



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/W6QD7VF>

[Recognize a local employee for outstanding service.](#)

Town Manager's Message:

Years remind us of starts and ends. This New Year we do have new beginnings, but an awful lot of work and issues are also carrying over. We have new (and returning) elected leaders to our Town Council and Board of Education. They will need to address the ongoing COVID situation from a public health, programmatic, and fiscal perspective. Many necessary decisions were

made to address COVID financial concerns a year ago, such as personnel vacancy cuts to police, hiring Vintech for 24-hour ambulance coverage, using fund balance, and reducing capital spending. In these actions, and more, the Town and Board responded to the unknown. It was recognized that we would need to phase back in some of these decisions. Now inflation will be a new unanticipated impact. So between COVID and inflation, this will be a very difficult budgeting year. Both your input and understanding will be needed as we hope to enter a year of recovery. Council Chairwoman, Lisa Thomas, will be holding community office hours on the first Thursday of each month in the front parlor of the Booth & Dimock Library from 6:30 - 7:30 PM. Please drop by to share your thoughts. The annual budget hearing will be held on March 10 at 7 PM, which will provide the community with an opportunity to participate in the budget process.

As you are aware, COVID and new strains have not yet given up. Please consider vaccinations and boosters, as well as safe practices. Your actions may impact the health of others.

A few quick items:

- Adopted Town Council goals are available [online](#) and will be included in the upcoming Town newsletter.
- The Rt. 44/Swamp Road intersection project is underway, with site work and prep work over the winter and pavement next spring. This is a 100% grant except for some upgrades to more decorative traffic poles ... but we convinced the State to fund the new Northfields Road connector which was included in our recent bonding package, so we will be ahead of original budget estimates.

The winter newsletter will have a lot more news on projects. Watch for it in your mailboxes in mid-January. Over the next month, we plan on hiring a new Building Official and Collector of Revenue to replace Joe Callahan and Linda Greenbacker, who are retiring December 31. Thanks to both of them for their dedicated decades of service. The Police Chief recruitment will be starting soon, with a brief community survey on the attributes of leadership that the community feels the new Chief should possess. Details to come. In several months, the Police Department will follow up with a more in-depth survey on the whole department in conjunction with the reaccreditation process. These results will assist the new chief.

The Coventry Economic Development Commission will be ringing in the New Year by running an Employee Recognition Campaign to recognize local employees for their outstanding service to customers in Coventry. From January 1, 2022, through March 1, 2022, nominations will be open to the public to nominate employees who go above and beyond. The top recognized employees will be awarded with a certificate of recognition, a photo op and will be featured on the Town of Coventry's website. This is an initiative to recognize the value of buying local. Please take a minute to nominate someone you feel is deserving of this recognition, it could make their whole year. The survey can be found at [Coventry Employee Recognition Nomination Survey \(surveymonkey.com\)](#) or via

the QR code above. Please reach out to Pamela Rochette at tmintern@coventryct.org with any questions you may have about this program.

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS:

Friday, 12/31: New Year's Holiday. Town offices closed. Trash pick-up on [regular schedule](#) [<https://www.coventryct.org/DocumentCenter/View/4255/Annual-COVRRA-calendar?bidId=>].

Saturday, 1/1: New Year's Day. Transfer Station closed.

Monday, 1/17: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Town offices closed. Trash pick-up on [regular schedule](#) [<https://www.coventryct.org/DocumentCenter/View/4255/Annual-COVRRA-calendar?bidId=>].



UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS:

- Mon, 1/3: [Town Council](#), 7:30 PM
- Mon, 1/10: [Planning & Zoning Commission](#), 7 PM
- Thurs, 1/13: [Board of Education](#), 7:30 PM
- Tues, 1/18: Town Council, 7:30 PM
- Mon, 1/24: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7 PM
- Thurs, 1/27: Board of Education, 7:30 PM

For a complete monthly calendar of other Board & Commission events, click [here](https://www.coventryct.org/calendar.aspx?CID=14) [<https://www.coventryct.org/calendar.aspx?CID=14>].



[Learn how to ice fish and enjoy the outdoors this winter.](#)

COMING EVENTS:

Weds 1/5: **Mobile Foodshare**, 10-10:30 AM, First Congregational Church @ St. Mary's, 1600 Main Street. An outdoor food distribution service for persons of low income. Text FOODSHARE to 85511 to receive the mobile schedule and cancellations directly on your phone. More [info](#) [https://secure3.convio.net/fdshr/site/DocServer/2021_Mobile_Foodshare_Calendar.pdf?docID=10784].

Thurs 1/6: **Town Council Chairwoman office hours**, 6:30-7:30 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, front parlor. Share your thoughts with Chairwoman Lisa Thomas on the first Thursday of the month.

