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- Crumbling Concrete Foundations — pg. 4
- Budget in Brief—Center section

TOWN HALL HOLIDAYS:

May 27  Memorial Day
July 4   Independence Day
Sept. 2  Labor Day

Message from Joan Lewis,
Town Council Chairwoman

Budget:
Both the Town Manager and the Superintendent of Schools in their budget presentations at the Town Hearing on March 7th highlighted the many reasons why Coventry is a great place to live. Did you know that Coventry was rated No.1 in Connecticut and No.7 in the United States as the best place to buy a house (GoBankingRates); Coventry schools ranked 10th in Connecticut and ranked in the top 6% of high schools in the nation (Jay Matthews Challenge Index, previously the Washington Post Challenge Recognition); our Farmers Market was ranked 4th in the United States by Bon Appetite and was the Editor’s Choice Award in Yankee Magazine? These accolades are only a few of those mentioned in their presentations.

We also learned that compared to other towns, Coventry’s per capita taxes were 18.2% below, and our debt service was 40.1% below, the State Average for FY 2016-2017 (the latest data available). To me, this proves what we already know – Coventry is a community that cares, plans for the future, and is governed cost effectively with efficient use of its resources!

It is the Town Council’s intention that our proposed budget will continue to build for the future and yet contain costs wherever possible. The Council has spent the last several weeks meeting with Department heads, the Board of Education, our Fire Departments and Emergency Services, and the Library Board to review their proposed budgets. Many of the budgets in the Town portion had already been reduced by the Town Manager. After its review, the Town Council reduced the Manager’s proposal by $316,632. The Town Council’s proposed budget for Town services, our Schools, Capital Expenditures, and Debt Service, represents an increase of $529,078 or a 1.3% proposed spending increase from the FY 19 budget.

One of the greatest impacts on the Council’s proposed budget is the reduction in State Aid as found in the Governor’s budget proposal; namely, (1) the reduction of our Educational Cost Sharing (ECS) grant by $542,778, and (2) the reduction of other State grants by $33,000. (Two factors are negatively impacting Coventry under the ECS formula – the town’s increase in wealth rank and its decline in student population.) These reductions in State Aid are responsible for over 100% of the proposed 0.4 mil increase in the Council’s budget. The Governor’s budget also proposed that the Town’s pick up a portion of the Teacher Retirement Expense which for Coventry represented $80,874 for fiscal year 2019-2020. The Council did not include this in its budget as the Legislature’s Education Committee has stripped it; however, we recognize that it could be reinstated. This 0.4 mil increase will generate a total of $368,736 in new funds, with $575,778 of that to cover the reduction in State Aid. While the State Legislature has yet to act on these reductions, they are included in our proposal as we expect that all or a portion of them will be enacted. If the Legislature reduces the amounts of these cuts, the Council will take that into its deliberation when setting the mil rate. Without the reduction in State Aid, the actual proposed mil rate increase would be minus .2 mils.

Another major impact was the inclusion of additional funding of $70,000 under Lake Management for the treatment of Hydrilla in Coventry Lake and Fanwort in Eagleville Lake. Estimated costs for the treatment of Hydrilla are $130,000 for 2019 and $145,000 for 2020. We have been advised by the State that funding from a DEEP grant this coming year will only be $25,000. Our share of the cost with
Mansfield for the treatment of Fanwort is $15,000. The increase in funding will cover the Fanwort treatment as well as the first treatment of Hydrilla in June 2020.

There is no increase in the Capital budget.

The Debt Services portion of our budget has actually decreased as we’ve paid off some of our larger school bonds. This debt reduction will occur even with the addition of the current school projects approved at referendum last year and hopefully with the passage of our proposed $4,000,000 bond referendum this year. The funding from this proposed bond would be used for needed road improvements that will occur in many areas of the Town including Northfields, Lewis Hill, Eastview, and many town roads in the lake region, along with our share of the Hop River Bridge and the redesign of the parking lot at the Coventry Grammar School. (See center insert.)

The Town Council and the Board of Education along with Town and School administration and staff recognize the need to minimize tax impact, but still present a budget that effectively meets the needs of our citizens and moves our community forward. One of the Council’s six major goals is to “Develop and maintain our annual and future budgets to assure that they realistically reflect the Community’s changing needs and revenue sources without creating undue economic financial stress.” We believe that this budget meets that goal.

The Council’s budget will be presented at the Annual Town Meeting on Saturday, April 27. During that meeting, there will be time for citizens’ comments. While the budget can be reduced at that meeting, it cannot be increased at Town Meeting. The budget from the Town meeting will be sent to referendum for voter approval on Tuesday, May 7, 2019. I urge you to attend the Town Meeting and be a part of the process.

For more information on the Town Budget, please visit our budget link on the home page of the Town website under the News & Announcements section at www.coventryct.org, and the Board of Education Budget can be found on www.coventrypublicschools.org under the Board of Education tab.

Grants:
Thanks to the hard work of our Town Manager and town staff, the Town of Coventry has received many grants for projects that would have been difficult to fund without grant assistance. Major grants the Town has received include Local Bridge Funding Grant from CTDOT for half of the cost to repair of the Jones Crossing Bridge. Two Local Capital Improvement Program (LoCIP) Grants for a total of $3,000,000 will be used for a four way intersection at Bread and Milk Street and Boston Turnpike (Swamp and Northfield) and for South Street improvements between Seagraves and Skinner Hill Road with multi use path. We’re receiving a grant of $400,000 for a sidewalk from Hemlock Point along Main Street around the corner at Birch Bend. We have also received many smaller grants. The Town has applied for a Microgrid grant from DEEP as well as a $1,500,000 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for improvements at Orchard Hills.

Other Council News:
In other Council news, the Council recently held a land consortium meeting where all land use groups share information and updates on their work. The Boards and Commissions at this meeting include Planning and Zoning, Economic Development, Zoning Board of Appeals, Conservation, Parks and Recreation, Water Pollution Control Authority, Inland Wetlands, the Protected Spaces Stewardship Committee and the Ad Hoc Lake Advisory Committee.

