and is supported best in student-centered learning environments. There is no better setting for this inquiry-based learning than the primary school! Elementary teachers are in the unique position of being with their learners most of the day. This enables them to integrate cross-curricular learning activities. STEAM integration supports the Next Generation Science Standards and the Common Core Standards, which emphasize science and engineering practices as well as reading comprehension and the writing process.

The principles of STEAM – critical thinking, asking good questions, observation, exploration and teamwork – are truly at the heart of every discipline. A schoolwide STEAM focus has enabled the staff to work together to create units that center on real-world issues by weaving the components of STEAM together in a meaningful way.

Examples of this practice include the kindergarten students focusing on the topic of living and non-living things. They have been studying the seasons of the year, and have planted a tulip test garden around the school sign as part of the international science project, *Journey North*. The kindergarteners are plotting the progression of spring across the Northern Hemisphere and are anxiously waiting for the first signs of their tulips.

In Grade 1, the formation of a butterfly garden that was researched and planted as the result of a district mini-grant will support the study of metamorphosis. The teachers have plans to create QR codes as a way to guide the learning about plant species and the natural habitat in the garden. Using iPads as a way to study the variety of species and to capture photographs is common practice.

Grade 2 students became “citizen scientists” and created paper butterflies that migrated to Mexico as part of a Journey North project, which included the integration of map skills as they studied the distance between Connecticut and Mexico. The students are eagerly anticipating the arrival of paper monarchs that will migrate to CGS this spring. It will be exciting for them to continue to track the global connections as part of this project.

Study after study has shown that children who experience STEAM education early on will be best equipped in understanding these concepts later in their academic career. It is our hope that in partnership with our students, families, and the community, we are cultivating and developing these interests at Coventry Grammar School!



WORKING PAPERS: All children under the age of 18, who have secured employment, are required to have “working papers.” To acquire these papers, please have a form of identification and verification in writing from your employer stating you have secured employment and bring them to the office at Coventry High School. You do not need to be a student at Coventry High School, only a resident of Coventry, to get working papers from the high school office. Should there be no one available at the high school, you may bring your information to the Superintendent’s Office. If there are any questions regarding working papers, please call the Coventry High School main office at 860-742-7346.

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES: Coventry schools want you! Come and be a part of our school community! Whatever your interest, if you would like to volunteer in the schools, please contact one of the four principals.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES: There are flexible hour and/or day schedules with a wide variety of experiences available. **Teacher, Para-educator, and School Nurse Substitutes:** Please visit our website at www.coventrypublicschools.org for additional information. **Cafeteria Substitutes:** Call Beth Pratt at 860-742-4535. **Bus Drivers/Substitutes:** Call Susan Lussier at M & J Bus Co. at 860-742-0344.

**TOWN OF COVENTRY
1712 MAIN STREET
COVENTRY, CT 06238**



*****ECRWSS***
POSTAL PATRON
COVENTRY, CT 06238**

**LEGAL NOTICE-TOWN OF COVENTRY
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING & NOTICE OF ADJOURNED TOWN MEETING
APRIL 23, 2016**

The legal voters of the Town of Coventry and those property owners qualified to vote in Town Meetings pursuant to Section 7-6 of the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut are hereby notified and warned that the Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Coventry will be held Saturday, April 23, 2016 at 10:00 A.M. in Veterans Auditorium, Coventry High School, Ripley Hill Rd., Coventry, CT to discuss and take action on the following items:

Item #1: To hear the Town Council's estimate of expenditures for the fiscal year July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017.

Item #2: To consider and take action on the Town Council's recommendation for the 2016-2017 fiscal year appropriation, pursuant to Section 9-1 of the Town Charter, the final vote shall be adjourned by the Moderator to May 3, 2016.

**Town of Coventry
Council Recommended Budget for FY 16-17**

	2015	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016
EXPENDITURES	Actual	Adopted Budget	Actual YTD	Est. Actual	Agency Request	Town Manager	Council
General Government	1,529,176	1,554,942	1,151,912	1,554,942	1,585,093	1,580,067	1,580,067
Public Safety	2,167,697	2,414,653	1,703,415	2,414,653	2,537,329	2,519,198	2,519,198
Public Works	2,275,312	2,268,207	1,709,430	2,268,207	2,309,055	2,300,771	2,300,771
Human Services	248,116	288,718	220,653	288,718	291,812	292,434	292,434
Civic & Cultural	523,981	536,107	517,169	536,107	555,218	553,218	553,218
Sundry	2,297,600	2,420,586	1,821,870	2,420,586	2,434,856	2,434,856	2,434,856
General Government Total	9,041,882	9,483,213	7,124,449	9,483,213	9,713,363	9,680,544	9,680,544
Debt Service	2,645,480	2,638,900	2,507,000	2,638,900	2,867,757	2,804,757	2,760,106
Board of Education	26,497,606	26,811,045	11,877,310	26,671,649	27,341,365	27,341,365	27,141,365
Capital	647,546	794,620	223,896	719,620	821,200	821,200	968,787
Expenditures Total	38,832,514	39,727,778	21,732,655	39,513,382	40,743,685	40,647,866	40,550,802
REVENUES							
Property Tax	28,619,356	29,305,320	29,194,688	29,305,320	30,059,634	29,963,815	29,866,751
Intergovernmental	9,983,705	9,884,108	5,144,072	9,884,108	10,151,501	10,151,501	10,151,501
Local	633,821	538,350	460,886	538,350	532,550	532,550	532,550
Revenues Total	39,236,882	39,727,778	34,799,646	39,727,778	40,743,685	40,647,866	40,550,802

If revenues remain unchanged and a collection rate of 98.28 is used; a proposed mil rate of 31.2 will be required.

Item #3: To authorize the Town Manager to enter into an agreement with the Commissioner of Transportation for Town Aid Funds for roads available to the Town of Coventry under Chapter 240 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

Item #4: To take action on the Town Council's recommendation on the FY 2017 Capital Improvement Plan and to authorize the Town Manager to make application pursuant to Title 7, Chapter 116b of the Connecticut General Statutes for funding for eligible projects under the Local Capital Improvement Program (LOCIP).

Item #5: To authorize the Town Manager and the Town Treasurer to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of tax collections to meet current expenditures.

20 summary copies of the proposed budget are available in the Town Clerk's Office, 1712 Main St., Coventry, CT 06238 or can be viewed online at www.Coventryct.org.

Dated at Coventry, CT this 8th day of April 2016.

John A. Elsesser, Town Manager

Lori Tollmann, Town Clerk