



The spring version of our seasonal banners, which began gracing the Village area this year. Watch for American flags on the light poles later this spring.



## Message from Joan Lewis, Town Council Chairwoman

As I write this piece for the newsletter, the Town Council is beginning its budget deliberations for the 2018-2019 Annual Budget. At the time you receive this newsletter, we will have completed our work and the budget will be moving to the Annual Town Meeting.

Coventry's budget for fiscal year 2017-2018 that was adopted in November 2017 was \$236,827 **less** than the 2016-2017 budget yet required a .8 mil tax increase due to reductions in State aid – mostly in our Educational Cost Sharing Grant. Shortly after that budget was adopted by Coventry voters, the Governor imposed a holdback of \$723,806. Our efforts to our Legislators and Legislative leaders to request that a Special Session be held to restore that money were not successful. The Town Council rather than impose a mid-year tax increase to our residents worked with the Board of Education and among other things froze spending in the Capital Budget, delayed hiring of replacement personnel and made further cuts to both budgets.

The Governor's proposed budget for 2018-2019 contains additional revenue cuts for Coventry and includes the holdbacks. State Legislators are saying they do not intend to follow the Governor's budget, and will work from the budget that they passed in 2017. We are receiving two different messages with a difference of over \$900,000 in the State Revenue we are to receive – nearly one mil. The State Budget adopted by the Legislature for 2018-2019 did not include the mid-year holdback and the proposed new reduction proposed by the Governor.

If our State's Senators and Representatives are able to sustain the budget they adopted for 2018-2019, or make the necessary cuts or increases in revenue to make it sustainable, the Town Council's proposed budget should likely contain little or no tax increase barring unforeseen circumstances; however, if the State Budget they adopted is not sustainable and they choose not to adjust it and instead pass the shortfall on to us, we will need to make up some or all of this additional loss in State revenue which will likely require some increase in property tax as it did last year. This is the Legislature's short session, so hopefully we will have an answer before it is time for the Council to adopt its budget. Meanwhile, be assured that the Town Council and Board of Education will work diligently to hold increases in their budgets to a minimum while still maintaining a quality education for our children and providing services to our citizens.

I anticipate that along with the budget, there will be another question at referendum which will include code and energy upgrades at Coventry High School and the Capt. Nathan Hale School, boiler replacements at our schools and at the library as well as the construction of the Jones Crossing Bridge to replace the current bridge which has a deteriorating foundation. Fortunately, these projects will not impact the 2018-2019 budget and are being planned to take advantage of a major decline in debt service in fiscal year 2019-2020.

I urge all Coventry voters to attend the Town Meeting on Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, to learn more about the budget and the projects to be voted on at referendum. Information will also be available on the Town's website.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Coming Events .....	6
Projects Update.....	10
COVRA News .....	11
Human Services.....	12
Senior Center .....	13
School News.....	14

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Budget Update – Center
- Crumbling Concrete Foundations – pg. 2
- Annual Town Meeting – pg. 16

### TOWN HALL HOLIDAYS:

May 28	Memorial Day
July 4	Independence Day
Sept. 3	Labor Day

## Comings & Goings and Staff Accomplishments

Police Officer **Olaph Anderson** completed his field training this spring. We are happy to have him fully on board.

Best wishes upon your retirement go out to: **Chris Fiore**, Police Sgt.; **Brian Flanagan**, Police Officer; **Doug Reese**, Public Works Superintendent of Operations.

Farwell to **Emma King**, Senior Center Coordinator and welcome to **Brenda Bennett** who has transferred to this position from the Human Services Department.

**Dianna Grindle** has transferred from the Town Clerk's office to fill the position of Human Services Administrative Assistant.

We are saddened to mark the passing of **Mike Merriam**, who served as Cemetery Sexton for many years. He will be missed.

Welcome aboard to **Bud Meyers**, Fire Marshal, and **Sherry Chapman**, Cemetery Sexton. **Mark Landolina** has been appointed to the position of Planning Technician/Zoning Enforcement Officer and will join us upon graduating from college in early May.

## 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 16, 2018 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 recycle barrel.

## TOWN MANAGER'S UPDATE

It is annual budget time with the Annual Town Meeting on Saturday, April 28th and vote on Tuesday, May 8th. Please review the Budget in Brief and explanatory text for a referendum question in the insert of this newsletter. Additional information is available on the Town's web page and video library of budget meetings. The Council adopted their goals which are listed in the Manager's letter which ties the goals into what we spend.

We have a very busy summer planned with road work (see page 8) which may be reduced due to a \$149,000 State road aid cut. We plan to re-deck Flanders Road Bridge over the Willimantic River. The Council funded the remaining grant match to modify school entrances to enhance security. Watch for information on a grant-funded community composting program.

Meters are installed to determine whether we can tie into the Bolton sewer system on Rt. 44 to allow a joint development concept at the Town line. We are starting a major website refresh to make our site more mobile-friendly. We are still in the running for a grant to facilitate construction of a micro grid around Coventry High/Town Hall to be able to stay online in power outages. We sold off an ambulance to reduce the fleet and another engine tanker to maintain the same size fire fleet.

After the sudden cancellation of meals at the Senior Center we hope to be up and running with a new meal service in late April.

Watch for information on a Town tax sale in June and if you are interested the Town will be selling some building lots by sealed bid on Cross/Orcutt and Standish/Daly in May. Subscribe to the bids section on the Notify Me page of the Town website at [www.coventryct.org](http://www.coventryct.org) to receive a notice when these bids are solicited.

John A. Elsesser  
Town Manager

## CRUMBLING CONCRETE FOUNDATIONS:

Please check the spotlight section on the Town's website at [www.coventryct.org](http://www.coventryct.org) for updated information on crumbling concrete foundations. A reminder that grants for inspections and core testing are underway. Act now before funds run out.

There are two programs: the Capitol Region Council of Governments has allocated \$5,000,000 in bond funds for visual inspections and core testing for homes or condominiums built on or after 1983 and will cover testing or inspections performed since July 1, 2015. The reimbursement rate is 100% up to \$400 for visual inspections and 50% up to \$2,000 for core testing.

The second program is a multi-jurisdictional program through the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant for housing rehabilitation funds. Coventry is serving as the lead town in this initiative, which offers funds for homeowners affected by crumbling concrete foundations, including low-to-moderate income families. For more information about this program or an application, contact Peter Huckins, Program Administrator, at 860-456-0782.



# 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 will be mailed in March/April and liens will be filed in April/May 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 1<sup>st</sup> and taxpayers have 30 days to pay before late charges apply. An on-line payment option is also available to Coventry taxpayers who wish to pay from their bank account or with a credit card. From the home page on the Town website, [www.coventryct.org](http://www.coventryct.org), click on the left blue box titled Online Bill Pay. This will take you to the Tax Collector's page. In the middle of the Tax Collector's page, there is a paragraph titled Online Payments. 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 Bank online bill pay site where you will be directed to set up your bank information. A charge of fifty cents per check may apply. The second option to make an online payment with your credit card is in the same paragraph. Click on the underline words credit card. This will connect you to the link to find your bill(s). Once you have selected your bills and added them to your cart, you will proceed to checkout. At checkout you will be at the Point & Pay online bill pay site. Point & Pay is our authorized vendor for processing credit card payments online and in our office. A convenience fee of 2.75% will be charged for credit card payments and if using a Visa (only) debit card the fee is a flat \$3.95. Please feel free to call the Tax Office before making your online payments and we will be happy to explain the procedure.

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 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 (\$160-\$240) pays for the disposal/recycle service only.

The current fiscal year will end June 30, 2018. 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 and sewer use charges. Please contact this office if you have any questions concerning the status of your accounts.

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

# ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

860-742-4067

Public records for the Assessor's Office can be viewed using the following links:  
[http://coventry.mapxpress.net/ags\\_map/](http://coventry.mapxpress.net/ags_map/) - Coventry Map Xpress updated daily  
or <http://www.mapgeo.com/crcogct/> - CRCOG website last updated February 2017

Property field cards, sketches, pictures, exemption applications and general information can be found on the Town's website. **Remember, that the property information is no longer available on the Vision Appraisal website.**

**The Elderly and Disabled homeowner program** began February 1, 2018, and applications are being processed until Tuesday, May 15, 2018. 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 \$43,000 if married, or less than \$35,300 if single, both must include Social Security benefits from your SSA-1099 and your adjusted gross income from your 2017 Federal Income tax return. The Town of Coventry also offers a local tax relief program which mirrors the income limits of the state benefit. The program is offered as both a tax credit, that is equal to half of the state benefit, or it is a deferral, where a lien is filed on the Town Clerk's land records until it is paid or the property is sold at which time the deferred taxes must be paid.

**Veterans** must file their DD-214 with the Town Clerk prior to **October 1<sup>st</sup>** 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 1<sup>st</sup>, and applications are processed until October 1, 2018. Please call if your income is less than \$43,000 if married, or less than \$35,300 if single, both must include Social Security benefits from your SSA-1099 form and your adjusted gross income from your 2017 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, 2018.**

## BUILDING DEPARTMENT

860-742-4064

### Preparing for spring projects:

You are probably preparing your spring home spruce-up list. Here are some suggested maintenance items to consider putting on your list...