The work carried on by these groups and the Town’s other Boards and Commissions is amazing; they keep Coventry strong and moving forward with a positive outlook. The minutes of this last Consortium Meeting of February 28, 2019 can be found on the Town’s website under Agendas and Minutes in the Town Council section. I encourage you to take time to read them and to consider volunteering for a Board or Commission as vacancies occur.
Public records for the Assessor’s Office can be viewed using the following links:
http://coventry.mapxpress.net/ags_map/ - Coventry Map Xpress updated daily
or http://www.mapgeo.com/crcogct/ - CROG 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, 2019, and applications are being processed until Wednesday, May 15, 2019. 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 $43,900 if married, or less than $36,000 if single, both must include Social Security benefits from your SSA-1099 and your adjusted gross income from your 2018 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 1st to be eligible for exemption. If you have already filed, you do not need to re-file. You will receive your exemption automatically. If veterans meet income guidelines, you may be eligible for Additional exemption. The program began February 1st, and applications are processed until October 1, 2019. Please call if your income is less than $43,900 if married, or less than $36,000 if single, both must include Social Security benefits from you SSA-1099 form and your adjusted gross income from your 2018 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, 2019.

REVALUATION: The Assessor’s Office would like to notify homeowners of the upcoming revaluation project for the October 1, 2019 grand list being conducted by representatives of the firm Vision Government Solutions. This process has started and more information will be available soon. Office. If, after reviewing the data the home owner wishes to make any corrections, they can make corrections on the form and return it to the Assessor’s Office. Those that have no corrections to make do not need to return the mailer. Accurate data is the first step to producing accurate assessments. This Revaluation process itself should be finalized sometime late November or early December 2019. Any property owners who have questions concerning the revaluation process can contact Michael D’Amicolo the Assessor in the Office during working hours at 860-742-4067. If you have questions on the Data mailer’s, please contact Vision Government Solutions at the number listed at the top of the data mailer. Look for further updates as the revaluation process continues in the coming months.

TAX COLLECTOR’S OFFICE
860-742-4066

Delinquent notices were mailed within the last few months for overdue taxes, sewer and COVRA bills. Intent to lien notices for COVRRA 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 1st 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, click on the blue button 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 underlined 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 and credit card payments (in person or online) can delay your DMV clearance up to ten (10) business days.

The current fiscal year will end June 30, 2019. 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 1st installment, JULY – Real Estate 1st installment; Motor Vehicle, COVRA and Personal Property single payment. SEPTEMBER- Sewer Use Fee single payment. NOVEMBER – Sewer Assessment fee 2nd installment. JANUARY – Real Estate 2nd installment and Supplemental Motor Vehicle tax only if applicable.
SPRING CLEAN-UP TIME: Mother Nature has been fairly kind to us this winter with only a couple of small snow storms and some high wind experiences, so we begin to look forward to spring and polishing up our homes to embrace the warmer, brighter days that are to come. This is the best time to really look around the exterior of your home and check out some potential problems with your home’s roof, siding, chimney, decks, patios, etc. To assist in this process, we invite you to check out this handy springtime To Do Check List courtesy of Home Serve USA: https://www.homerserveusa.com/blog/2018/march/spring-home-maintenance-checklist

OBTAINING A PERMIT... We have seen very little slowing down of permits and projects this winter due to the milder weather conditions that we’ve experienced. Therefore, residents are encouraged to secure their contractors and apply for permits as soon as possible for their upcoming spring and summer projects. Many contractors are eager to assist you with new projects. If you are considering a building project this year, be sure to submit your application 2-3 weeks in advance. The review process for applications can take longer during the busy construction season and is based on a first-come, first-served basis. So drop by the Building Department to pick-up your permit packet and a copy of your plot plan. We are more than happy to take a few minutes to discuss your project with you and get you started.

WANT YOUR BUILDING PLANS? The Building Department is only responsible for retaining building plans on projects for a maximum of two (2) years. We are then allowed to dispose of them. Beginning July 1st and ending September 30, 2017, the Building Department is allowing property owners to obtain the building plans for residential construction only. You must own the property to obtain the building plans. A Certificate of Use and Occupancy must have been issued for the structure prior to June 1, 2017. 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.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT 860-742-4064

TOWN MANAGER’S UPDATE

The Manager’s office has been very busy applying for and administering grants. We successfully finished a grant at Orchard Hills to replace roofs and sidewalks. We are submitting another grant for $1.5 million for continuing improvements. This will be a very competitive grant round so hope for us.

The Town continues to monitor the legal wrangles with Caprilands to see what role, if any, the Town can play to assist in preserving this historic property and the wishes of Adelma Simmons. The Town was able to obtain a grant to evaluate the condition of the buildings.

We have spent a great deal of time fine-tuning the budget and fighting off what we view as bad legislation which could shift State expenses to local property taxes. Please see the enclosed Budget in Brief for details.

We continue to provide support to the new Library Renovation & Improvement Committee to address existing building needs within the existing footprint. We also continue to work on evaluating issues discovered several years ago with inadequate wind resistance at certain walls at the Coventry High School connector. Working with the building committee and a structural engineer, the scope of work continues to be reduced. We have been continually assured that the building is safe. (Also see information on the other school buildings and Energy Efficiency Committee on page 15.)

On the lighter side, I have had a bit of fun exchanging flags with the City of Coventry, England and being interviewed twice on the BBC about this initiative.

The CoventryVision Committee has been rejuvenated and has brought back the Coventry Conversations show. The film crew has also recorded several events like Arts on Main and Christmas in the Village. Check out our online video library at https://coventryct.viebit.com. This committee is staffed by Laura Stone of my office and an enthusiastic group of volunteers.

A word on revaluation: this is an update only. We do not need to gain entry to every unit. Data mailers were sent out to verify the information we have on file. This information will be compared to market sales to develop new values. This work will be finished in November and used for taxes in July 2020.

John A. Elsesser Town Manager

MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL CONCRETE FOUNDATION TESTING PROGRAM

The Town of Coventry has been awarded funding for the purpose of providing core testing on concrete foundations throughout the Towns of Coventry, Ashford, Tolland, Willington, Columbia, Bolton and Union. The Concrete Foundation Testing Program is funded by a Community Development Block Grant from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development and administered through the CT Department of Housing.

Each eligible household will be offered a grant not to exceed $5,000 for up to four core samples. The Program is responsible for coordinating the testing between the homeowner and contractor. Once the testing is complete the Program will pay the contractor directly. In order to eligible, the property to be tested must be in one of the seven towns listed above, built on or after 1983, and evidence of homeowner’s insurance must be provided. In addition, at least 51% of the people served must meet the income guidelines of 80% or below median income. Therefore, 49% of the people served can exceed 80% median income after the 51% is met. For your reference, the current income guidelines state that 80% of median income is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number in Family</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gross Annual Income</td>
<td>50350</td>
<td>57550</td>
<td>64750</td>
<td>71900</td>
<td>77700</td>
<td>83450</td>
<td>89200</td>
<td>94950</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Program will address households that are at or below median income first. Households that are above will be added to a waiting list and addressed as we meet or exceed the 51% threshold. In order to determine your household’s income an application must be completed and submitted to the Program along with certain income documentation. Once a household is deemed eligible, the Program will notify the homeowner as to what their next step is.

