



COVENTRY COMMUNITY UPDATE:

January 2020

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

MANAGER'S MONTHLY MEMO:

New years are a time for new beginnings. At the Town this also is true. We have new programs, opportunities and projects. Please feel free to reach out to me or Town staff for additional information or concerns you may have with services. My email is Jelsesser@coventryct.org or call 860-742-6324. A great deal of information is also available on the Town [web page](#). If you can't find it try the search feature. We do not actively respond to Facebook posts since a direct conversation is always better. It also raises Freedom of Information issues since we don't control the content on outside sites, and our responses could be deleted, causing the Town to be in violation of State records retention laws.

We are excited about a new small business training program offered by the Economic Development Commission, on using Facebook for business (see below). If you want to grow your business, please consider this unique opportunity offered by Dr. Timothy Liptrap.

Do you know that only 4.4% of our tax base comes from Business/Commercial, which puts us in the lowest 20 towns in the State? We are aware of concerns that our town is changing, but at one point we were half mill town and half farm town and have become mostly residential. We had gas stations in eight locations, so even with the Cumberland Farms we have less gas stations and more cars than in the past.

Learn to provide life-saving measures during an emergency by taking advantage of the Stop the Bleed program offered by our Town Fire/EMS and Recreation Departments on the second Tuesday of each month at North Coventry Fire Station. The training is free to Coventry residents. Sign up online through the Recreation Department's [web page](#). The life you save may be that of a friend or family member.

An update on selected Town/community projects: The Cumberland Farms project has started and is anticipated to be complete in April. CT Water main replacement in the Northfields subdivision is going on winter shut-down and the Town's catch basin projects in the same neighborhood will continue as weather allows. We are still on track for the Folly Lane Bridge replacement this summer and believe the Swamp Road intersection project will also be a next-summer construction project, as well as reconstruction of the roads in Northfields.

UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS:

- Mon, 1/6: Town Council meeting, 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Thurs, 1/9: WPCA: 6 PM, DPW Conf. Room
- Thurs, 1/9: Board of Education, 7:30 PM, School Admin Bldg.
- Tues, 1/13: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7 PM, Town Hall Annex
- **Tues, 1/21:** Town Council meeting, 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Weds, 1/22: Inland Wetlands Agency, 7 PM, Annex
- Mon, 1/27: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Thurs, 1/30: Board of Education, 7:30 PM, School Admin Bldg.

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

HOLIDAYS:

Wednesday, 1/2: New Year's Day. Town offices closed. Trash pickup on [holiday schedule](#) for remainder of week.

Monday, 1/20: Martin Luther King Day. Town offices closed. Trash pickup on [regular schedule](#).

COMING EVENTS:

Fri 1/3: **Bingo**, 6:30 PM, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. Sponsored by the Coventry-Mansfield American Legion. Bingo, snacks, and fun for everyone. 50 cents per person includes your first surprise Bingo card. Doors open at 5:30 PM. First and third Fridays of the month. Information: 860-541-1840.

Fri 1/3: **Quiet Corner Contra Dance**, 8-11 PM, Patriots Park Lodge, 172 Lake Street. Lesson at 7:45. All welcome, partner not necessary. Dance to a live band and caller. Soft-soled shoes. First Fridays of the month through June. Adults \$12, students \$6. Information: Dennis, 860-742-9498.

Sat 1/4: **Woodland Welcome in the New Year**, 1-2:30 PM, Williams Preserve, Cooper Lane. Meet in parking area. Bring the family or a friend along for some fresh air and exercise. Dress warmly for the weather and ground conditions. Hot beverages will join us on this woodland stroll. Heavy snow or severe cold cancels. Hosted by the Coventry Protected Spaces Stewardship/Conservation Commission. For more information, contact Eric Thomas, 860-742-9908.

Sun 1/5: **Coventry Winter Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Coventry High School, 78 Ripley Hill Road. Connecticut grown produce, meats, eggs, and cheese. Also cupcakes, baked goods, jams, prepared foods, dog treats and hand-made soaps. A rotating selection of craft vendors each week. 2018-19 season runs from 11/17/19 through 3/15/20. [Website](#).

Weds 1/8: **Mobile Foodshare**, 10-10:30 AM, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. An outdoor food distribution service for persons of low income. Please bring your own grocery bag. Text FOODSHARE to 85511 to receive the mobile schedule and cancellations directly on your phone. More [info](#).

Weds 1/8: **Crafternoons**, 4 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Mason Jar Snow Globes. Info: 860-742-7606.

Fri 1/10: **Baked Fish Dinner**, 6 PM, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. Hosted by First Church and American Legion Post 52. Cost \$12. Information: 860-742-8487.

