January-March 2023



Coventry Chronicles

The quarterly newsletter for the Coventry Homeowners Association in Yorktown, VA



Featured This Month

- 3 From The President's Desk
- **4** Newly Voted Board Members
- 6 Holiday Fun
- 8 Critter Corner

The Verdict is In!

With our fabulous new look of the Coventry Quarterly Newsletter we wanted to know if you would prefer an online only, web-based version of the newsletter to save on costs OR prefer a quarterly paper copy delivered by volunteers to your home. We received your feedback with mixed results and no strong opinions towards having a web-based only newsletter. This being the case, we will continue to provide a paper copy to your home and post a copy on the Coventry HOA website.

This quarter, we want to give a special thanks to the Nomination/Election Committee who worked tirelessly to find new individuals, dedicated to all aspects of the Coventry HOA to run for the Master HOA Board. Everyone during the annual meeting and vote particularly admired the addition of the Candidates Brochure created by Julia Pipeling (Smithy Glen).

That being said, congratulations and welcome Julianne Post (Justinian Grove), Jiselle Anderson (Smithy Glen) and Ruthann Grabwoski (Faison Green) to the Master HOA Board. Check out page four to see some of the candidate brochure bios of our new board members.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Coventry HOA

President: Tony Collins, Presson Arbor Treasurer: Randy Wojcik, Davis Forge Director: Julianne Post, Justinian Grove Director: Jiselle Anderson, Smithy Glen Director: Ruthann Grabowski, Faison Green

Smithy Glen HOA

President: Robert Fitzmaurice Vice President: Ron Moore Treasurer: Ann Goodwin Secretary: Shana Steiner Director: Mary Ann Dawson

Ferguson Glade HOA

President: Marcus Carasquero Vice President: Sue Crandall Treasurer: David Dierburger Secretary: Theresa Swartzbaugh

Director: JT Moore

Finch Terrace HOA

President: Joe Klingshirn Vice President: Elizabeth Plyer

Treasurer: Sam Mabry

Office Staff

Annette Sauer Rachael Falls

Upcoming CHOA Meetings

Meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of the month at 7 pm at the Coventry Clubhouse (check Facebook for any date changes) and are open to all residents.. Homeowners are welcome and encouraged to attend.

CONTACT US

Coventry Homeowners Association 100 Wrought Iron Bend Yorktown, VA 23693

Office Hours Tuesday through Friday 10am-5pm

Phone: 757-867-9200

Email: Coventryhoa@verizon.net

Fax: 757-766-0249

https://coventryhoaofyorktown.org

https://facebook.com/Coventry/NeighborhoodHOA

https://facebook.com/groups/Coventrywatch

COMMITTEES

Architectural Review

Chairperson: Guy Hagen, Justinian Grove

Andy Burleson, Presson Arbor Gary Cusack, Justian Grove

Theresa Swartzbaugh, Ferguson Glade

Beautification

Chairperson: Stephen Orlando, Justinian Grove

Jamie Lequeux, Ferguson Bend John Payne, Ferguson Glade Julianne Post, Justian Grove Terry Zodda, Smithy Glen

Amanda Sherwood, Smithy Glen

Lake and Storm Water Management

Vacant

Newsletter

Jiselle Anderson, Smithy Glen

Food Truck Liason

Melissa Rogne, Smithy Glen

Social and Recreation

Karoline Ardis, Ferguson Glen

Social Media

Lisa Woodman, Faison Green Teiko Soova, Smithy Glen Beth Plyler, Finch Terrace Debra Klingshirn, Finch Terrace John Rogne, Smithy Glen Rob Fitzmaurice, Smithy Glen Julianne Post, Justinian Grove

IMPORTANT LOCAL NUMBERS

Suicide Crisis Lifeline: 988 YORK COUNTY POLICE

Emergency:911

Non-emergency 757-890-3621 Sherrif's Office: 757-890-3621 YORK COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Emergency: 911

Non-emergency: 757-890-9631

DOMINION VIRGINIA POWER OUTAGE

Report Outages: 888-667-3000

YORK COUNTY RECYCLING: 757-890-3780



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all Coventry Homeowners

"WOW," it's almost time to say goodbye to 2022. As we prepare for the New Year, I would like to ask that everyone put their thinking caps on and allow your imagination to venture into ways that we might improve our community.