The Program will not reimburse for core testing that has already been completed. Funding will be returned to the State if it is not used and the Program will no longer be available. As of this writing, 71% of the funds have been used.

If you have any questions or would like to request an application to the Program please contact the Program Coordinator, at 860-456-0782 or peterhuckins@charter.net. All information provided to the Program is kept confidential.
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. 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 in 2016. The Towns have worked since May 2017 to prepare feasibility plans and a report for a preferred trail alignment and are nearing the completion. The Town contacted and met with property owners whose residences may be in close proximity to the prospective preferred trail alignment and held small group meetings to answer questions and discuss the feasibility plans in March. A second public forum will be held in both towns in April 2019 to continue to receive input on the project and work to address questions and/or concerns that are raised. Please contact Eric Trott at etrott@coventryct.org or 860-742-4062 if you have any questions.

COVENTRY VILLAGE PARTNERS

Subsequent to the success of the Arts of Main event that was held in Coventry Village in August of 2018, the committee of organizers and supporters have continued to work together since the event to consider ways to sustain the positive momentum that was generated to support Historic Coventry Village. The committee, now called The Coventry Village Partners, have met regularly since last August and have been accepted into the CT Main Street Center for 2019. The CT Main Street Center is a non-profit organization that supports communities throughout Connecticut to create vibrant, healthy and sustainable downtowns. The Center provides resources, education, networking and other services to assist the Town in its effort to work with local businesses, civic groups, and community stakeholders. The Center applies a unique programmatic formula that is based on a model of the National Trust for Historic Preservation which is used by communities across the country. The Partners continue to meet every other week and are actively planning events that will involve Coventry Village, its businesses and supporters. If you would like to learn more about ways you can be involved, please contact Eric Trott.

REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The Towns of Bolton, Coventry, Mansfield and Tolland have initiated efforts to work cooperatively to create a regional economic development plan that provides guidance on steps the towns can take independently and collectively to find mutual success. It also offers opportunities to build on the planning that has occurred involving the towns, like the Eastern Gateways Transportation Study that is analyzing the RTES 44 and 195 corridors for future transportation needs. A request for proposals has been developed to hire a consultant to assist the towns in the preparation of the plan which will be released in the Spring of 2019. Please contact Eric Trott for further information.

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 M. Trott for further details and application forms.

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.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY

The State of CT Department of Transportation (CTDOT) notified the Town in January that it has been selected to receive funds from the Community Connectivity Grant Program in order to design and construct sidewalks on Main Street extending from the current terminus at the intersection with Hemlock Point Drive and continue northerly on Main Street approximately 1600’ to just beyond where the Daniel Rust House Bed and Breakfast is located. The Town anticipates that the request for $399,840.00 will be provided for the project. A project timeframe has yet to be established at this time. Ultimately, the Town envisions the potential of extending the sidewalks further northward on Main Street to connect with Liscie Beach, a popular Town owned beach and recreational property. Please contact Eric Trott for further information.

COOPER LANE OPEN SPACE PURCHASE

At a Town Meeting held on February 28, 2019, the citizens of the Coventry approved the purchase of a 12.2 acre property located at 254 Cooper Lane owned by Susan Rose Harrigan as open space. The property is a significant one that abuts the Williams Preserve - Town owned open space property that was previously purchased using State of CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection grant funds. The Williams Preserve abuts the Couch Preserve open space property that is owned by Joshua’s Tract Conservation and Historic Trust. The Williams and Couch Preserves provide hiking trails throughout the properties which also lead to a picturesque view of the Willimantic River. A total of nearly 93 acres will preserved with the combination of the three properties. A new hiking trail and property info map is in the process of being designed in the Land Use Office with the hope of having it available to the public later this year. Please contact Eric Trott at etrott@coventryct.org or 860-742-4062 for further information.

BUSINESS NEWS

We eagerly await the opening of Pizza on Main at 1201 Main Street where Francesca’s was. If you miss Sal’s cooking he is now featured at Lakeview Restaurant. We also welcome Nailed it Spa to 1209 Main Street (next to Phoenix Chinese Restaurant). Give them a call at 860-498-0091 to inquire about their nail salon services.

Cumberland Farms is getting near to closing on the property purchase and starting construction at the intersection of Boston Turnpike and Bread & Milk Street.

The walls and roof are up at Vinton Village and efforts are underway to add some seating for Wicked Slice’s re-opening. Stay tuned.

Twin Hills Golf Course has been granted a permit for a mobile beverage cart.

We have been informed that Hartford Health Care has temporarily relocated Dr. Keane’s practice to their Storrs office (underneath Starbucks). The Town is working to make sure this remains temporary.
COMING EVENTS & NOTABLE ITEMS

Visitors’ Center Opens for the Season: Open weekends 10-2 April 13 through October. This season will feature local artists in cooperation with the Coventry Arts Guild. The Center is also stocked with local historical books, cookbooks, postcards, maps, and local and regional travel brochures. The supply of Westerwald Pottery Coventry mugs has been replenished and are available in blue and green. Daffodil flags can be purchased to celebrate the thousands of bulbs that have been planted around our town. The Visitors’ Center is organized and staffed by volunteers and friends of the Village Improvement Society.

May 3 & June 7—Quiet Corner Contra Dance: Lessons at 7:45 PM, dance at 8 PM. Patriots Park Lodge, 172 Lake Street. Dance to a caller and live music. Partner not necessary. Adults: $12, students $6, under 12 free. First Friday of the month from Sept.—June. Contact Dave for information: 484-844-5203 or email candel.dm@gmail.com

May 11—Mother’s Day Roses Sale: One dozen long stem rose bouquet for $18. Order by calling Cindy at 860-742-8709 or Gary at 860-742-6128. Orders can be picked up at the Coventry high school parking lot between 9 AM—noon. All proceeds support Coventry Lions Club scholarships and other community service activities.

May 18—Comedy Show Fundraiser: 7 PM, Manchester Country Club. Spaghetti dinner at 6 PM. $25. Sponsored by the Coventry Lions Club. All proceeds go to community projects supported by the Lions. For tickets or information contact Carolyn Dionne at 860-985-3558 or contact any Lions Club member.