- **Decks:** check for water stains, wood decay and weakening of the structure. Rid moss and mold with a pressure washer. Staining decks regularly can help prevent wood damage.
- **Air Conditioners:** Disconnect electric power to the outdoor condenser on your air conditioner and clear it of leaves and debris. If the cooling fins are exposed, be careful not to bend them. Vacuum the grill and register inside your home to ensure good airflow and change your furnace filter.
- **Gutters:** clean clogged gutters of debris and check them for corrosion, joint separation, and loose fasteners. Flush out downspouts and unclog leader pipes. Leader pipes should extend at least 5 feet to direct water away from the foundation.
- **Tree Maintenance:** A blustery fall and winter has left our yards with weakened tree limbs and debris. Remove broken branches or any branches that have been unable to "spring" back and get leaves to bud on them, also anything overgrown or limbs resting on structures. It is good to keep tree limbs away from any roof lines or siding, so pests can't get onto and into these structures. Proper tree maintenance can help to keep structures around them safe.
- **Roofs:** Inspect your roof from any storm or winter damage. Pay close attention to loosened shingles, sags and dips in the roof line, and mold or mildew scale.

Taking time to look for and correct these issues early on can combat costly repairs in the future. Start small with one little project at a time, but allow for your renewed spring energy to pull you out of the winter doldrums and focus on protecting and maintaining your home.

## NEWS FROM THE COVENTRY VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION

Coventry Volunteer Fire Association continues to improve and grow to meet the needs of the community. We continue to work with the Town of Coventry, North Coventry Fire Department and our ambulance staffing company, Vintech, to ensure adequate staffing of the ambulance 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. While a paid crew from Vintech covers ambulance calls from 6:00am to 4:00pm Monday through Friday, volunteers still cover all ambulance calls overnight, on weekends, holidays, and any instance when multiple ambulances are needed at the same time.

CVFA has already responded to 192 requests for service in 2018, including 139 ambulance calls, 7 fire calls, and 11 motor vehicle accidents. During the recent large fire at Willimantic Waste, CVFA provided one engine tanker and one ambulance, each for approximately 12 hours, fully staffed with 8 members. This support is provided to Willimantic through a mutual aid agreement, which allow us to receive assistance when needed in Coventry, and also requires us to provide assistance when requested by surrounding towns.

The members of CVFA would like to thank the Town for recently purchasing "Tanker 108", a brand new 3000 gallon multi-purpose fire truck that went into service several months ago. The truck was purchased at a significant savings through a purchasing consortium which the Town is a member of. It is a large, heavy vehicle, and requires extensive training, even for members who already drive our other apparatus. Although it has only been in service for the past several months, it has already been put to use at three structure fires.

In the past three months, 13 new members have joined CVFA and are busy attending training classes and drills in order to familiarize themselves with the department, operations, and equipment. We also recently had 6 members become certified as Firefighter I, and 8 members certified as EMT's. EMT and Firefighter I classes are each over 150 hours of classroom and hands-on training, plus homework, skills evaluations, and written tests. CVFA is always looking for new members, whether or not you already have fire or emergency medical training. If you are interested in joining, or would like more information, please visit our website at [www.coventryfire.org](http://www.coventryfire.org), or call the station at 860-742-3510. Thank you for your continued support.

### MORE FROM THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT:

**Permitting:** If you are considering a building project this year, be sure to submit your application 2-3 weeks in advance. New Building Code changes along with a very busy construction year has elongated the time frame for the review process for applications. This can increase the review process time and this process gets rotated on a first-come, first-served basis. Drop by the Building Department to pick-up your permit packet and a copy of your plot plan. We would be happy to take a few minutes to discuss your project with you and get you started.

**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 1<sup>st</sup> and ending September 30, 2018, 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 30, 2016. 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.

## LAND USE OFFICE

860-742-4062

### STATE OF CT DEEP - RECREATIONAL TRAILS GRANT PROPOSAL

The State of CT DEEP has awarded the Towns of Bolton and Coventry \$110,632.00 of Recreational Trails Program Grant funds which will facilitate the planning and design of a potential multi-purpose, low impact trail on the properties that were obtained from the State of CT DOT as open space. Since 2013, the towns of Andover, Bolton and Coventry worked with the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation (CT DOT) to pursue the conveyance of the former RTE 6 Expressway properties that were acquired to allow for the construction of a new highway through the towns. The expressway project did not proceed beyond design and permitting and ultimately was not constructed. The goal is for the towns to own the property and preserve it as open space and enable a future multi-purpose, low-impact trail system. Approximately 277 acres were conveyed to Coventry earlier in 2016. The BSC Group has been hired to work with the towns to prepare a plan and preliminary design. Public meetings were held in January in Bolton and Coventry to seek input on the project. Both Towns have collected the responses and input that have been received and are in the process of reviewing and evaluating the comments as well as preliminary layouts in order to find balanced solutions. A second public forum will be held in both towns during the spring of 2018. No decisions on plans for future construction have been made. One-on-one meetings with abutters are planned over the summer. Please contact Eric Trott at [etrott@coventryct.org](mailto:etrott@coventryct.org) or 860-742-4062 if you have any questions.

### MILL BROOK GREENWAY EXTENSION – DEPOT ROAD

The Town was awarded \$57,560.00 from the State of CT DEEP Recreational Trails Program. The funds will be used to continue the Mill Brook Greenway trail system, which is planned from Coventry Lake, through Historic Coventry Village, to the Willimantic River. The grant focus will be on the former Decew property located on Depot Road as well as another Town property that fronts on the Willimantic River. The project entails the creation of a parking area, installation of a low impact trail, viewing landing, guiderails, picnic table and benches, landscaping and historic interpretive signage on the Decew site. The property is the former site of a large industrial facility that was powered by the Mill Brook. The project will serve to celebrate the unique mill history on the site and the Mill Brook which was very significant to the development of Coventry Village. An improved parking area will be installed on the other Town property. Construction will begin when the weather allows in the spring of 2018. Questions on the project can be directed to Eric Trott.

### COVENTRY LAKE ZONE PAVING PROJECTS

Property owners who intend to perform paving projects in the Coventry Lake region involving driveways, walkways or other areas are encouraged to inquire with the Land Use Office about impervious surface requirements that exist in the zoning regulations. Impervious surfaces are ones that do not allow for the percolation of surface water, such as structures and bituminous paving. The zoning regulations contain limits on how much area can be covered by impervious surfaces in order to manage the stormwater that is generated which ultimately affects the environmental health of Coventry Lake. The installation of a paved surface on a lot can impact the future ability to perform other construction projects. Copies of the regulations are available on the Town's website under Planning and Zoning or the Land Use Office. Questions can be directed to the Land Use Office at 742-4062.

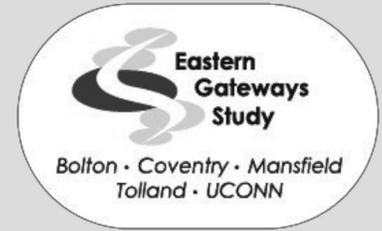
### HISTORIC PHOTOS PROJECT

In September of 2017, the Town hosted a grand showcase of the historic photos of the town that were prepared via the 'Telling Stories That Matter' grant that was received from The Last Green Valley. There are five 24" x 36" individual images and four themed collages of the same sizes. Each photo and collage has a description that provides details of the unique image from the town in the early 1900's. The community is welcome to visit the Land Use Office to view the collection of images, by appointment. Also, the images can be made available to loan to a community group by request. Please contact Eric Trott to schedule a viewing or rental.

### 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. Free standard garbage bags are available in the Land Use Office and can be disposed of at the Public Works Garage at no charge. Please contact Eric Trott for further details and application forms.

**CEMETERY COMMISSION SEEKING INFORMATION ON STONES:** The Coventry Cemetery Commission is in possession of headstones and footstones from various sources. Some were unearthed from the Carpenter Cemetery on Silver Street; some were donated by a local family. The Commission has made every effort to reunite these stones in their rightful places but there are about 20 stones that are "orphans." They would appreciate your help in identifying them. The Village Improvement Society will have a display of a headstone and footstone, along with photos of all the stones at the Visitors' Center on Main Street starting in mid-April. The Coventry Historical Society will display the stones at the Strong Porter House beginning on June 3<sup>rd</sup> to coincide with the opening of the Coventry Farmers' Market at Hale Homestead. These stones date from 1824-1909 and it's time for them to go home. For more information, contact Jim Murphy, CHS president, at 860-742-3054 or email [irishbrit0471@att.net](mailto:irishbrit0471@att.net).



The towns of Bolton, Coventry, Mansfield, and Tolland and the University of Connecticut are partnering with the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) to study the RTE 44 and 195 transportation corridors. These corridors have been identified as needing a comprehensive transportation plan that provide sustainable solutions to meet the current and future travel demand anticipated for the communities. Key considerations for the study include: enhancing safety, capacity, access management, connectivity, and multimodal options, while factoring in smart growth planning, fostering livable, economically sustainable communities, as well as complete streets. The study is being prepared with the consulting firm of Fitzgerald & Halliday, Inc. in association with WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff and Nignret Partners. A Technical Advisory Committee consisting of municipal staff from each town, representatives from UCONN, as well as special interest groups help to guide the overall process of the plan development. A study website [www.cteasterngateways.com](http://www.cteasterngateways.com), was launched that serves as a clearinghouse of information with the ability to sign up for regular newsletter updates. A video of a public forum held in Coventry in 2016 on the project is available on the Town website video-on-demand page at [www.coventryct.org](http://www.coventryct.org). A second public forum has been scheduled for May 5, 2018 at 7pm in the Town Hall Annex. Please contact Eric Trott if you have any questions.