Fri 1/7: **Quiet Corner Contra Dance**, 8-11 PM, Patriots Park Lodge, 172 Lake Street. Intro session at 7:245 PM. Live music by Becky Tracy and Keith Murphy. Partner not required; all dances taught. COVID restrictions apply - see [website](https://www.hcdance.org/quiet-corner-contra/) [<https://www.hcdance.org/quiet-corner-contra/>] for details. \$12 adults, \$6 students. [Email](mailto:knowdj@aol.com) [<http://knowdj@aol.com>] for Info or call 860-742-9498.

Sun 1/9: **Coventry Winter Farmers' Market**, 10 AM - 12:30 PM, Patriots Park Lodge, 172 Lake Street. The vendors you know and love are keeping their tractor wheels rolling through the winter with Connecticut farm-fresh products, artisan specialty foods, handmade crafts and services. [Website](https://www.coventrywinterfarmersmarket.com/) [<https://www.coventrywinterfarmersmarket.com/>].

Sat 1/15: **Drive-thru/take-out Dinner**, Second Congregational Church, 1746 Boston Turnpike. Menu: turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce & dessert. \$14 adults, \$7 child. Place orders at 860-742-1616, or [email](mailto:secondchurch@sbcglobal.net?subject=Pork%20Roast%20Dinner) [<mailto:secondchurch@sbcglobal.net?subject=Pork%20Roast%20Dinner>] and indicate pick-up time of 5, 5:30, or 6 PM. Correct amount of cash or check is required. Drive down from church parking lot to the Community House located across from Highland Park.

Sun 1/16: **Coventry Winter Farmers' Market**, 10 AM - 12:30 PM, Patriots Park Lodge, 172 Lake Street. The vendors you know and love are keeping their tractor wheels rolling through the winter with Connecticut farm-fresh

products, artisan specialty foods, handmade crafts and services. [Website \[https://www.coventrywinterfarmersmarket.com/\]](https://www.coventrywinterfarmersmarket.com/).

Weds 1/19: **Mobile Foodshare**, 10-10:30 AM, First Congregational Church @ St. Mary's, 1600 Main Street. An outdoor food distribution service for persons of low income. Text FOODSHARE to 85511 to receive the mobile schedule and cancellations directly on your phone. More [info \[https://secure3.convio.net/fdshr/site/DocServer/2021_Mobile_Foodshare_Calendar.pdf?docID=10784\]](https://secure3.convio.net/fdshr/site/DocServer/2021_Mobile_Foodshare_Calendar.pdf?docID=10784).

Weds 1/19: **Acupressure for Relief and Wellness! With Instructor Joe Pandolfo, Certified Acupuncture Detoxification Specialist. Part 1 of a 2 part mini-series.**

11:30 AM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Learn the history of a 5-point therapy system that's used for relief & wellness in health programs throughout the world. Get a feel for easing our own everyday stress with simple acupressure techniques like gentle tapping & self-massage. Call 860-742-3525 to register.

Weds 1/19: **Writing for Fun – Writers Group**, 1 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. All genres & all levels welcome – fiction, poetry, memoir, other non-fiction. This newly-formed writers group is a safe open place to share, with discussion focusing on what the words on the page will accomplish. More info: 860-742-3525.

Sat 1/23: **Family Ice Fishing Class and Practice**, 9 AM - noon, Lisicke Beach, corner of Cheney Lane and Rt. 31. Ice fishing is a great way to enjoy time outdoors, while getting some fresh air and exercise with family and friends during the winter. The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection - Connecticut Aquatic Resources Education (CARE) program offers a FREE in-depth ice fishing class that introduces you to this fun wintertime event. Registration is required for both a pre-requisite ZOOM instructional class and the on-ice fishing class. See details and registration links on the [Parks & Recreation catalog \[https://secure.rec1.com/CT/coventry-ct/catalog\]](https://secure.rec1.com/CT/coventry-ct/catalog).

Sun 1/23: **Coventry Winter Farmers' Market**, 10 AM - 12:30 PM, Patriots Park Lodge, 172 Lake Street. The vendors you know and love are keeping their tractor wheels rolling through the winter with Connecticut farm-fresh products, artisan specialty foods, handmade crafts and services. [Website \[https://www.coventrywinterfarmersmarket.com/\]](https://www.coventrywinterfarmersmarket.com/).

Mon 1/24: **Paint your own ceramic mug** with Mill Court Ceramics, 11:30 AM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. \$20; no supplies needed. *All projects will be taken back to the studio and fired!* RSVP is required for supplies, 860-742-3525.

Tues 1/25: **Book Club**, 11:30 AM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street, *Stations Eleven* by Emily St. John Mandel; RSVP to 860-742-3525; copies of book available at the Booth & Dimock Library.

Thurs 1/27: **Open House**, 9:30 - 11 AM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Come tour the Senior Center and learn all about our services and programs.

Sat 1/29: **15th Anniversary Celebration**, 9 AM - 1 PM, Noah's Closet, 1746 Boston Turnpike. Story time and refreshments. Store open on Tuesdays 9 -11 AM and Saturdays 9 AM - 1 PM. Donations of winter clothes are welcome on those days. Info: 860-742-1616.