May 22—May 27 - 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 toBradbury Road. Sponsored by American Legion Post 52. On Sunday, May 26, 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 29 - CoventryFest: 4-10 PM, Patriots Park. This year’s theme: Community Together. Music by Nightshift Band, bounce houses, games, hot dog eating contest, vendors, food trucks, pizza, and fun. Spectacular fireworks display over Coventry Lake. Bring your chairs and blankets. Shuttle parking available. Rain date 6/30. Coordinated by Coventry CT Cares, Inc. in partnership with Boy Scout Troop 65 and Coventry K of C Assembly. Thank you to the many sponsors and donors—100% of the funds is given back to the community. Info: coventryfest.org or the CoventryFest2019 Facebook page. Call Al Landry 860-377-7754 or Kristen Bilotta 860-707-9577.

Order Daffodil bulbs for fall planting: The Daffodil Beautification Project, sponsored by the Village Improvement Society, is now in its 26th year. This town-wide service project has resulted in approximately 374,395 daffodil bulbs being planted in Coventry! To order Dutch Master (all yellow) or Giant Mixture at $4.50 per dozen, call

Coventry Parks & Recreation and CSI Soccer present:

Laidlaw Park 25th Anniversary Silver Celebration
May 19, 2019
10:00 AM—12:00 PM
Enjoy the food, beverages & fun!
Pizza by Wicked Slice,
DJ Karl Koenig
& inflatable games compliments of CSI Soccer Inc.
Let the games begin!

INTRODUCING:
THE 06238 MAGAZINE!
Check out the Summer Edition of the Parks & Recreation Program Brochure, NOW featuring the Coventry Senior Center! Inside, you'll find TONS of special events, programs, camps, fitness classes, trips and services! Mailed to all households on April 11th and available for download online at www.coventryct.org.

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

This will be a busy summer for construction and the summer of 2020 will be even busier as we implement the various grants we have received (see Public Works on page 9). If the road bond passes substantial roads, bridges and school parking lot improvements will be added to the list (see Center section).

We will start the summer roads program in late April with shimming sections of Daly Road in preparation for chip sealing later this year. We will be using a rubberized product for additional longevity and traction. The full list of roads planned for this season is available on the Town’s web site.

We are pleased to announce that we have been awarded a grant to replace the Hop River Bridge for 80% of cost. The balance will be split with the Town of Columbia with Coventry covering around 16.5%. This likely will be in 2021 due to a lengthy permit process.

The State of Connecticut will also be replacing a bridge over the Hop River on the Hop River Trail off of Kings Road. This is a State project without any local expense or supervision. A public involvement meeting is planned for early summer in Columbia.

In our parks we are adding field drainage this spring to the two softball fields at Capt. Nathan Hale Middle School using State LOCIP funds and a little extra kick in by the Town Council. A citizens study committee is looking at the broader issue of facility needs for girls softball. At Miller Richardson baseball fields, Public Works assisted in tearing down an old shed with the baseball association purchasing a new one. Work on adding field irrigation and additional parking is on the work schedule using State LOCIP funds. We also continue to review a turf problem on the Miller Richardson football fields and expect a report on repair options in April.

At Patriots Park the Community Center will get some painting and other repairs over school vacation. We also plan to tear down the caretaker’s house since repairs are too expensive to consider.

After much discussion, plans are in place to add nine holes of disc golf at Creaser Park. After much discussion, plans are in place to add nine holes of disc golf at Creaser Park. It is believed that conflicts between “golfers” and “dog walkers” will be minimal and the Recreation Commission welcomes a continuing dialogue to address issue which may arise. Please remember that under State law and Town policies, all dogs must be on leash at all parks. Violators are subject to fines. Community Gardens are also available at Creaser Park (see the Recreation page of the Town website).

We are pleased that we will be joining the State Police radio network for our Police radio system. We are hoping to be able to go live within a few months. This will improve coverage and allow us to communicate with the State Police, UConn Police and Willimantic Police directly (car to car) for the first time. There is no annual operating cost or repair responsibility for the tower network. Our responsibility is only the mobile radios in the cars, portables and the console in the Police station. We are hoping to connect Public Works radios as part of a budget project.

WANT TO CHANGE YOUR TIPPER BARREL SIZE? In response to citizens’ requests, we are offering the opportunity to exchange your tipper barrels at the reduced fee of $25. If you would like to swap, contact the Tax Office before May 15, 2019 at 860-742-4066. The swap order must be requested and paid for by May 15, 2019 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 recycle barrel. There is no increase in your annual bill for a larger recycle barrel. 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.

SPRING REMINDERS FROM THE COVENTRY LAKE ADVISORY & MONITORING COMMITTEE

What a wonderful Winter season on Coventry Lake, with plenty of ice fishing and ice skating for over 5 weeks. There was some snow late in February and a few people enjoyed cross country skiing on the lake too. Now it is spring and soon all the summer recreational activities on the lake will start. Here are some tips to help you get ready for summer:

1. Spring means geese nesting. Apply for a federal government permit to addle eggs at http://permits.fws.gov/eRcgr/geSI.aspx or create a barrier by using low shrubs or fencing along the lake shore.

2. Spring means lawn work. The best way to keep our lake healthy is to fertilize therefore avoiding nutrient runoff into the lake. If you do fertilize make sure to use a ZERO phosphate fertilizer.

3. Spring means landscaping. If you plan to do some lakefront landscaping check out the great app from UConn on rain gardens – one of the best ways to avoid nutrient run-off into the lake – www.nemo.uconn.edu/raingardens

4. Spring is the best time to fight Phragmites. Cut the stalks down around June 15, cover with black plastic, and remove the plastic in 100 days. These steps lead to stunted growth and retards spreading of this invasive plant.

5. Spring means aquatic weed growth. Look for announcements regarding the 2019 hydrilla treatment plan. Report algae blooms and any unusual aquatic weed growth to: coventrylakeadvisory@coventryct.org

6. Spring means preparing boats (motor or paddle) for summer use. Remember CT DEEP recommends WASH DRAIN DRY. Instructions can be found at https://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2696&q=322690&deepNav_GID=1630
* All lifetime licenses issued since October 9, 2009 are now required to renew annually.
* All adults need to have a license to fish.
* Children under the age of 16 do not need a license to fish.
  * Parents, please note: If you will be handling your child’s fishing pole or baiting the line, Connecticut Law requires that you carry a current fishing license.

Consult the 2019 Connecticut Angler’s Guides each year for updates on DEEP regulations and other useful information online at www.ct.gov/deep or they should arrive in our office shortly before opening day.