## COMING EVENTS & NOTABLE ITEMS

**April 21 & 22—Rid Litter Weekend:** The Coventry Conservation Commission is sponsoring a Rid Litter Weekend to coincide 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.

**Fri. May 4 — Quiet Corner Contra Dance:** Lesson at 7:30 PM, dance at 8 PM. Patriots Park Lodge, 172 Lake Street. Dance to a caller and live music. Partner not necessary. Wear soft-soled shoes. An alcohol and tobacco-free event. Adults \$12, students \$6, under 12 free. Held the first Friday of the month through May 4th. Contact Dave for info: 484-844-5203 or email [cannel.dm@gmail.com](mailto:cannel.dm@gmail.com).



### Saluting Our Heroes

Nathan Hale Homestead will have a temporary exhibit, "Saluting Our Heroes" on display from May 5 through July 8, in the museum (2299 South Street). This exhibit will salute local service men

and women from Coventry and surrounding towns who served from the time of the American Revolution to current time. If any one has a uniform or memorabilia they would like to loan for the exhibit we would love to talk to you.

Please call 860-742-6917 or email [hale@ctlandmarks.org](mailto:hale@ctlandmarks.org).

**MOTHERS DAY ROSES SALE:** The Coventry Lions Club is sponsoring a Mothers' Day Roses Sale. One dozen long stem roses bouquet is selling for \$18. Roses can be ordered by calling Cindy at 742-8709 or Gary at 742-6128. Orders can be picked up on Saturday May 12 at the parking lot at Coventry High School between 9am and noon. All proceeds go to supporting Lions Club scholarships and other community service activities.

**May 28 — Memorial Day Pancake Breakfast:** 7-10 AM, First Congregational Church on Main St. (Rte. 31). The Coventry Lions Club is sponsoring their annual Memorial Day Pancake Breakfast. Breakfast will consist of sausage, pancakes, and eggs. The price for breakfast is \$5.00 per person or \$12.00 per family with children under 5 for free. Enjoy breakfast while waiting for the parade. All proceeds go to benefit the Coventry Scholarship Program.

**May 28 - 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 27, 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 30 - CoventryFest:** 4-10 PM, Patriots Park. Music, games, vendors, food, fun and fireworks. Coordinated by Coventry Knights of Columbus, American Legion Post 52 and the Boy Scouts. Info at [www.facebook.com/Coventryfest-2018](http://www.facebook.com/Coventryfest-2018).

## COVENTRY FARMERS' MARKET NEWS

June is just around the corner and so is the 15th Anniversary of the Coventry Farmers' Market! We are ready for another year of bringing you the best farmers and local producers Connecticut has to offer! If you have thought about volunteering, or are student that needs community service hours - we would love to have you join us! Volunteers are essential to the success of this community market and we promise that you will enjoy your time with us. Send us an email at [coventryfarmersmarket@gmail.com](mailto:coventryfarmersmarket@gmail.com) if you are interested. To keep up with all that's happening each week, follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or sign up for our weekly newsletter at [www.coventryfarmersmarket.org](http://www.coventryfarmersmarket.org).

See you in June!



## DAFFODIL BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT:

Sponsored by the Village Improvement Society, this town-wide service project is celebrating its 25th year! Enjoy the welcoming sight of daffodils throughout town this spring and consider placing a bulb order for fall planting. To order Dutch Master (all yellow) or the popular Mixed Variety at \$4.00 per dozen, please call Judy at 860-214-9567.



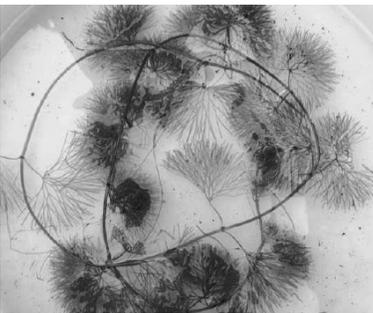
Get monthly notices of upcoming events by subscribing to the Town's e-blast. Visit the "Notify Me" section of the website at [www.coventryct.org](http://www.coventryct.org) and click the box next to "Coventry Community Update."

**SPRING NOTES FROM THE  
COVENTRY LAKE ADVISORY  
& MONITORING COMMITTEE**

Spring is here and water activities will be starting including the aquatic plant growing season. Do you know what the invasive aquatic plant hydrilla looks like? Note that the hydrilla has 5 leaves in each whorl while elodea, a native has only 3 leaves in each whorl. Check out the picture below of hydrilla and if you see it let us know at the email address below.



Another invasive aquatic plant that has been found at Eagleville Lake and Bolton Lake is fanwort. The close proximity means it could be a threat to our lake too. The picture below is of fanwort. If you see it let us know.



Interested in learning what YOU have in your waters? Contact us and we will bring books to help identify YOUR aquatic plants. Then continue to support us by watching to see if you have something new growing or washing up on your shoreline.

*Keep Coventry Lake Healthy for our  
Future Generations*

**Coventry Lake Advisory &  
Monitoring Committee:**

Charlie Brown Jr., Linda Comeau,  
Laurie Felix, Scott Gallo, Michael  
Hicks, Bill Piotroski, Debby Zeppa

**Email:**

[coventrylakeadvisor@coventryCT.org](mailto:coventrylakeadvisor@coventryCT.org)

**BE PART OF  
COVENTRY'S CHRISTMAS IN THE  
VILLAGE!**

Planning has already begun for 2018 Christmas in the Village, scheduled for Sunday, December 2! Your help is welcome (and needed!) to continue to make the day such a spirited time in our community. This is a great opportunity for youth to earn community service also! How to get involved? Go to our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/CoventrysChristmasInTheVillage](http://www.facebook.com/CoventrysChristmasInTheVillage) or call 860-617-3588 or 860-918-5957.



**COMMUNITY DISCUSSION—  
OPIOID EPIDEMIC**

The Opioid Epidemic will be the focus of a community discussion to be held at the Community building of the Second Congregational Church, Coventry, on Wednesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 PM. The discussion is open to the public. The speakers will include Chief of Police, Mark Palmer, the Director of the Eastern Highland Health District, Robert Miller, and Susan Howroyd of the Manchester Police Department's HOPE program, a law enforcement based effort to help prevent, treat and combat heroin and opioid addiction.

Chief Palmer states "The heroin and opioid epidemic is one of the most urgent law enforcement and public health challenges facing our country. In Connecticut, residents are more likely to die from an opioid related overdose than a motor vehicle accident as annual overdose deaths were up over 1,000 for the first time." Four of those occurred in Coventry between 2015 and 2017.

**FLAG FIELD OF HEROES**



Nathan Hale Homestead, in collaboration with the Coventry VFW and American Legion, is selling 12x18 cloth American Flags in honor of our American service men and women. Flags can be purchased for \$10 each. It is our hope that we can fill the flag pole field of the Connecticut State Hero's home with flags honoring the men and women who serve our country. If you have a loved one who is currently serving our country or is a veteran please purchase a flag in their honor. The flag field will be open

for public viewing from May 5 through May 31.

Flags can be purchased by calling 860-742-6917, emailing [hale@ctlandmarks.org](mailto:hale@ctlandmarks.org), or sending your payment and the following information to: CT Landmarks, ATTN: Nathan Hale Field of Heroes, 59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, CT, 06106.

Please include: Service Person's Name; Rank; Years in Service; Extra information you would like to share (i.e. where he/she served); Purchasers contact information.

**HOUSING REHABILITATION LOAN PROGRAM**



**Would you be interested in receiving financial assistance from the Town for repairs to your home?** The Town of Coventry has funds available for its Housing Rehabilitation Program. The Program funds repair projects that include, but are not limited to: septic systems, roofing and siding, structural deficiencies, replacement windows, insulation, plumbing, electrical and heating systems. Low-income eligible applicants will receive a loan that is no interest and no payments until the property changes ownership. Moderate-income eligible applicants will receive a loan that is 2/3 no interest and no payments until the property transfers ownership and 1/3 zero percent interest paid over ten years in monthly installments. **To be eligible, you must have homeowner's insurance, not exceed 90% loan to value ratio, and the household yearly gross income must not exceed amounts below:**

Number in Family	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Low Income	32,100	36,700	41,300	45,850	49,550	53,200	56,900	60,550
Moderate Income	47,600	54,400	61,200	68,000	73,450	78,900	84,350	89,800

For more information or to request an application, contact Peter Huckins, Program Coordinator, at 860-456-0782 or [peterhuckins@charter.net](mailto:peterhuckins@charter.net). All Information provided to the Housing Rehab Program will be confidential.

# TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

860-742-7966

Hours: M-W 8:30-4:30, Th 8:30-6:30, Fr 8:30-1:30

## **RABIES CLINIC**

**Saturday May 5, 2018**

**2:00-4:00 PM**

**Capt. Nathan Hale School**

**1776 Main Street**

\$20.00 per vaccination. Cash only please. Please bring written proof of last rabies vaccination. This clinic is made possible through the Connecticut Veterinary Medical Association. **\*\*Vaccination of domestic animals is an important component of rabies prevention programs. Connecticut state law requires vaccination of cats and dogs.**

### **APRIL 14<sup>TH</sup> MARKED OPENING DAY OF FISHING!!**

- \* All lifetime licenses issued since October 9, 2009 are now required to be renewed 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 2018 Connecticut Angler's Guides each year for updates on DEEP regulations and other useful information online at [www.ct.gov/deep](http://www.ct.gov/deep) or they should arrive in our office shortly before opening day.

