



COVENTRY COMMUNITY UPDATE:

January 2018

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

MANAGER'S MONTHLY MEMO:

Here is wishing a Happy New Year for the Town and all its residents. As we start off a quick word about social media and the Town. Social media is not the best way to communicate with the Town. It is not monitored frequently and can cause Freedom of Information problems since it can be deleted in violation of the law. In an emergency please contact 911 for Police/Fire/Medical. For more routine after-hours matters such as alarms, trees down, call Police Dispatch at 860-742-7331. To get information from me, please feel free to email me at Jelsesser@coventryct.org. I have found that much of the social media in town is dominated by people who are far too negative for me to follow, and there are too many pages and groups for our staff to keep track of. If you have a concern or need information please contact me directly. My New Year's resolution is to keep a positive attitude and work toward making the community better. We will continue to post items we feel to be of interest to the community on the [Town Manager's Facebook page](#) and encourage you to follow it, but please do not expect extensive dialogue or prompt response to comments there.

A word on the budget. While the budget passed and the second real estate tax bills were not adjusted we are still working on developing a plan to deal with a surprise \$723,000 reduction in Education Aid by the Governor as empowered by the General Assembly. Please help us with this by asking your representatives and Senate and House leadership to reduce this severe mid-year cut. We are looking at revenues and expenses but may be forced to consider a supplemental tax bill if these hold backs stand. The General Assembly says this was not their intent but only they can prevent it from happening. Your silence condones this action.

Rep. Ackert: tim.ackert@housegop.ct.gov
Sen. Guglielmo: Anthony.Guglielmo@cga.ct.gov
Speaker of the House: Joe.Aresimowicz@cga.ct.gov
Minority Leader: Themis.Klarides@housegop.ct.gov
Senate President Pro-Tempore: looney@senatedems.ct.gov
Sen. Minority Leader: Len.Fasano@cga.ct.gov

People have also been asking about sidewalk maintenance on Main Street. The Town did not commit or promise to plow these sidewalks. [Ordinance 86-106](#) adopted in 1989 puts the liability and maintenance responsibilities for snow and ice removal on abutting properties to sidewalks. Most of the Main Street project is also still under control of the contractor so the Town is not even approved to work in the area. This does not change our current procedure of removing some snow during regular work hours (not on overtime) as workload permits.

If you are interested in learning more about concept designs for a trail on the land taken for the Rt. 6 Expressway that was never built, a public forum is scheduled for Thursday, January 18th at 7 PM in the High School Lecture Hall.

Funds are available for reimbursement of testing expenses for household that may be affected by crumbling concrete foundations. For details click [here](#).

Please have a great year.

UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS:

- Tues, 1/2: Town Council Meeting: 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Mon, 1/8: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:00 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Thurs, 1/11: WPCA Meeting, 6:00 PM, DPW Conf. Room
- Thurs, 1/11: Board of Education, 7:30 PM, School Admin. Building
- Tues, 1/16: Town Council Meeting: 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Mon, 1/22: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:00 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Weds, 1/24: Inland Wetlands Agency, 7:00 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Thurs, 1/25: Board of Education, 7:30 PM, School Admin. Building

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

HOLIDAYS:

Monday, 1/15: Martin Luther King Day. Town offices, schools and Senior Center closed. Trash collection on [regular schedule](#).

COMING EVENTS:

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| Fri | 1/5 | Quiet Corner Contra Dance , Lesson 7:30 PM, Dance 8-11 PM. Patriots Park Lodge, 172 Lake Street. Dance to a caller and live music. Partner not necessary. Wear soft-soled shoes. An alcohol & tobacco-free event. Adults \$10, students \$5, families \$20. Contact Dave for info: 484-844-5203 or email cannel.dm@gmail.com . |
| Sun | 1/7 | Coventry Winter Farmers' Market , 11 AM – 2 PM, Coventry High School, 78 Ripley Hill Road. Over 30 vendors selling locally-grown produce, beef, chicken, pork and eggs. Also local cheese, baked goods, soap, jewelry and pottery. See website for a complete list. Every Sunday through March 18, 2018. |
| Weds | 1/10 | Mobile Foodshare , 10-10:30 AM, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. An outdoor food distribution service for persons of low income. Please bring your own grocery bag. More info . |
| Sun | 1/14 | Coventry Winter Farmers' Market , 11 AM – 2 PM, Coventry High School, 78 Ripley Hill Road. Over 30 vendors selling locally-grown produce, beef, chicken, pork and eggs. Also local cheese, baked goods, soap, jewelry and pottery. See website for a complete list. Every Sunday through March 18, 2018 except for 12/24. |
| Sun | 1/21 | Coventry Winter Farmers' Market , 11 AM – 2 PM, Coventry High School, 78 Ripley Hill Road. Over 30 vendors selling locally-grown produce, beef, chicken, pork and eggs. Also local cheese, baked goods, soap, jewelry and pottery. See website for a complete list. Every Sunday through March 18, 2018 except for 12/24. |
| Weds | 1/24 | Mobile Foodshare , 10-10:30 AM, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. An outdoor food distribution service for persons of low income. Please bring your own grocery bag. More info . |
| Sat | 1/27 | Family Ice Fishing Class & Practice , 9:30 AM – 3PM, Patriots Park Lodge, 172 Lake Street/Coventry Lake. Free. A great way to enjoy time outdoors. The CT DEEP is offering a free in-depth ice fishing class that introduces you to this fun wintertime sport. Details at the Parks & Recreation Registration website . |
| Sun | 1/28 | Coventry Winter Farmers' Market , 11 AM – 2 PM, Coventry High School, 78 Ripley Hill Road. Over 30 vendors selling locally-grown produce, beef, chicken, pork and eggs. Also local cheese, baked goods, soap, jewelry and pottery. See website for a complete list. Every Sunday through March 18, 2018 except for 12/24. |

Mon 1/29 **Consortium Meeting**, 7 PM, Patriots Park Lodge, 172 Lake Street.
Leadership of Town Council, Planning & Zoning, Inland Wetlands,
Economic Development Commission, Recreation, WPCA, Zoning Board of
Appeals to share progress on significant issues.

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