Your 2019 fishing licenses are available at the Town Clerk's office or online at 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 Connecticut DEEP Bureau of Natural Resources has a Facebook page! It’s Connecticut Fish and Wildlife and has lots of information on upcoming events, facts and beautiful pictures sent in by Facebook friends enjoying the outdoors. Check it out!

**JUNE IS DOG LICENSE RENEWAL MONTH!**

**WHO WILL WIN COVENTRY’S TOP DOG CONTEST?** 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 31st and the winner will be notified by June 1st. All other license entries will be processed accordingly and mailed out in the beginning of June. Along with payment please include current rabies certificate, proof of spay/neuter and a self-addressed stamped envelope. GOOD LUCK!!!!

* $8.00 for spayed or neutered dogs  
* $19.00 for unaltered dogs.  
* Any dog license issued after June 30th is subject to a $1.00 per month late fee.  
* Licenses will not be sold in the office until June 1st.  
* Check your dog’s rabies expiration date. If that date has expired, NEW WRITTEN proof of a current rabies vaccination is required to renew your dog’s license.  
* 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.***

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

Directors / Tree Wardens
Mark Kiefer
Superintendent of Operations
Mark Owens
Admin. Secretary / COVRRA
Donna Wrubel
Town Engineer
Todd Penney
mkiefer@coventryct.org
mowens@coventryct.org
dwrubel@coventryct.org
tpenney@coventryct.org

CAPITAL PROJECTS

LOTCP GRANTS (100% grant for construction)
Folly Lane Bridge Replacement: Cardinal Engineering out of Meriden CT was selected as Engineer of Record to design, permit and construct documents for the Folly Lane Bridge Replacement Project. They have started the data collection and soil borings. A Public Involvement meeting will be held in May upon the completion of the Preliminary Design to gather feedback from the public before the project moves forward. Local permitting to be sought in later summer months. It is hoped for construction during the summer of 2020.

Swamp Road @ Boston Turnpike Intersection Improvements: CDOT’s Commitment to Fund received week of March 4th. Town will now be soliciting engineers to design this project. Mid-May is the target for selection. Data collection and preliminary design would progress afterwards with the hope to have our 2nd Public Involvement meeting in early June. Rights of Way acquisitions will progress during this time.

South Street Sidewalk and Pedestrian Improvements: Currently under final stages of CRCOG review and then will be submitted to CDOT for Commitment to Fund authorization. The Town will react quickly once authorization is obtained. This project will be executed similarly to the two other LOTCIP projects.

CONNECTICUT CONNECTIVITY GRANT

Main Street Sidewalk Extension to Lisicke Beach: We are pleased to report that Coventry received another grant to fund 100% of the construction budget to extend the Main Street sidewalk from Hemlock Point Road to the Lisicke Beach Park. This moves the Town closer to executing its goal to have a pedestrian loop around Coventry Lake communities. Official authorization to proceed should be coming by the end of March. Land surveyors will be sought to provide the appropriate base mapping and all design and permitting will be done by the Engineering Department. A public involvement meeting will happen this summer. Construction will happen in 2020.

STATE LOCAL BRIDGE PROGRAM GRANT

Jones Crossing Road Bridge Replacement: Eight bids were submitted and bid was awarded to the lower bidder, Milton Beebe & Sons, Inc. from Storrs, CT. Notice to Proceed was issued in early April. The bridge construction is anticipated to start June 1st with the implementation of the detour shortly thereafter. The Contract duration is set at 120 days for substantial completion and 150 days for readiness for final payment getting us to the end of October. We were able to receive a grant for 50% of the culvert replacement and design for almost $500,000.

JONES CROSSING ROAD BOND

Jones Crossing Road Improvements: The Jones Crossing Road approaches to the bridge will be done this late April – early May in advance of the bridge project. The road improvements will begin where the Mountain Ridge Drive project was completed in 2016 and improve Jones Crossing Road to a consistent 26-foot width thru to Tolland Turnpike. Improvements will also be made to the original section of Jones Crossing Road that continues to the Willimantic River.

TREE WARDEN: 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. The Tree Warden’s email address is mkiefer@coventryct.org. Do not use email to contact the Tree Warden for emergencies – call Public Works at (860) 742-6588 or the Police Department at (860) 742-7331.

EMPLOYMENT: If you like outdoor physical work, have a valid driver’s license and are 18 or older, we are looking for you. The Public Works Department has an opening for a summer laborer paying $10.10/hr. for 40 hour week. Accepting applications immediately. For more info call (860) 742-6588.

CT WATER COMPANY PROJECT

Northfield Development Water Main Replacement Project: Replacement of the aging water mains by the Connecticut Water Company (CWC) on the following roads in the Northfield Development has started:

- Forge Road
- Ash Brook Drive
- Oakwood Drive
- Fieldstone Lane
- Shady Lane
- Northfield Road
- Brookside Lane
- Brewster Street
- Swamp Road

This area/community can expect this project to take all summer long with traffic delays due to alternating one-way traffic during construction and the contractor’s execution of the work. You can also expect temporary gravel travel surfaces, followed by temporary pavement surfaces, and minor disruption to water service. The Town is still negotiating a fee in lieu of permanent pavement patch with CWC to utilize the funding and additional funding sought under the Town’s 2019 Bonding referendum to fix the aging drainage infrastructure and the entire roadway surface on the interior roads (all except Brewster & Swamp) of Northfield.

Textile Recycling is available in Coventry at the following three locations: the transfer station when it is open, next to the Annex behind the Town Hall anytime and Public Works on Olsen Farm Road anytime. Textiles can be donated in any condition as long as they’re clean and dry. Must be contained in bags.

Donate – Recycle – Don’t throw away

A SHRED EVENT will be scheduled for this fall. Check your COVRRA calendar for the date.
Contaminated recyclables are a problem, not only in Coventry, but across the USA. Unwanted residue in our recycling is currently costing Coventry $95/ton to dispose of unlike clean recycling which has a revenue of $10/ton. The following chart reflects the residue—averaging 20% of February loads.

The town has purchased recycling guideline stickers (reduced version below) to put on all recycle carts, hopefully in May 2019, to help inform everyone of what they should and should not put in their recycle carts in accordance with the State of CT. (RecycleCT.com)

The recycling residue problems noted daily by Willimantic Waste are plastic bags and wrap, pots & pans and other pieces of scrap metal, Styrofoam of any type, garden hoses, textiles, air mattresses, tarps, wood and children’s toys.

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 located in and around Connecticut. Here are a few local options for you...