**Your 2018 fishing licenses are available at the Town Clerk's office or online at [www.ct.gov/deep](http://www.ct.gov/deep).**

- \* Hunting/ Inland Fishing-\$38
- \* Inland Fishing license-\$28
- \* All Waters Inland and Marine Fishing-\$32
- \* All Waters Hunting & Fishing -\$40
- \* Non-Resident Fishing licenses are also available at \$22 for a 3-day pass or \$55 for season license.
- \* Lifetime licenses are available free of charge to persons over 65. (Requires annual renewal)

### **THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE OFFERS NOTARY SERVICES:**

In accordance with Connecticut General Statutes:

- \* You must sign your document in the presence of the Notary.
- \* **Two** forms of proper identification are required in order to notarize your document, such as a driver's license or a photo ID, and **signed** credit or debit cards (*social security card or birth certificate cannot be used as a form of ID*). These ID's have to be current and not expired.
- \* **There is a \$5.00 per document fee for this service. The Town Clerk's Office accepts cash or check payments only.**

**We are unable to notarize the following documents:**

- \* Wills
- \* Power of Attorney (*except for motor vehicle*)
- \* I-9 Form
- \* Documents being recorded in the Coventry Land Records

### **JUNE IS DOG LICENSE RENEWAL MONTH!**

**\*\* COVENTRY'S TOP DOG \*\***  
Send in your license renewal along with the appropriate fee in the month of May and your dog's name will be entered into a drawing for the most desired #1 tag. Coventry's Top Dog will also receive their license for **FREE!** Please have your entry in by **May 31<sup>st</sup>** and the winner will be notified by **June 1<sup>st</sup>**. All other license entries will be processed accordingly and mailed out in the beginning of June.  
**GOOD LUCK!!!!**

Along with payment please include **current rabies certificate, proof of spay/neuter and a self-addressed stamped envelope.**

- \* \$8.00 for spayed or neutered dogs.
- \* \$19.00 for unaltered dogs.
- \* Any dog license issued after June 30<sup>th</sup> is subject to a \$1.00 per month late fee.
- \* Licenses will not be sold in the office until June 1<sup>st</sup>.
- \* **Check your dog's rabies expiration date. If that date has expired, NEW WRIT-TEN** proof of a current rabies vaccination is required to renew your dog's license.
- \* Help us keep our records current - If there are any changes in your dog's registration status (spay/neuter, death, change of address) please update the clerk's office at 860-742-7966.

**\*\*\*Remember a license is your lost dog's ticket home.\*\*\***

### **DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN LOOK AT COVENTRY'S LAND RECORDS ONLINE?**

You can do this by going to the Town website [www.coventryct.org](http://www.coventryct.org) and visiting the Town Clerk's webpage, clicking on Land Record Database under the Quick Links. Follow the prompts to the Search page, and enter the property owner's name. Viewing is free. Documents can be printed for a fee with a credit card.

# Budget in Brief

**Proposed Fiscal Year 2018/19 Budget**  
**Town Meeting: Saturday, April 28, 2018**  
10:00 A.M. Veterans Auditorium,  
Coventry High School, Ripley Hill Road



## Overview

Responding to the expectations of Coventry residents for better and more efficient services, Town and Board staff reviewed programs and services and prepared budget proposals that address the stated goals of the Town Council and Board of Education. This review was undertaken in the context of the very weak State and improving National economies. Existing services have been maintained and infrastructure repairs, services to students, seniors, and public safety have been given a priority. The Town Manager's recommended budget demonstrated that most agency budgets were submitted with only a modest or no increase, made up with a decrease elsewhere. No new full time Town staffing is proposed. The full budget was reviewed and modified by the Town Council, resulting in a reduction from requests of \$25,244.

“The Town Council’s budget proposals for the Town, Board, Capital and Debt Service call for a \$498,511 spending increase.. ”

The Town Council’s budget proposals for the Town, Board, Capital and Debt Service call for a \$498,511 spending increase from the prior year adopted budget. This year’s process was complicated by very uncertain State revenues and proposed new expenses. The proposed budget will require a mil rate increase of 0.4 mils or 1.25% and the proposed mil rate will increase to 32.4. The proposed budget has been sent to the Annual Town Meeting scheduled for Saturday April 28, 2018, in the CHS Veterans Auditorium at 10:00 A.M. The full budget document is available on the Town’s website, [www.coventryct.org](http://www.coventryct.org), under Finance. The adjourned Town Meeting vote is scheduled for Tuesday, May 8, 2018. There is also a question seeking authorization for issuance of up to \$3,700,000 bonds for the planning, design, engineering, renovation, construction, reconstruction and reconstruction for improvements to various buildings and bridges, which is detailed in the explanatory text on page 4 of this document. There would be no tax impacts due to borrowing for this project until FY 19/20 at the earliest. There is additional information on this project and the many presentations and estimated fiscal impact on the Town’s web page.



## Budget Process

## Budget Summary

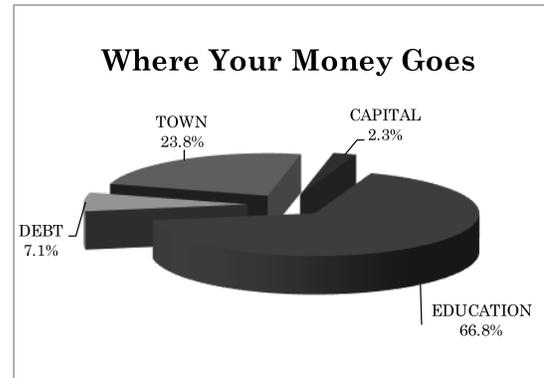
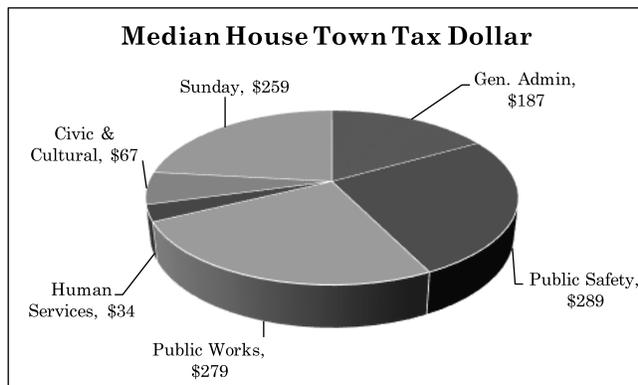
The expenditure part of the budget is broken down into the areas of General Government, Board of Education, Debt Service and Capital totaling \$40,812,486, an increase of \$498,511 or 1.24% compared to the adopted FY17/18 budget. The Board of Education budget is a \$237,663 increase over the adopted budget. The Town budget, including the Library and Fire services, increased by \$80,738. A breakdown of the budgets are illustrated below.

**“The combined budgets are a 1.24% increase over the FY 17/18 budget.”**

Budget Area	Adopted Budget FY 17-18	Requested Budget FY 17-18	\$ Change	% Change
General Government	\$9,612,418	\$9,693,156	\$80,738	0.84%
Board of Education	\$27,044,684	\$27,282,347	\$237,663	0.88%
Debt Service	\$2,724,073	\$2,904,983	\$180,910	6.64%
Capital	\$932,800	\$932,800	(\$800)	(0.09%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$40,313,975</b>	<b>\$40,812,486</b>	<b>\$498,511</b>	<b>1.24%</b>

## Town Operating Budget Summary

The Town operating budget recommended for FY 18/19 is \$9,693,156; an increase of \$80,738. No increases are proposed for Town General Fund fees except legal ads for land use applications which allowed a \$7,650 reduction in the budget. The \$5.00 reduction in COVRRRA trash fees from last year will remain in place. WPCA (sewers) have kept fees unchanged from the prior year. Our health insurance experience has allowed rates to remain unchanged, and higher employee premium sharing resulted in budget savings of \$6,700. We have added additional funds for winter salt and overtime for snow removal (\$21,000). We increased tree work to address blight issues particularly with ash trees (\$10,000). The Capital budget decreased by \$800 but still includes \$215,000 of Education projects.



To learn more about the fiscal year 2019 proposed budget, you can view the full Town budget document online at [www.coventryct.org](http://www.coventryct.org) under Finance. Copies of the Town and Board of Education budgets are also available for viewing in the Coventry Town Clerk's office during regular office hours.

### YOUR OPINION COUNTS!



If you have questions or concerns about the FY 18/19 proposed budget, please don't hesitate to email John Elsesser, Town Manager at [Jelsesser@CoventryCT.org](mailto:Jelsesser@CoventryCT.org) or call the Town Manager's Office at 860-742-6324.

### TAX RELIEF FOR SENIORS

Guidelines for additional tax relief for qualified Coventry seniors and disabled persons are available in the Town Assessor's Office. This includes a new local tax credit program. Call 860-742-4067.