As your president, I do apologize for the many problems that have been created based on the virus and the challenges that the virus has created within all businesses and service providers. 2021 and 2022 have been a real challenge for our community based on the employee challenges that our pool vendor and lawn maintenance vendor, who we rely on for services, have faced. We are presently looking at the possibility of bringing both services in-house in order to give us better control over the services.

Our community holds a "FREE" Zumba class every Thursday night for ages 12 and up from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Overhead lighting has been installed at the tennis and pickle ball courts at Harvest Lake which provides opportunity for residents to use those courts until 9:00 p.m. In the last few years, Zumba and pickle ball have become very popular and successful in bringing people together. I encourage you to check out these two activities our community offers. They are a great addition to your fitness regimen, as well as being great fun.

I would be remiss if I did not thank the many volunteers that give their time, dedication and passion to improving and making a difference in our community. In my 40 years involved in community service, I must say I feel so blessed to be part of the Coventry team of volunteers. It is the variety of ideas, the mixture of various talents, the willingness to give, the desire for improvement, and a heart to serve, that produces such a successful team. The more people we have like that, the more we can accomplish. Come join the team . . . We need YOU!

Please accept this letter as an invitation to join your Board at each monthly Homeowners Meeting starting at 7:00 p.m. Your ideas and your opinion will be very much appreciated and helpful in making a real difference within our Coventry community.

Thank you all for the opportunity to serve you. Your feedback is beneficial and necessary in helping your Board find solutions to your concerns.

Merry Christmas to you all,

Tony D. Collins Sr.
President, Coventry Homeowners Association

288 Meet Your Newly Voted Board Members



Julianne Post

Julie has been serving on the Master Board as Director since April, 2022. [She] has strived to increase communication between the board, the staff, and the community. [She with rest of the board] have started to create systems that will help make things more accessible, user friendly for all, and create efficiency in tasks for the long term. When [she] is not volunteering, [she] enjoys being a business owner and mom to two beautiful kids. [She] is grateful that [her] background in business, [her] degrees in business, and [her] experience can be helpful to the community





Jiselle Anderson

Jiselle wants to utilize [her] background as a social worker with work experience in communications, quality assurance, and compliance to cultivate a greater sense of cohesion. This can be done by making HOA regulations and bylaws living and clear documents. searchable. continuously updated and clear in understanding. By doing this the community can better understand actions taken by the HOA. while at the same time keep the HOA itself accountable. [She] also wants to cultivate a greater community spirit through social media and outreach programs



Ruthann Grabowski

Ruthanne has been a Coventry Homeowner for 30 years, raised her children and now her grandchildren here. She has more than 35 years working with the federal government, with a Masters Degree in Social Work. Ruthann is interested in making amenities more accessible and affordable to residents. She is willing to speak up and speak out, as well as listen and fairly consider information and concerns brought to the board, and use [her] skills, knowledge and ability to bring about acceptable resolutions.



Community and Local Events

January 2023

- 5, 12, 19, 26 FREE Coventry Zumba, either at the Harvest Lake Tennis Court/Clubhouse depending on weather, 6:30- 7:30 pm
- 1 Last evening of Celebration of Lights and Lights at the Fountain in Newport News
- 8 Sensory Sunday at The Children's Living Museum. Portsmouth, Every 2nd Sunday of the month, 9:00 am -12:00 pm
- 9 Coventry HOA Meeting for all residents, 7 pm @ Clubhouse
- 10 Ferguson Glade HOA meeting Mtg, 7 pm @ Clubhouse
- 12 Tabb Library: Family Story Time (Snuggle Stories) for children of all ages and a parent or caregiver at 7:00 pm
- 14 Free star gazing at the Virginia Living Museum, 5:00 pm-10:00 pm on the second Saturday of every month (mask required)
- 24 Smithy Glen HOA Mtg, 7 pm @ Clubhouse