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 Chopper, 1220 Storrs Road, Mansfield, 860 553-6555
Walmart, 474 Boston Post Rd, Windham, 860 456-4399

The following plastic and film items can be dropped in the following locations:

- Big Y, 33 Fieldstone Commons, Tolland, 860 872-0304
- Stop & Shop, 1391 Main Street, Willimantic, 860 456-8768
- Price Chopper, 1220 Storrs Road, Mansfield, 860 553-6555
- Walmart, 474 Boston Post Rd, Windham, 860 456-4399
- Your WPCA has worked hard to keep our sewer use rates the same since 2017 and we will not be raising them in 2019. At $375 per year Coventry is well below the State average sewer fee of $472. We think $1.03 a day is a good deal to be able to flush your toilet and not worry about septic tank pump-outs, costly repairs, or contaminated drinking water.
- Grease, cleaning wipes, and clean water continue to be a problem in our sewer system. We thank most of you who have been doing the right thing and believe only a handful of households are contributing the bulk of the problems.
- Grease and oils coat the insides of the sewer lines like glue and make the area for water to flow through smaller and smaller. The grease that does make it to the Treatment Plant needs to be removed by a company with special equipment every one-two years at $5,000 per cleaning. Please dump household cooking grease/oil in the trash. Wipe off greasy pots/pans/dishes with paper towels and throw in the trash. Don’t even try to wash out jars from oily foods like peanut butter, mayo, salad dressing, etc. for recycling, just throw them in the trash. Trying to recycle greasy food containers does more harm than good as we are learning as a nation. We inspect the grease traps at all of the restaurants regularly so the problem is coming from homes.
- Potable water is something we take for granted in New England. We wash our cars and water our lawns with it, which is fine, water is abundant and cheap here. What’s not cheap is treating clean water in our Treatment Plant. In addition to using extra electricity and putting wear on the pumps, clean water is taking up capacity that could be used for targeted development which would generate tax revenue. Sump pumps continue to be a problem. Please ask us about sump pump solutions.

Financial Assistance for Sewer Connections:
- 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.

Contact Us:
Mike Ruef, WWTP Operator, 860-742-4064, email mruef@coventryct.org
www.coventryct.org: the link to the WPCA page can be found by clicking on Your Government > Boards & Commissions > Water Pollution Control Authority
**CURB SIDE POLICIES**

**Curbside monthly oversized items pickup:** On the 2nd Monday of every month, residents may place at curbside by 6:30 am up to three oversized items to be picked up for free. These large nonmetal items must be out on Monday regardless of your regular trash day. Examples are dressers, mattresses or recliner chairs 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.

**Recycling 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. 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.

**Excess trash and recycling?** The Public Works Department has dumpsters for residents who occasionally have trash or recycling in excess of their carts. To use the trash dumpster you must pay $1 for each bag that you toss in. 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.

**For major cleanup projects,** the current COVRAA contract for curbside pickup with All American Waste also includes pricing for 6 cubic yard dumpster for 30 days rental at $150 haul/$80 ton, 15 cubic yard dumpster for 30 days rental at $175 haul/$80 ton, and 30 cubic yard dumpster 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 if you are a Coventry resident to get this contract rate.

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

**Trash Holiday Schedule:** All American Waste will observe the following legal holidays thereby altering curbside pickup accordingly:
- Monday, May 27th – Memorial Day
- Thursday, July 4th – Independence Day
- Monday, September 2nd – Labor Day

**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 NOT acceptable:**
- Garbage
- Grass clippings
- Furniture
- Hazardous waste

**Commercial users** must remember that the transfer station is not intended for commercial users 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 ensure the facility waste stream remains residential in nature.

**Recycled at Coventry Public Works facility:** Car batteries, motor oil, transmission oil, #2 fuel oil, brake fluid, kerosene, gas cylinders, diesel fuel, anti-freeze.

**The Household Chemical Waste Drop-Off Facility**

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

**TRANSFER STATION:** 325 MAIN ST.
Open April through November: Thursday noon - 6 pm & Saturday 9 - 3 pm
Closed holidays. Proof of residency required.

**Materials acceptable with cost:**
- Textiles-clean, dry, contained in bag
- Gas grill propane tanks for recycling
- Single stream recyclables (i.e. bottles, cans, cardboard, paper)
- Leaves for composting
- Electronics, fluorescent light bulbs, batteries
- Metal materials (tanks must be cut open and crushed)

**Materials NOT acceptable:**
- Biologically active materials:
  - Water reactive materials:
    - Explosives, fireworks, ammunition
    - Asbestos
    - Biologically active materials:
- Hazardous waste

**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 Mid-NEROC 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. If you have doubt whether or not a material is hazardous you could call Public Works at (860) 742-6588.

**Other FAQ’s:**
- **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.
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. Food bank runs Fridays, by appointment only.

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.

RENTER’S REBATE PROGRAM

APRIL 1st – OCTOBER 1st, 2018

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 $43,900 and single persons must have an annual income not greater than $36,000. 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 State of Connecticut Renters’ Rebate Program Hotline is 860-418-6377

Coventry Human Services Office
Like us on Facebook!

HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

860-742-5324

YOUTH SERVICES

Campsership Donations - We are requesting donations for the 2019 summer camphership fund. All donations go to help families in need pay for Parks and Recreation Camp Wangumbaugh. Campership 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 welcome new children to this camp at no cost or low cost based on financial eligibility. Applications are available in the Human Services Office.

“Gearing up to Learn” Back to School Program - provides new backpacks, and school supplies to Coventry families with school aged children, who meet the income guidelines. Please check our office, or check Facebook mid-July for more information. Donations can be made at any time.

**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, Sneha Patidar 860-742-5324.

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 Repairs Through a Homeowners Rebate 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 the amounts below:

Number in Family 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
Low Income 33,900 38,750 43,600 48,400 53,200 56,150 60,050 63,900
Moderate Income 50,350 57,550 64,750 71,900 77,700 83,450 89,200 94,950

For more information or to request an application, contact the Program Coordinator, at 860-458-0782 or peterhuckins@charternet.net. All information provided to the Housing Rehab Program will be confidential.

QUESTIONS?

Call ProAct toll free at 1-877-776-2285 or visit www.CTRxDiscountCard.com.

Present this card at the pharmacy to start saving on your new or current prescriptions.

Pharmacy Billing Information

Member # TNC003799

Pharmacy name is to be used on all mailings. 85th character must be hyphenated.