**Application Deadline: May 15, 2018.**

## Operational Efficiencies and Cost Containment Efforts

The hard economic times faced by the State of Connecticut have created the need for towns to tighten budget controls. But as always, there is a silver lining. Increased interest in regional and collaborative efforts have created several innovative approaches which the Town of Coventry has been able to participate in to save money and improve services. We have received many grants and sold off old equipment, and purchased used surplus equipment at unbelievable deals. We have worked with volunteers and sports leagues to improve athletic facilities and experimented with new road treatments. We even have directly imported items to reduce costs. We continue to evaluate how we do business to strive for ways to provide better service at less cost. Your ideas and suggestions are always welcome. Please send them to [Jelsesser@CoventryCT.org](mailto:Jelsesser@CoventryCT.org).

	<b>ACTUAL TOTALS FY16/17</b>	<b>ORIGINAL ADOPTED** FY17/18</b>	<b>COUNCIL REQUESTED FY18/19</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>			
General Government	\$ 9,442,532	\$ 9,612,418	\$ 9,693,156
Board of Education	27,085,095	27,044,684	27,282,347
Debt Service	2,742,554	2,724,073	2,904,983
Capital	1,186,233	932,800	932,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 40,456,414</b>	<b>\$ 40,313,975</b>	<b>\$ 40,812,486</b>
\$ Change from FY16/17 Actual		(142,439)	356,072
% Change from FY16/17 Actual		-0.35%	0.88%
\$ Change from FY17/18 Original			498,511
% Change from FY17/18 Original			1.24%

\*\* Budget totals may be further reduced as a result of Governor's State Revenue Holdbacks. Actual results may differ from adopted.

## Board of Education Summary

The Board of Education budget is proposed at \$27,282,347; an increase of \$237,663 or 0.88% from their originally adopted FY 18 budget. Details are available on the web at [www.coventrypublicschools.org](http://www.coventrypublicschools.org). The Council reduced the Board's request by \$30,000. This recognized post budget submission savings in salaries based on teach retirement notification.

## Revenues

The property tax is the major revenue source (78.6%) for Coventry. This is an increase of 0.8%, required mostly due to estimated State revenue reductions of \$554,276. The 2017 grand list increased very 1.4% Calculated on the new grand list, one mil will now raise \$953,453 of taxes. With no increase from the FY18 approved mil rate of 32.0 mils, this would result in additional revenue of \$522,038. The Town Council's proposed budget requires a mil rate of 32.4 to balance the budget. This is an increase of 0.4 mils or 1.25% compared to FY 2017/18.

Intergovernmental revenues, mostly State aid, are the second largest source (19.9%) of revenues for Coventry. This is a reduction of 5.21% from the prior year adopted budget. These revenues are based on the assumed State budget with some mid-year cuts are expected. Our estimates include a net year-to-year reduction in State aid of \$554,276 which is equal to approximately 0.58 mil.

Other local revenues consist of a variety of fees for permits, services and interest earnings. This source of revenue is expected to decrease by \$12,551 due mostly to decrease in police special duty fees from private construction projects.

## Mil Rate

Assessed value is 70% of the October 1, 2017 fair market value. It is estimated that the median house in Coventry is now assessed at \$144,900. This means that half the properties are above this point and half are below. The proposed mil rate of 32.4 carries a tax impact on a median valued household of \$391.23 per month, or \$4,695 a year. This is a proposed increase of \$58 annually or \$4.83 per month. Over the years, the Coventry taxpayer has assumed a greater proportion of the tax revenue needed to support annual operations due to declines in State aid.

# Explanatory Text prepared pursuant to CGS Sec.9-369b.

Question: “Shall the resolution making an appropriation of \$3,700,000 for the planning, design, engineering, renovation, construction, and reconstruction for improvements to various buildings and bridges, be approved?  
 YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_”

On May 4, 2014 the Town Council appointed the Energy & Building Efficiency Building Committee to research ways to reduce energy use into various town and school buildings. Through a bid process they hired BL Companies to provide engineering and architectural assistance. As their work continued they were also assigned responsibilities of looking into physical school security enhancements, Building Code concerns, American Disability Act Violations, and the conversion of heating system to connect to the new CT Natural Gas line. Many of their projects have been completed through other grants and funding sources. Some of their recommended work for George Hersey Robertson School (GHR) and Coventry Grammar School (CGS) remains for future consideration. Additionally, the Booth and Dimock Library building committee has been working on renovations and addition concepts but with the failure the full project referendum some of the replacements of mechanical systems for the current building were included with this package to allow bundling of similar work for bid purposes and avoid duplicate bonding expenses. Finally, the sudden partial failure of concrete on the Jones Crossing Road Bridge, and reduction to one lane, requires action before the bridge is entirely closed.

<b>Project list</b>		
<b><u>Code work/regulatory</u></b>		
1	Revise connecting fire doors at CHS	\$249,113
2	Remove oil/propane tanks at CHS, CNHS, GHR, CGS Library, Town Hall, School admin	
	Install replacement tanks at GHR, CGS, Library	\$251,485
3	remove/replace asbestos flooring at CHS	\$157,542
	Subtotal	\$658,140
<b><u>Energy/HVAC/Mechanical</u></b>		
4	Convert preschool electric rooftops units to gas	\$108,750
5	Boiler replacements at GHR, CGS, Library	\$390,000
6	Library Chiller replacement	\$75,000
7	CHS/CNHS complex unit ventilator replacement	\$522,500
	exhaust and fresh air modifications	\$806,250
	Café heating modifications	\$6,000
	CHS front office HVAC modifications	\$23,125
	Variable fan displacement	\$40,000
	Gym air handling unit	\$100,000
	Electric sub metering	\$13,500
8	Library elevator rebuild	\$24,500
	Subtotal	\$2,109,625
<b><u>Jones Crossing Road bridge replacement</u></b>		
9	Replace culvert and road/intersection improvement	\$700,000
<b><u>Design fees for all projects</u></b>		\$157,235
<b><u>Bonding expenses</u></b>		\$75,000
<b><u>Project total</u></b>		\$3,700,000

As the projects list details (see sidebar) there are nine project categories. Some of the school code projects (oil tanks, fire doors and asbestos removal) are eligible to receive partial State aid currently estimated at 58.93% of cost. This could reduce the project costs by \$354,988. Working with IBIC, the Town’s financial advisor, there would be no impact to the upcoming July FY 18/19 budget. They estimate that after State aid the net borrowing would have a .37 mil impact in FY 20 which should be entirely offset by a .72 mil reduction due to retirement of existing debt.

The foregoing question will be submitted to the legal voters of the Town for a vote by paper ballot on Tuesday May 8, 2018 during the hours between 6:00 o'clock A.M. and 8:00 o'clock P.M. (EST); that the voting take place in the polling places established for voting districts #1 and #2, and that voters entitled to vote by reason of Section 7-6 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended, may vote at District #1. Absentee ballots will be available at the office of the Town Clerk as provided by law. The polling places are as follows:

District 1-Coventry Fire Association Station  
1755 Main Street, Coventry

District 2-

North Coventry Fire Department Station  
3247 Main Street, Coventry

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

Director / Tree Warden  
Admin. Secretary / COVRA

Mark Kiefer  
Donna Wrubel

[mkiefer@coventryct.org](mailto:mkiefer@coventryct.org)  
[dwrubel@coventryct.org](mailto:dwrubel@coventryct.org)

**SUMMER ROADS**

**2018/19**

(Subject to Budget Approval)

**Roads to be Chip sealed—  
8 Miles:**

1. Brewster Street
2. High Street
3. Wrights Mill Road
4. Lake Street (Monument Hill to High Street)
5. Cedar Swamp Extension
6. Stage Road
7. Sean Circle and Oak Leaf Drive
8. Reynolds Drive (Gable Road to Lombard Drive)
9. Richmond Road (Prep for Overlay)

**Asphalt Bituminous  
Shimming — 5 Miles:**

Portions of the following roads will be full width (both lanes) shimmed 1.5 inches compacted in preparation for a chip seal finish course in 2019:

1. Daly Road
2. Broadway
3. North Farms Road and Barbara Drive
4. Satari, Zeya and Noor Drive
5. Ridgebrook Drive
6. Hickory Drive (Lakeview Terrace)
7. Rabbit Trail (Waterfront Park)
8. Gable Road (Actors Colony)
9. John Hand Drive

**Bituminous Asphalt Overlay -  
1.0 Mile:**

1. Richmond Road

**Drainage Projects:**

1. South Street Drainage Project at the Nathan Hale Homestead.
2. Lancaster Road

**Crack Seal — 5 Miles:**

2018 Crack Sealing in preparation for roads to be overlaid or chip sealed in 2019.

**Road Sweeping Schedule for the Spring of 2018** will begin in April weather permitting. Roads will be swept as needed. Call the Public Works Department at (860) 742-6588 if you have questions.

**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 21, 2018** through **November 3, 2018**.

**Closed July 7, 2018 and September 1, 2018.**

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

**COVENTRY RESIDENTS MAY RECYCLE THEIR PAINT** at the Regional Household Chemical Waste Drop-Off Facility, Mansfield Supply on Route 195 in Mansfield, England Hardware on route 44 in Bolton or Sherwin Williams in Willimantic.