February 2023

- 1 Finch Terrance HOA Meeting 7 pm @ Clubhouse
- 2, 9, 16, 23 FREE Coventry Zumba, either at the Harvest Lakes Tennis Court/Clubhouse dependent on weather, 6:30-7:30 pm
- 9 Tabb Library: Family Story Time (Snuggle Stories) for children of all ages and a parent or caregiver at 7:00 pm
- 13 Coventry HOA Meeting for all residents, 7 pm @ Clubhouse
- 14 Ferguson Glade HOA Mtg, 7 pm @ Clubhouse
- 25 Professional Bull Riders at Hampton Coliseum (Hampton), 7:00 pm 9:00 pm

March 2023

- 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 FREE Coventry Zumba, either at the Harvest Lake Tennis Court/Clubhouse depending on weather, 6:30 pm -7:30 pm
- 3-5 Newport News One City Marathon Weekend
- 9 Tabb Library: Family Story Time (Snuggle Stories) for children of all ages and a parent or caregiver at 7:00 pm
- 12 The Peking Acrobats- Featuring the Shangai Circus at Ferguson Center, Newport News 3:00 pm-5:00 pm
- 13 Coventry HOA Meeting for all residents, 7 pm @ Clubhouse
- 14 Ferguson Glade HOA Mtg, 7 pm @ Clubhouse
- 28 Smithy Glen HOA Mtg, 7 pm @ Clubhouse

Current as of printing,

Please check Facebook and neighborhood marque for any schedule changes that may be necessary

Holiday Fun



There was lots of fun to be had this holiday season with so many events! Special thanks to Karoline Ardis (Ferguson Glen) for planning all the parties (Halloween Children's Party, Holiday Children's Party, and Holiday Adult Mixer). Thank you to all the volunteers that cultivated such a great atmosphere this season, including the York County Fire Department who volunteered to bring Santa Claus to Coventry.



Faison Green

1st: 103 Kathleen Place

2nd: 207 Judith Circle

Lilburne Meadows

1st: 118 Lilburne Way

2nd: 127 Lilburne Way

Justinian Grove

1st: 136 lvy Arch

2nd: 109 lvy Arch

Ferguson Glade

1st: 408 Ferguson Bend

2nd: 109 Seekright Dr.

Presson Arbor

1st: 105 Harvest Way

2nd: 112 Shorewood Trace

Davis Forge

1st: 308 Blacksmith Arch

2nd: 101 Blacksmith Arch

Finch Terrace

1st: 134 Chanticlair Dr.

2nd: 111 Chanticlair Dr.

Smithy Glen

1st: 114 Andover Ct.

2nd: 206 Andover Ct.



Covertry Beautification

The head of the Beautification Committee, Steve Orlando (Justinian Grove) introduced himself during the annual HOA meeting this past November 2022. Mr. Orlando reports he has vast experience, useful to this Beautification Committee as he owned a landscaping business for 31 years. After retiring, Mr. Orlando joined the committee and as his first act as committee leader he had the limbs hanging over the walking paths and other areas of concern removed.

This past year, the committee added LED lighting to the main entrance area giving it a fresh, vibrant look. The next plan of action is to address the benches that all need enhancements for beautification. Mr. Orlando reports he would also like to put in large, expanded flower beds in areas grass cannot grow in the near future.

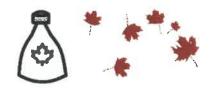
Great news for single family homes! Over the years, we have been limited to brown fences, but in case you haven't heard, single family homes are now allowed to put in approved, white fences. It brings a crisp, clean, new look to the neighborhood.

If you want to see the new, approved fence, check out the model located right outside the clubhouse. Make sure to submit a request to the Architectural Committee if you want to make a change to your fencing.

Why The Lake And Storm Water Management Committee???

Everyone is in constant discussion about the beautification of Coventry at monthly HOA meetings. What is more beautiful in our community then our lakes and ponds? We need volunteers to join the Lake and Storm Water Management Committee because we need more eyes on the ponds and lakes, their embankments, and on the pipes and structures collecting and disposing stormwater.