RESTAT # 500471 / RX # 5796HN / TNC

PROACT PHARMACY HELP DESK 1-877-776-2285


(100% acceptance) (Medicare accepted and not for non-Medicare use)

* Accepted at Most Pharmacies Nationwide
* One Card Covers an Entire Family
* No Sign-Up or Registration

Free for You and Free for the Town of Coventry

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: How does the Town of Coventry Prescription Discount Card work?
A: Just present this PROACT card to your pharmacist the next time you bring in a new prescription or go for a refill.

Q: Where can I use my Town of Coventry Prescription Discount Card?
A: The card is accepted by most pharmacies in Connecticut, including Wolgreens, CVS, Rite Aid, Target, and Wal-Mart. For more information, on over 55,000 participating pharmacies nationwide, please call ProAct toll free at 1-877-776-2285 or visit www.CTRxDiscountCard.com.

Q: How does the Town of Coventry Prescription Discount Card cover?
A: All prescription medications are covered at a 10% discount rate. Savings are also available on Vision, Lens, and Hearing services. For more information on discounts, please visit www.CTRxDiscountCard.com.

Q: Can I use the card if my prescriptions are already covered by insurance?
A: This card is intended to be used if you do not have insurance, or if something is not covered by your current program. It can’t be used to discount prescription co-payments or deductible charges.

The Coventry Town Council is proud to offer an exciting program that helps you maintain a healthy lifestyle, all while holding on to more of your hard earned money. The Town of Coventry Prescription Discount Card, administered by ProAct, Inc., is a FREE program that offers discount savings on the purchase of prescription drugs. Best of all, it costs NOTHING for Town of Coventry or local taxpayers. So why pay more? Just bring this card with you to your next pharmacy visit, and let the savings begin! - Coventry Town Council
The purpose of the Center is to provide adults 55+/year and older a welcoming, inclusive and supportive environment to participate in recreational, educational and wellness programming and to engage in our community. The Center is committed to these core principles, focusing on the integration of best practices in program development and continued community collaboration. We are here to meet the needs of our active adult citizens in Coventry.

There is no membership and many of our events are low to no cost! Come enjoy a cup of coffee, read the newspaper, participate in folk singing or games in our beautiful lounge or exercise in our fitness room overlooking Lake Wangumbaug. Join one of our weekly fitness classes or sign up for one of our monthly luncheon programs! Check out our monthly Calendar of Events and Highlights on the Town’s website at www.Coventryct.org or “Friend” us on our Facebook page.

Monthly Health and Wellness Programming

- Join us for a meal with friends and neighbors with our Out to Lunch Bunch for a meal at a local restaurant the 1st Wednesday of each month.
- Get in those steps during our weekly group fitness class! Classes meet on Tuesday and Thursday from 9:30-10:30am and is led by certified instructor, Mary Hurley. A mix of seated strength training and light cardio, this class is great for all levels! Fee: $3.00
- Fitness with Mary - Thursdays from 5:30-6:30pm is Boost your endurance, building your strength and challenge your balance with this combination of shadow kickboxing and weight training movements. Format – timed intervals for ALL fitness levels. Fee: $10 drop in fee or $35 per 4 week session.
- Yoga – Wednesdays at 3pm. Class led by local yoga teacher, Lindsey Sienkiewicz. All levels welcome! Yoga is widely regarded in the fitness world as the best in rest and relaxation. Fee: $6.00 per class, Punch Card or $8 drop-in fee.
- Line Dancing - Love Country Music? ‘Two Step’ over on Thursday afternoons, 4-5pm, led by instructor Susan Beeching. Fee: $3 per class, pre-reg or $5 drop-in.
- 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.
- Hearing Appointments – Appointments are available for hearing tests, hearing aid checks, cleanings and repairs and wax inspections with Audiology Concierge. Dates: June 9 and June 16. Call the front desk to schedule.
- Treat yourself! Schedule a pedicure or professional haircut during monthly ‘spa’ days with Hope or Amy the 2nd Monday each month. Fee: $15 payable at time of appointment.
- Massage and Reflexology appointments are now available twice a month with Tami or Michelle. Call to schedule your appointment, $20 for 30 min. appointment, payable at time of appointment the 2nd Thursday and 4th Monday each month.

Entertainment/Leisure/Social Activities

Our groups are self-lead by a participant facilitator

Book Club - The group meets the 3rd Monday of each month from 1pm-2pm. Call the Center to see which book we’re reading and join us on:
- May 20 – The President is Missing by James Patterson and Bill Clinton
- June 17 – TBD

Folk Song Group – Meets each Tuesday, 10:30am-11:30am, singing folk songs popularized in the 1960s.

Crafternoon- 4th Wednesday of every month beginning at 11:00 A.M. Cost: Free or nominal fee based on the craft. All levels welcome. RSVP is required.

Technology

Tech Monday – with Kayla

Have a question about your smart phone, tablet, iPad? Let Kayla, Reference Librarian from Booth & Dimock Library assist you with your questions here at the Center. 15 minute one-on-one appointments beginning at 10am the 3rd Monday of every month. Future Tech Mondays – May 20, June 17. Call to schedule your appointment.

CHOICES Health Insurance Counseling

The Senior Center has a volunteer CHOICES/Medicare counselor available Wednesdays by appointment, YEAR-ROUND to answer Medicare questions and to assist in planning for an upcoming retirement or interpret paperwork. Call the Center to schedule an appointment.

COVENTRY RIDES Transportation Program

The Coventry Rides Transportation Program offers FREE local transportation to residents over 60 and persons with disabilities. Rides can be scheduled for Mondays, Tuesdays, & Thursdays from 9:00-1:00.

**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.
- 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, as well as to all towns in the Windham District. 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, at 860-742-3525.

HARTFORD YARD GOATS TRIP

May 22, 2019
Yard Goats Stadium
Dunkin’ Donuts Park
Hartford

$11 ticket includes lunch (hot dog, chips, water)
Call the Center to register or for more information 860-742-3525
COVENTRY BOARD OF EDUCATION: Current Board of Education members are as follows: Jennifer Beausoleil, Chairman; Eugene Marchand, Vice-Chairman; William Oros, Secretary; Frank Infante; Mary Kortmann; Peter Larson; and Kelly Sobol.

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS: The Board of Education generally meets on the second and last Thursday of each month. Remaining regularly scheduled meetings for 2019 are as follows: April 25, May 9, May 30, June 13, June 27, July 25, August 29, September 12, September 26, October 10, October 30 (Wednesday), November 14, and December 12. Unless noted on the agenda, all meetings are held in the Administration Building Conference Room at 7:30 p.m. and can be viewed on Channel 194.