**Nonacceptable 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 at Coventry Public Works Facility:**

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

Spring is here and the Coventry Cemetery Committee would like to ask plot owners to remove all fall and Christmas ornamentation so that spring cleanup and mowing can begin. Thank you for your cooperation.

# WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

## Contact Us:

Mike Ruef, WWTP Operator, 860-742-4064, email [mruef@coventryct.org](mailto:mruef@coventryct.org)  
[www.coventryct.org](http://www.coventryct.org): the link to the WPCA page can be found by clicking on Your Government > Boards & Commissions > Water Pollution Control Authority

## Projects Update:

- CT DOT project #32-130; Main St Reconstruction. A semi-final inspection was performed by project staff on November 2, 2017. The project end date has been extended. We have requested that the contractor adjust 2 manholes to match the grade of the road. Additional follow up work will be addressed in the spring.
- CT DOT mill & overlay Southern Main St: Paving on Main St. has been completed. Those 26 manholes the Town had raised came out nice, didn't they! We have applied to CT DOT for partial reimbursement of utility work for \$8,450.
- Lake and Cross Street Improvements: The project is substantially complete. We have requested that the contractor adjust 2 manhole covers that are below grade of the road.
- Western Route 44 Sewer Planning Area: We have received approval from Bolton to begin the pressure monitoring study of their sewer system. The goal of the study is to ensure that adding pumps in Coventry won't have adverse effects on Bolton's system. We hope to have the pressure study completed by this summer.

## Did You Know?

- Do you know why we treat wastewater? Most people think of wastewater treatment as disinfection which kills viruses, bacteria, and other microbes that cause human diseases (pathogens). While disinfection is an important part of wastewater treatment there's more to it than that. Let's go back to botany class at school. Plants need 3 macro nutrients

to grow and reproduce; N-P-K Nitrogen, Phosphorus, and Potassium. Domestic wastewater is very high in Nitrogen and Phosphorus; basically human waste is plant fertilizer with other nasty stuff in it. If we dump fertilizer into the water it will stimulate plant (algae) growth. As the algae feeds it grows rapidly in what's known as algae blooms. Wait, I thought algae in the water was good because as it photosynthesizes it produces Oxygen, which fish and other aquatic critters need? Yes, the fish and other organisms do need Oxygen but the trouble happens when the algae dies. As the dead algae are decomposed by microorganisms in the water, they consume a tremendous amount of dissolved Oxygen and don't leave enough for the fish, crustaceans, and micro-invertebrates that are an important part of the food web.

- If we didn't treat wastewater all of CT's major waterways, as well as Long Island Sound, would be closed for recreational activities due to risk of serious illness from pathogenic organisms. Furthermore, most of the fish, crabs, lobsters, clams, and other aquatic life would perish disrupting food chains and devastating commercial fisheries.
- The fancy word for Oxygen depletion resulting from excess nutrients in water is "eutrophication". Now you have something to tell your kids when they ask you what you learned in school today!
- Low interest/deferred loans for sewer connections are available for households within the sewer service area that meet federal income guidelines. Contact Mike Ruef for details.

## TOWN/STATE PROJECTS

**Main Street Reconstruction (CDOT #32-130):** Connecticut Department of Transportation's project will be finishing this two-year project by early summer. All streetscape improvements will become the responsibility of the Town to maintain. The Department and the Town thank you for your consideration and patience for this well needed project.

**Lake and Cross Street Improvement (LOTICIP):** Final construction punch list items will be completed by early summer.

**Decew Dam Recreation Trail Grant Improvements:** The Town will be soliciting bids in the Spring for summer construction. The project will create a small pocket park for enjoying the recently acquired Decew property on Depot Road. Park amenities will include benches, picnic tables, accessible parking, on-street parking, landscaping and a gravel trail for the community's enjoyment. The work is being funded by the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection grant received in 2016.

**Jones Crossing Bridge Replacement:** The Town can anticipate a public referendum for the approval of the project funding. The design and permitting continues regards of the referendum as the bridge is failing. Construction is anticipated for September & October 2018.

**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](mailto: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 for a summer laborer paying \$10.10/hr. for 40 hour week. Accepting applications immediately. For more info call (860) 742-6588.

**PLASTIC BAGS:** Please do **NOT** throw plastic bags / film / wrap into the recycling carts. (These items actually contaminate the load.) These items **ARE** recyclable, at Plastic Film Recycling drop-off boxes. here are a few local options for you...

Highland Park Market	1721 Route 44	Coventry	860 742-7361
Stop & Shop	1391 Main Street	Willimantic	860 456-8768
Big Y 141	Storrs Road	Mansfield	860 456-8051
Big Y	33 Fieldstone Commons	Tolland	860 872-0304
Price Rite	60 Cantor Drive	Willimantic	860 450-1624
Price Chopper	1220 Storrs Road	Mansfield	860 553 6555

The following plastic and film items can be dropped in the containers at these locations...please be sure they are clean and dry: bread bags, napkin/paper towel/bathroom tissue/diaper wrap, produce bags, newspaper bags, grocery bags, pallet wrap or stretch wrap, dry cleaning bags, snack or beverage cases wrap, retail bags, plastic air pillows used for shipping fragile packages, food storage (zip lock) bags, any other film packages marked with the recycle emblem. Call Public Works if you have any questions or go on the company's website at [www.plasticfilmrecycling.org](http://www.plasticfilmrecycling.org).

**COVRRRA questions** can be answered by calling Public Works at (860) 742-6588 or e-mail [dwrubel@coventryct.org](mailto:dwrubel@coventryct.org).

**Curbside Monthly Oversized Items Pickup:** On the **2<sup>nd</sup> 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 non-metal items must be out on Monday regardless of your regular trash day. Examples are dresser, mattress or recliner chair w/metal removed. **No Electronics Curbside:** Electronics will not be picked up at curbside. Coventry residents must bring their electronics to the town's transfer station for recycling free of charge.

**Coventry's Best Kept Secret -- "In yard" trash/recycling service available:** Get your tipper cart picked up at your back door! The town has a few slots for 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.

**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.

**Tipper Cart broken?** Call All American Waste at (860) 289-7850 for information. Plugs for lids are available at Department of Public Works. Push them in snugly and inspect them regularly so they stay tight. This will ensure your tipper cart lid stays on your cart.

**For major cleanup projects,** All American Waste also provides 6 cubic yard dumpsters for 30 days rental at \$150 haul/\$80 ton, 15 cubic yard dumpsters for 30 days rental at \$175 haul/\$80 ton, and 30 cubic yard dumpsters for 30 days rental at \$175 haul/\$80 ton. Additional rental after 30 days will be billed at \$5 per day. Residents contract directly with All American Waste at (860) 289-7850. Be sure you specify you are a Coventry resident to get this contract rate.

## 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.

**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.

### Materials acceptable with cost:

- Construction and demolition debris. Free of cardboard, metal and garbage.
- Land clearing debris; stumps & brush.
- Appliances with refrigerant \$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.

- Single stream recyclables (i.e. bottles, cans, cardboard, paper)
- Leaves for composting.
- Electronics, fluorescent light bulbs, batteries.
- Appliances without refrigerants.
- Scrap metal materials (**metal tanks must be cut open and crushed**).

### Materials NOT acceptable:

- Garbage
- Grass clippings
- Furniture
- Hazardous waste



### TEXTILE RECYCLING PROGRAM

CLEAN THAT CLOSET !! The Textile Recycling Program managed by 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, sweat-shirts, table linens, ties, towels, t-shirts, undergarments.*

Donate – Recycle – Don't throw away

### WHAT GOES IN THE BLUE RECYCLING CART?

 All the following items are ok to put in the blue tipper cart. The technical term is SINGLE STREAM RECYCLING. 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, milk / juice cartons, glass beverage / food bottles & jars.*

 All the following items are NO-NO'S for the blue tipper cart: **PLASTIC BAGS ELECTRONICS. STYROFOAM / COOLERS. FOOD / TRASH.** (See article on page 7 for plastic bag options).

Homeowners are reminded that the tipper carts are owned by All American Waste and must remain at the property location that is billed for this service.

**Trash Holiday Schedule:** All American Waste will observe the following legal holidays thereby altering curbside pickup accordingly:

- Monday, May 28<sup>th</sup> – Memorial Day
- Wednesday, July 4<sup>th</sup> – Independence Day
- Monday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> – Labor Day

## COVENTRY YOUTH SERVICES

### 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 13-18 years old and can assist with yard work services, clean homes, provide animal care, babysit and more!

**For Youth:** Any Coventry student, 13-18 years old, 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.

**Campership Donations-** We are requesting donations for the 2018 summer campership fund. All donations go to help families in need pay for Parks and Recreation Camp Wangumbaug. 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 2018 overnight summer camp. Due to community 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.

**\*\*For more information on any of the programs and much more, be sure to 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.

### 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](http://www.foodshare.org).

### OPERATION FUEL ~ SUMMER UTILITIES

The Human Services will be accepting 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 for further details and income guidelines.

### RENTER'S REBATE PROGRAM 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 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 \$43,000 and single persons must have an annual income not greater than \$35,300. Eligible person may apply between April 1 through October 1 each year and should contact the Coventry Human Services Office to schedule an appointment.

**The Renters' Rebate Program  
Hotline is 860-418-6377**

**"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 check call our office, or check Facebook mid-July for more information. Donations can be made at any time.