Sun 1/12: **Coventry Winter Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Coventry High School, 78 Ripley Hill Road. Connecticut grown produce, meats, eggs, and cheese. Also cupcakes, baked goods, jams, prepared foods, dog treats and hand-made soaps. A rotating selection of craft vendors each week. 2018-19 season runs from 11/17/19 through 3/15/20. [Website](#).

Tues 1/14 – Tues 4/7: **Free Small Business Workshop:** The Coventry Economic Development Commission, in partnership with Nichols College, is offering a free small business workshop on how Facebook business pages and groups can be used to generate sales, referrals and interest. The workshop is part of a research project designed as a training course over a 12-week period. Requirements include: must be a business owner or co-owner in Coventry; be in business at least 2 years; commit to 2-hour weekly training; apply social media high-impact practices; have own computer equipment; willing to pay up to \$300 to purchase advertising, boosts and other engagement. Ten businesses will be selected. Please contact Eric M. Trott at 860-742-4062 or etrott@coventryct.org.

Tues 1/14: **Seminar: Investment Concerns in a Fragile Market**, 6 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. In partnership with the Society of Financial Awareness. Info: 860-742-7606.

Fri 1/17: **Messy Munchkins**, 10:30 AM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. The library offers this proven and popular multi-sensory playgroup for children and their caregivers. Call for details: 860-742-7606.

Fri 1/17: **Teen De-Stress Mess**, 3 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. A fun and messy way for teens to ease some student stress. Info: 860-742-7606.

Sat 1/18: **Roast Turkey Dinner**, 4:30-6:30 PM, Second Congregational Church of Coventry Community House, 1746 Boston Turnpike. \$14 adults, \$13 for seniors, \$7 for youngsters between 6 & 8. Under 6 free. Reservations can be made at 860-742-1616. Take-out available.

Sun 1/19: **Coventry Winter Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Coventry High School, 78 Ripley Hill Road. Connecticut grown produce, meats, eggs, and cheese. Also cupcakes, baked goods, jams, prepared foods, dog treats and hand-made soaps. A rotating selection of craft vendors each week. 2018-19 season runs from 11/17/19 through 3/15/20. [Website](#).

Weds 1/22: **Mobile Foodshare**, 10-10:30 AM, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. An outdoor food distribution service for persons of low income. Please bring your own grocery bag. Text FOODSHARE to 85511 to receive the mobile schedule and cancellations directly on your phone. More [info](#).

Thurs 1/23: **Teen Murder Mystery**, 6 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Work to gather clues and witnesses to solve the case. Info: 860-742-7606.

Sun 1/26: **Coventry Winter Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Coventry High School, 78 Ripley Hill Road. Connecticut grown produce, meats, eggs, and cheese. Also cupcakes, baked goods, jams, prepared foods, dog treats and hand-made soaps. A rotating selection of craft vendors each week. 2018-19 season runs from 11/17/19 through 3/15/20. [Website](#).

Weds 1/29: **Will it Waffle?** 4 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Back by popular demand. What will work in a waffle maker? Come and find out! Info: 860-742-7606.

COVENTRY HOUSING AUTHORITY is accepting applications for its Section 8 Elderly-Disabled housing. Annual income limit is \$21,200 (one person) and \$24,200 (two people). Also accepting applications of its State Elderly/Disabled housing. Annual income limit is \$52,850 (one person) and \$60,400 (two people). Interested parties may pick up an application at the Coventry Housing Authority, 1630 Main Street, Coventry, CT, or have one mailed. Completed applications must be postmarked or hand-delivered no later than January 31, 2020. For more information, call 860-742-5518.

LIBRARY TWEEN ADVISORY BOARD SEEKING MEMBERS: TWAB members get to plan events, choose books to buy, and help make the library a great place. Everyone in grades 4-8 is welcome to join, just stop by the next meeting on January 9th at 4:30 PM at the Library. Info: 860-742-7606.

HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT:

- **ENERGY ASSISTANCE:** The office is accepting energy applications for winter heating on Tuesdays and Thursdays by appointment only. Please call 860-742-5324 for more information and guidelines.
- **CLERGY FUEL FUND:** Residents wishing to contribute to the Clergy Fuel Fund to assist Coventry families in need may do so by sending a donation to the Coventry Human Services Department, c/o Clergy Fuel Fund, 1712 Main Street, Coventry, CT 06238. The fund provides a one-time emergency fuel delivery during the year. Persons wishing to participate in the program can contact the Human Services Department at 860-742-5324 for information and income guidelines.

RELIEF FOR HOMEOWNERS EXPERIENCING CRUMBLING CONCRETE

FOUNDATIONS: Funds are available for reimbursement of testing expenses for households that may be affected by crumbling concrete foundations. More information about the crumbling concrete issue, including a link to financial assistance for repairs, can be found in the [Spotlight](#) column on the home page of the Town website.

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