GREETINGS FROM HEEC!
The most joyful place on earth! That’s what one of our support staff called the Hale Early Education Center (HEEC). And she is right – anywhere you have 113 three and four year olds together, there is bound to be joy. Since becoming part of the Coventry Public School system in September 2017, exciting things have happened at HEEC. On any given day, you can see students traveling to the Capt. Nathan Hale (CNH) and Coventry High School (CHS) Library/Media Center to explore books, hear a story, and interact with middle and high school students, follow along as HEEC students are guests on the CNH Morning Show, see the students interacting with their new Bee Bots where they are learning beginning coding skills, and watch students delighting in the varied dramatic play areas created in the classrooms such as a skating rink, NASA Mission Control Center, restaurant, train, farmer’s market, and construction site.

Through all of this, the HEEC teachers masterfully weave skills and concepts covering the eight developmental domains from the Connecticut Early Learning and Development Standards – Cognition, Social and Emotional Development, Physical Health and Development, Language and Literacy, Creative Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. In mathematics, HEEC uses the preschool version of the same math program used at Coventry Grammar School (CGS). This provides our students with a strong base heading into kindergarten.

HEEC also uses the Second Step Program to teach students important life skills – how to greet someone, ask someone to play, cooperation, problem solving, using a strong and respectful voice to stand up for yourself, sharing, turn taking, and expressing emotions in healthy ways. Second Step is also used at CGS and the George H. Robertson School (GHR), so students at HEEC will have a strong foundation in these critical self-regulation skills and understand the language used to teach these skills prior to heading into kindergarten.

Perhaps what is most wonderful about HEEC, however, is the tremendous progress that our students with special needs make during their years here. With dual-certified teachers in each classroom (regular education and special education certified), an intensive special education teacher to provide additional support, a speech and language clinician, and occupational therapy and physical therapy services, students receive assistance in the areas of targeted need. Students who struggled to walk, learn to take their first steps. Students who were unable to communicate at all or in a very limited manner, learn to express their needs, wants, and desires verbally and through signs. Skills that seem small to us, mean the world to these students and their families. There are no greater joys than these.

So if you ever just need to smile, come visit the Hale Early Education Center. We love visitors! If Disney World is the happiest place on earth, we have to be a close second.

SCHOOL READINESS
Grant Opportunity

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 apply for School Readiness funds. Please contact Marybeth Moyer at mmoyer@coventryct.org for more information.

Families interested in preschool programming options can contact the Hale Early Education Center at 860-742-4550 for more information.

GRADUATION: As of the printing of this publication, graduation is scheduled for Saturday, June 15, 2019, beginning at 10:00 a.m. 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.

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 any of the remaining Open Door Meetings. The last open door meeting of the 2018-2019 school year is Monday, May 6, 2019, at 5:00 p.m. All of these informal gatherings will be held in the Administration Building Conference Room at 1700 Main Street. If you are unable to attend one of these scheduled events, but would still like to meet, please phone our office at 860-742-7317, Ext. 2.

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.

UPDATE FROM THE SCHOOL BUILDING AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE

The Committee has replaced the boilers at Coventry Grammar School (CGS) and G.H. Robertson School (GHR) with high efficiency oil units. Activity is underway to remove three oil tanks at the High School/Middle School complex, and remove and replace tanks at GHR and CGS. Oil tanks at the Town Hall and Library will be removed by the low bidder and the Library tank will be replaced. Design work for fire door upgrades are complete and awaiting State approval. Mechanical engineering companies are being sought for replacement/ modification of unit ventilators and controls at the High School/Middle School complex. The Library air conditioner was replaced last summer.

The Committee is also exploring using energy savings performance contracts to implement the next phase of improvements to GHR and CGS, which would be paid for out of energy savings instead of bonding. A Request for Proposals is being developed to test the market.

GENERAL INFORMATION

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: 1534, and School Volunteer which is JobID: 1535. The online application process is a step-by-step procedure.

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
- Dena DeJulius, Capt. Nathan Hale School Principal, 860-742-7334, or ddejulius@coventryct.org
- Jennifer DeRagon, George Hersey Robertson School Principal, 860-742-7341, or jderagon@coventryct.org
- Ronda Carrie, Coventry Grammar School Principal, 860-742-7313, or rcarrie@coventryct.org
- Lois Hasty, Preschool and Early Childhood Education Coordinator, 860-742-4550, or lhasty@coventryct.org


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.
LEGAL NOTICE-TOWN OF COVENTRY
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING & NOTICE OF ADJOURNED TOWN MEETING
APRIL 27, 2012

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 27, 2019 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, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

Item #2: To consider and take action on the Town Council’s recommendation for the 2019-2020 fiscal year appropriation, pursuant to Section 9-1 of the Town Charter, the final vote shall be adjourned by the Moderator to May 7, 2019.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Town of Coventry Council Recommended Budget for FY 19-20</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Expenditures</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1,516,147</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Safety</td>
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<tr>
<td>$2,470,857</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Works</td>
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<tr>
<td>$1,227,677</td>
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<tr>
<td>Human Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Civic &amp; Cultural</td>
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<tr>
<td>$571,509</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sandy</td>
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<tr>
<td>$2,150,026</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Government Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$9,329,419</td>
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<tr>
<td>State Teachers’ Retirement</td>
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<tr>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>$2,726,426</td>
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<tr>
<td>Board of Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>$26,753,388</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capital</td>
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<tr>
<td>$1,013,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenditures Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$39,919,474</td>
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<p>| Revenues                                              |
|                                                       |</p>
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<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Property Tax</td>
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<tr>
<td>$30,839,873</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intergovernmental</td>
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<tr>
<td>$8,271,378</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local</td>
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<td>$24,248</td>
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<tr>
<td>Revenues Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$39,852,599</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If revenues remain unchanged and collection rates of 98.87% is used; a proposed mill rate of 32.60 will be required.

Item #3: To authorize the Town Manager to enter into an agreement with the Connecticut Department of Transportation for the purpose of the Town to maintain a reserve fund for the pennant, the final vote will be adjourned by the Moderator to May 7, 2019.

Item #4: To consider and take action on the Town Council’s resolution entitled “Resolution Appropriating $4,000,000 For The Planning, Design, Engineering, Construction, Reconstruction And Improvement Of Various Town Roads, Town Aids To Public Travel, Parking Lot, And Bridge Replacement And Authorizing The Issuance Of $4,000,000 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriation And Funding The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purposes.”, pursuant to Section 9-1 of the Town Charter, the final vote shall be adjourned by the Moderator to May 7, 2019.

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

Dated at Coventry, CT this 2nd day of April 2019.

John A. Elesser, Town Manager

Lori Tallman, Town Clerk