### LOOKING FOR A CLINICIAN TO PROVIDE COUNSELING SERVICES:

We are currently in search of a licensed and insured clinical social worker to provides brief, solution-focused therapy and address numerous struggles (depression, stress, self-esteem, divorce, etc.) that youth and their families may be having. Resumes can be submitted to Crystal Morawitz at [cmorawitz@coventryct.org](mailto:cmorawitz@coventryct.org).

**FREE ONLINE PARENTING CLASSES** - Youth Services has purchased a subscription for 2018 accessible to all Coventry parents and school faculty. Live and pre-recorded online classes cover topics such as toilet training, talking to teens, support for anxious children and much, much more. Goals include, reducing family stress, getting kids to listen and cooperate, and building strong connections with your kids. For a full list of classes and to register go to <https://www.peacehomeparenting.com/> and use the code: TOWNPEACE2018



**Coventry Human Services Office.  
Like us on Facebook!**

# SENIOR CENTER

172 Lake Street • 860-742-3525

The Coventry Senior Center welcomes residents, 60 years and older, to enjoy a variety of social, educational and wellness programs. There is no membership and many of our events are low to no cost! Come enjoy a cup of coffee and games in our beautiful lounge overlooking Coventry Lake or join one of our weekly card or billiards matches! To see our monthly calendar, visit the Senior Center page on the Town's website. **The Senior Center is transitioning to NEW hours. We will be open one NIGHT a week! Monday-Wednesday 9:00am-4:00pm; Thursday 9:00-5:30pm and Friday 9:00-1:30pm. Get ready for evening programs!**

### **CHOICES Health Insurance Counseling**

The Coventry Senior Center has CHOICES counselors available YEAR-ROUND to answer Medicare questions, assist in planning for an upcoming retirement or interpret paperwork. Call 860-742-3525 for more information.

### **Monthly Health & Wellness Programming**

- Join us for a meal with friends and neighbors with our "Out to Lunch" crew for a meal at a local restaurant. Meal details are in our monthly newsletter – download it directly from [www.coventryct.org](http://www.coventryct.org).
- Get in those steps during our weekly group fitness class! Classes meet on Tuesday and Thursdays from 9:30-10:30 and is led by certified instructor, Mary Hurley. A mix of seated strength training and light cardio, this class is great for all levels!
- Stretch out at our Friday afternoon YOGA class led by local yoga teacher, Anna Glowacki.
- Love Country music? 'Two Step' over to *Line Dancing* on Thursday afternoons led by instructor Susan Beeching!
- Have a health question? A wellness nurse from ECHN *Visiting Nurse & Health Services of Connecticut* is available monthly for FREE blood pressure or blood sugar checks, and to answer any medical questions. Podiatry Foot Care from Colchester Foot Specialists is available quarterly by appointment.
- Treat yourself! Schedule a manicure or professional haircut during monthly 'spa' days. Massage and Reflexology appointments are now available monthly!

Further details on monthly programming can be found in the Center's monthly program newsletter. Download the newsletter at [www.coventryct.org](http://www.coventryct.org) or receive it directly to your inbox by signing up for our Senior Center e-blast at [www.coventryct.org/list.aspx](http://www.coventryct.org/list.aspx). Registration for all monthly services can be made by calling the Center at 860-742-3525 or stopping by – we would love to see you!

### **COVENTRY RIDES TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM**

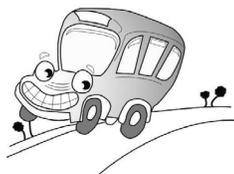
The Coventry RIDES Transportation Program offers FREE local transportation to residents over 60 and those with disabilities. Rides can be scheduled for **Mondays, Tuesday, & Thursday from 9:00-12:30.**

**\*\*Rides can be requested no later than 48 hours prior and no more than 2 weeks in advance.\*\***

- The van service travels to points outside Coventry, to communities not served by the WRTD (Windham Region Transit District) Dial-a-Ride program. Examples include: Manchester, Tolland, Vernon, & Bolton. We are working to expand our geographical region.
- Rides for Senior Center programs (such as haircuts, lunches or massage appointments) **MUST** be scheduled in advance by calling for a ride.
- As a reminder, WRTD (Windham Region Transit District) Dial-a-Ride services are available for Coventry to Coventry transit (i.e. if you are travelling anywhere in Coventry). This means any local Coventry transportation. They are our town's designated transit service. Rides can be requested by calling **860-456-2223 ext. 4.**

If you would like to schedule a ride or discuss transportation options, please contact:

**Sarah Leete, Transportation Coordinator**  
860-742-3525 ext. 4801  
[sleete@coventryct.org](mailto:sleete@coventryct.org)



### **BOOTH & DIMOCK MEMORIAL LIBRARY**

1134 Main Street  
860-742-7606

[www.CoventryPL.org](http://www.CoventryPL.org)



**ONLINE AT YOUR  
LIBRARY!**

Did you know you can borrow magazines digitally from the Booth & Dimock Memorial Library? This includes current issues, released simultaneously with the print editions, and no-limit permanent checkouts! Download the free *RBDigital* App and a free *Zinio* for Libraries account. If you need help getting started, call the library and set up a tech assist appointment and we will walk you through it! eBooks and eAudio-books are also available through the *RBDigital* App.

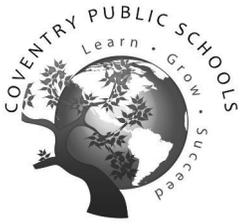
The library also provides access to digital movies through *Libby*, self-paced language learning with *Mango*, and brain/memory training with *BrainHQ*. eBooks for the little ones are available through *Tumblebooks* or drop by the library for early-literacy games with *ABC Mouse*.

### **PRESCRIPTION DRUG DISCOUNT PROGRAM OFFERS SAVINGS**

The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) offers this benefit to participating member communities.

- Available to any resident regardless of age, income or current health coverage.
- FREE for Coventry and FREE for participants.
- Every prescription medication, including some pet medications are eligible for a discount.

To use the benefit, simply present the discount card at a local participating pharmacy when filling a new prescription and start saving. Cards are available at Town Hall or print a replacement at their website: <http://ctrxdiscountcard.com>. For questions call the 24-hour hotline at 877-776-2285.



**COVENTRY BOARD OF EDUCATION:** The following Board of Education members were elected in November to a two-year term: Jennifer Beausoleil, Chairman; Eugene Marchand, Vice-Chairman; Mary Minor, Secretary; Frank Infante; Mary Kortmann; Peter Larson; and William Oros.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS:** The Board of Education generally meets on the second and last Thursday of each month. The remaining regularly scheduled meetings for 2018 are as follows: April 26, May 10, May 31, June 14, June 28, July 12, August 30, September 13, September 27, October 11, October 25, November 8, and December 13. Unless noted on the agenda, all meetings are held in the Administration Building Conference Room beginning at 7:30 p.m. and can be viewed on Channel 194.

**CHANGES MADE TO 2017-2018 SCHOOL CALENDAR:** The Board of Education met on March 28 to discuss the additional school cancellations that occurred during the month of March. After careful consideration, the Board voted to reduce the number of student school days to 180 for this school year for Grades K-12. Due to the specialized nature of the program, the Preschool will remain at 182 days.

Taking into consideration state law and the adjustments made by the Board, please note the following:

- The last day of school for students in Grades K-12 is now Friday, June 22, 2018 (Early Release)
- Coventry High School Graduation is set for Saturday, June 23, 2018, at 10:00 a.m. – *This will not change.*
- 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.
- The last day of school for Preschool students is Tuesday, June 26, 2018 (Early Release)

An updated version of the school calendar can be found on the district website at: <http://www.coventrypublicschools.org/quicklinks/1718-calendar>.

**OPEN DOOR MEETINGS:** Come meet the Superintendent of Schools, David Petrone. As the Superintendent of Schools, 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. All parents and community members are invited to keep informed about education in our town by attending the remaining Open Door Meeting for this school year: Monday, May 7, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. (Budget Focus.) This informal gathering will be held in the Admin. Building Conference Room at 1700 Main Street. If you are unable to attend, but would still like to meet, please phone our office at 860-742-7317, Ext. 2.

**2018-2019 SCHOOL CALENDAR APPROVED:** The Board of Education approved the 2018-2019 Coventry Public Schools calendar at the January 25, 2018 Board meeting. K-5 afterschool programs will again be offered on the three early release staff development days on December 6, 2018, January 30, 2019, and April 9, 2019. The approved 2018-2019 calendar can be found on our website at <http://www.coventrypublicschools.org/quicklinks/1819-calendar>.

**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.

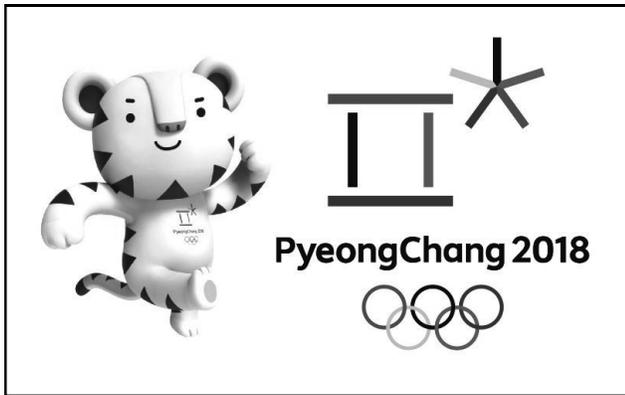
**VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES:** Coventry Public Schools has always benefited from the generous efforts and talents of community and parent volunteers. The process is easy to become a volunteer. Coventry residents who would like to become a volunteer in any one of our schools in district must first apply online at <https://www.applitrack.com/coventry/onlineapp/default.aspx?Category=Volunteers>.