Sun 1/30: **Coventry Winter Farmers' Market**, 10 AM - 12:30 PM, Patriots Park Lodge, 172 Lake Street. The vendors you know and love are keeping their tractor wheels rolling through the winter with Connecticut farm-fresh products, artisan specialty foods, handmade crafts and services. [Website \[https://www.coventrywinterfarmersmarket.com/\]](https://www.coventrywinterfarmersmarket.com/).

Mon 1/31: **Free Movie Monday**, 11 AM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Featuring: *Downton Abbey* the Movie, RSVP is appreciated at 860-742-3525.



ASSISTANCE:

Clergy Fuel Fund ~ [The Clergy Fuel Fund](https://www.coventryct.org/126/Human-Services) [<https://www.coventryct.org/126/Human-Services>] has begun the gift of caring for the 2021-2022 winter season. The fund has been very

successful over the years due to the tremendous generosity of our community. The fund assists Coventry residents in need of emergency heating assistance, and 100% of the dollars raised remains in town. Our goal is to help our clients utilize all other resources available that provides emergency heating assistance in order to ensure that *our* funds are available during the coldest winter months.

Energy Program ~ We are accepting energy applications for winter heating on Tuesdays and Thursdays by appointment only. Please call the office at 860-742-5324 for more information about the Access Fuel Assistance Program and income guidelines.

MORE OFFERINGS AT THE SENIOR CENTER:

Wellness Opportunities – all by appointment, only. Call 860-742-3525.

Toenail care and Manicures – Monday, January 10, 10am-noon

Haircuts by Lynn – Monday, January 17, 9-11am

Podiatric Foot Care Clinic – February 24, 9:30-11:30am

Massages with Christine – Wednesday, January 26th 10am-1pm

Fitness Schedule:

Mondays at 10am – Chair Yoga with Angie, \$5

Tuesdays at 9:15 – **Free** Exercise lead by Brenda

Wednesday at 9:30 – Tai Chi with Joe, \$5

Thursdays at 10am – Strength & Balance with Angie, \$5

New Fridays at 9:30 – **Free** Exercise lead by Brenda

NEWS FROM COVENTRY PARKS & RECREATION:

NOW HIRING! Parks and Recreation is hiring for Summer 2022 – Summer Camp Counselors, Lifeguards, Park Attendants, and Park Maintenance! The application is available on the [Town website](https://www.coventryct.org/457/Parks-Recreation)

[<https://www.coventryct.org/457/Parks-Recreation>].



New Year's Day Hike! [Register with Parks and Rec](https://secure.rec1.com/CT/coventry-ct/catalog)

[<https://secure.rec1.com/CT/coventry-ct/catalog>] for a New Year's Day Hike at Williams Preserve with Conservation Commission Chair, Eric Thomas. **FREE COMMUNITY EVENT!**

New Year's Resolution to be healthier?!?! Parks and Rec offers a variety of fitness classes [<https://secure.rec1.com/CT/coventry-ct/catalog>]; Tuesday night Tai Chi, Wednesday night yoga, Saturday morning Simply Fit.

Be on the lookout for the Winter/Spring 06238 (Coventry Parks and Rec Program Guide) arriving in your mailboxes mid-January!



NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY:

Happy New Year! The Booth & Dimock Library is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10-8, Friday 10-6, and Saturday 10-3. All visitors are requested to wear a mask. In the event of closing due to inclement weather, notice will be posted on our Facebook, website, WFSB, and WILI AM radio.

Trying to beat the winter blues? Our therapy lamps are available for circulation. Therapy lamps are designed to mimic spring and summer light levels. Reading, working, or just relaxing in front of one for 20-30 minutes a day has shown to lessen the effects of the winter blues.

Take & Make programs, including our ongoing Spice Club and Tea Explorers, will be available on a monthly basis. Visit, call, or check the web to see what January's offerings will entail.

For in-person children's programs, mark your calendars for the following events!

Friday 1/7 at 11AM – **Science Explorers: Ice, Ice, Science!** Our popular Science Explorers series is now being offered in person. Join just for this chilly program where we learn all about ice!

Tuesday 1/11 at 11AM – **Imagination Station.** A storytime and free art program. This program promotes the use and development of the imagination as we read stories and create with themed art supplies.

Friday 1/21 at 11AM – **Music & Movement.** Does your child love to dance it out? Join us for a fun program where we explore instruments, dance, song, and really get the wiggles out!

Friday 1/28 at 11AM – **Messy Munchkins.** Join us at our messy stations! Participants can explore freely in this sensory focused program. Play clothes are recommended.

Booth & Dimock Memorial Library
1134 Main Street
860-742-7606
www.coventrypl.org [<http://www.coventrypl.org>]
Facebook @BDLibrary





COVER PHOTO:

The Willimantic River below the Eagleville Dam.
Photo by Laura Stone.

To list your event in this bulletin, contact Laura Stone at L.Stone@coventryct.org [<mailto:L.Stone@coventryct.org>] by the 15th of the previous month.

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