Currently there are two volunteer job listings, Volunteer Coach which is JobID: 1045, and School Volunteer which is JobID: 1253. The online application process is a step-by-step procedure. Fingerprinting is a requirement of anyone who is employed, or volunteers for, Coventry Public Schools, but the fee will be waived.

When the application is completed, Applitrack will send a notice to all five of our schools that there is a new volunteer application for the Administrator to review and approve. Volunteers will then be contacted by any one of the Administrators listed below for next steps:

- Joseph Blake, Coventry High School Principal, 860-742-7346, or [jblake@coventryct.org](mailto:jblake@coventryct.org)
- Dena DeJulius, Capt. Nathan Hale Middle School Principal, 860-742-7334, or [ddejulius@coventryct.org](mailto:ddejulius@coventryct.org)
- Beth Giller, George Hersey Robertson Intermediate School Principal, 860-742-7341, or [bgiller@coventryct.org](mailto:bgiller@coventryct.org)
- Ronda Lezberg, Coventry Grammar School Principal, 860-742-7313, or [rlezberg@coventryct.org](mailto:rlezberg@coventryct.org)
- Lois Hasty, Preschool and Early Childhood Education Coordinator, 860-742-4550, or [lhasty@coventryct.org](mailto:lhasty@coventryct.org).

# COVENTRY GRAMMAR SCHOOL EMBRACES THE WINTER OLYMPICS



Learning is at its best when it is connected to life. The PyeongChang 2018 Winter Games provided the perfect opportunity to integrate a worldwide event into the lives of the students at Coventry Grammar School. We kicked off our celebration with an Opening Ceremony. Each class selected a country to follow during the games. Students proudly marched into the gymnasium with their country's flag held high. A carefully coordinated torch relay included every student as it made its way to the ceremony.

This school event was not just fun and games. It provided meaningful integration of math, reading, writing, oral speaking, and many other academic skills. Students were met with two challenges. A reading incentive program, Go

for the Gold, encouraged students to read in ten minute blocks to 100 minutes while completing activities such as choosing a new or interesting word from a book and writing a sentence using that word. Every student who achieved this goal received a gold medal.

The second challenge was inspired by our health and wellness goals. A combination of fitness, nutrition, and healthy habits provided an Olympic Wellness Plan. Securing 8-9 hours of sleep every night, completing the terrific tens (10 of each; jumping jacks, arms circles, toe touches, and frog jumps), and snacking it raw with carrots, celery, or cucumbers were several ways to Go for the Gold!

Student-led, daily announcements were made by kindergarten, first, and second grade students. Each day an Olympic virtue, athlete, and event was highlighted. Students learned about perseverance, courage, humanity, and wisdom. Information about the events, such as equipment used, origin of the sport, and fun facts provided research opportunities for the second grade students. First grade students announced Connecticut Olympians, such as Lindsey Jacobellis, born in Danbury, who competed in snowboarding.

A prominent bulletin board, We Don't Quit, We've Got Grit!, displayed pictures of students persevering. The pictures showed children trying something new, practicing hard, or continuing after making a mistake. Pictures included students writing a story, riding horseback, and running a race.

Awarding medals was perfect timing for our Library Media Center. A Gold Medal bulletin board displayed Caldecott winning books. The Caldecott Medal is awarded to the artist of the most distinguished American picture book for children. A mock vote was held for students to select a winner. There were cheers when "Wolf in the Snow" received this year's honor. If one purpose of the Olympic Games is to bring all peoples together, than this perhaps was the greatest outcome at CGS. Our CGS family grew closer, and our hearts grew bigger.

---

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:** Flexible hours/days with a wide variety of experiences. **Teacher, Para-Educator, and School Nurse Substitutes:** Please visit our website at <https://www.applitrack.com/coventry/onlineapp/> to view current job openings and to begin the application process. **Cafeteria Substitutes:** Call Beth Pratt at 860-742-4535. **Bus Drivers/Substitutes:** Call M & J Bus Co. at 860-742-0344.

 **TWITTER:** As part of our ongoing efforts to connect to families and the community, you can follow Coventry Public Schools on Twitter. To follow us search for @SchoolsCoventry. Or, you can also connect to our account directly from the website.



### SCHOOL READINESS

Coventry has been the recipient of the Office of Early Childhood School Readiness Grant since 2005. School Readiness helps to ensure that all families, regardless of income, have access to a high quality preschool program for their young child. All of the School Readiness spaces are currently located at the Hale Early Education Center. Coventry is currently reapplying for the School Readiness Grant. Other Coventry preschool programs are invited to inquire and apply for School Readiness funds. Please contact Marybeth Moyer at [mmoyer@coventryct.org](mailto:mmoyer@coventryct.org) for more information.

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

PRSR STD  
 U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
 Bristol, CT  
 Permit # 100



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

LEGAL NOTICE-TOWN OF COVENTRY  
 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING & NOTICE OF ADJOURNED TOWN MEETING  
**APRIL 28, 2018**

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 28, 2018 at 10:00 A.M. in the Veterans Auditorium of 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, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

**Item #2:** To consider and take action on the Town Council's recommendation for the 2018-2019 fiscal year appropriation, pursuant to Section 9-1 of the Town Charter, the final vote shall be adjourned by the Moderator to May 8, 2018.

**Town of Coventry**  
**Council Recommended Budget for FY 18-19**

Expenditures	2017	2018	2018	2018	2019	2019	2019
	Actual	Adopted Budget	Actual YTD	Est. Actual	Agency Request	Town Manager	Council
General Government	\$ 1,525,557	\$ 1,611,591	\$ 1,148,098	\$ 1,599,591	\$ 1,629,968	\$ 1,636,579	\$ 1,635,307
Public Safety	2,435,636	2,512,616	1,822,217	2,512,616	2,499,374	2,512,344	2,511,177
Public Works	2,318,252	2,357,942	1,878,541	2,419,584	2,419,584	2,422,730	2,422,030
Human Services	274,500	295,285	203,612	287,935	295,237	293,883	295,883
Civic & Cultural	555,459	572,634	555,071	572,634	577,668	571,214	580,859
Sundry	2,333,128	2,262,350	1,714,258	2,262,350	2,247,900	2,247,900	2,247,900
<b>General Government Total</b>	<b>9,442,532</b>	<b>9,612,418</b>	<b>7,321,797</b>	<b>9,654,710</b>	<b>9,669,731</b>	<b>9,684,650</b>	<b>9,693,156</b>
Debt Service	2,742,554	2,724,073	2,480,535	2,725,673	2,908,733	2,908,733	2,904,983
Board of Education	27,085,095	27,044,684	15,578,928	26,781,684	27,312,247	27,312,347	27,282,347
Capital	\$ 1,186,233	\$ 932,800	\$ 525,029	\$ 802,300	\$ 932,000	\$ 932,000	\$ 932,000
<b>Expenditures Total</b>	<b>\$ 40,456,414</b>	<b>\$ 40,313,975</b>	<b>\$ 25,906,289</b>	<b>\$ 39,964,367</b>	<b>\$ 40,822,711</b>	<b>\$ 40,837,730</b>	<b>\$ 40,812,486</b>
<b>Revenues</b>							
Property Tax	\$ 30,001,160	\$ 30,665,263	\$ 30,574,404	\$ 30,845,263	\$ 31,260,484	\$ 32,109,645	\$ 31,646,479
Intergovernmental	9,805,122	9,021,711	4,381,150	8,324,691	8,151,305	8,118,635	8,551,557
Local	778,123	627,001	531,043	683,080	583,435	609,450	614,450
<b>Revenues Total</b>	<b>\$ 40,584,405</b>	<b>\$ 40,313,975</b>	<b>\$ 35,486,597</b>	<b>\$ 39,853,034</b>	<b>\$ 39,995,224</b>	<b>\$ 40,837,730</b>	<b>\$ 40,812,486</b>

If revenues remain unchanged and collection rates of 98.71% is used; a proposed mil rate of 32.40 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.

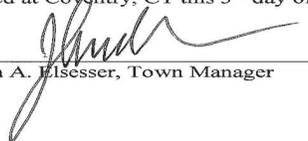
**Item #4:** To take action on the Town Council's recommendation on the FY 2019 Capital Improvement Plan and to authorize the Town Manager to make application pursuant to Title 7, Chapter 116b of the Connecticut General Statutes for funding for eligible projects under the Local Capital Improvement Program (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.

**Item #6:** To consider and take action on the Town Council's resolution entitled "Resolution Appropriating \$3,700,000 For The Planning, Design, Engineering, Renovation, Construction, And Reconstruction For Improvements To Various Building And Bridges And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$3,700,000 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriation And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose.", pursuant to Section 9-1 of the Town Charter, the final vote shall be adjourned by the Moderator to May 8, 2018.

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](http://www.Coventryct.org).

Dated at Coventry, CT this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of April 2018.

  
 John A. Elssesser, Town Manager

  
 Lori Tollmann, Town Clerk