We need recommendations, opinions and advise on how best to approach needed areas of improvement, maintenance, and repair. As a member of the committee you would meet quarterly to advise and assist the board, at times utilizing expert advice on matters such as drainage issues. If you want a beautiful community and want to ensure it stays beautiful this is a committee to seriously consider. If interested reach out the HOA board through the HOA staff at coventryhoa@verizon.com.



Sidenote.

Thank you to all homeowners who have been making the effort to pick-up leaves from their yard. This effort makes a beautiful, clean look for the neighborhood and the hard work is appreciated.

The last York County leaf pick up is scheduled on January 16, 2023. Please do not put leaf bags on the curb after January 16, 2023.





Important Forms to Remember

Have you noticed something in the neighborhood that just doesn't seem right, for instance, a burned-out streetlight, a broken sign, or an unsafe sidewalk? If so, it's time to fill out and submit to the office a **Community Action Form (CAF)**.

If you are planning to change the look of your home in any way, please plan ahead and submit an **Exterior Alteration Application Review Form** to the office by the 5th of the month and wait for approval BEFORE YOU START THE PROJECT.

You can obtain a copy of both these forms at the office or download copies from the main Coventry HOA website (coventryhoaofyorktown.org) under the tab 'More'.



Pickball Etiquette



During open play (mixed skill-levels) as it is on the Coventry Pickball Courts, players play with all skill levels. No complaints. If you are a significantly stronger player, if you have limited time available to you, and if there is an "advanced court" option, go wait there for a stronger game. In any event, no complaining,

- 1. The Coventry Pickleball Courts exist for residents. If you are going to bring guests don't bring 10+ guests and most certainly don't bring them every week.
- 2. Never ask for, or accept, line calls from spectators.
- 3. NEVER yell at, swear at, or say a hostile or sarcastic word to your partner or your opponent in anger. We repeat, NEVER!
- 4. Play your strongest game against better players but work on stuff you need practice on with the weaker players.
- 5. Do not take advantage of a person's physical limitations when you play them socially. If someone cannot go back for a lob when they're at the line because of physical limitations, for instance, why lob over their heads?
- 6. Only give advice WHEN ASKED, if you believe that the party is really sincere about wanting it. Everybody handles this differently, but we believe we should, at that point, give no more than ONE piece of advice at a time. Let them work on that.
- 7. At the end of each game, find something positive to say to the other team at the net.

Sources: https://www.unionmissouri.gov/living_here/parks_and_recreation/docs/PB%20Etiquette%20Rules.pdf https://usapickleball.org/member-news/usa-pickleball-sportsmanship-guide/



Critter Corner American Tree Frog





Every summer I look forward to seeing two or three little cream-colored ovals stuck to my windows at night. This marks the arrival of the of the American green tree frogs and brings out the kid in me. I never saw tree frogs except in pictures until I moved to Coventry. When I was a kid, we had toads everywhere, but as an adult I rarely see any frogs or toads. This is not just by chance. The frogs and toads are some of the worlds most endangered species. Disease, habitat loss and use of chemicals – pesticides and fertilizers – are the primary causes. Virginia is working to counter habitat loss in our state by acquiring land to increase wetland areas that help support the preservation of the frogs and toads in our state.

You can order your own guide to the frogs and toads of Virginia on the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources, web page where you can get coloring sheets for the kiddos on the site via the link below. There are also links there that help teachers develop lessons.

https://dwr.virginia.gov/wp-content/uploads/frog-and-toad-coloring-sheets.pdf

Now, back to the frogs that appear on my windows during the spring and summer. While other frog species are in decline this frog is abundant, but they do face threats in some areas of their range which runs from Maryland down to Florida and west as far as Texas. Some have even been found in Oklahoma. As the name indicates they are primarily tree dwelling. They are nocturnal and sleep in the trees during the day. While they are mostly arboreal, they can be found near ponds, lakes, and streams as well. Water is important to their survival. These little green friends are the number one enemy of the mosquito. Of course, they also eat other pesky bugs like flies along with crickets and moths. Around here we need as many of these critters as possible working for us to keep down the mosquito population.

Interestingly the green tree frog is not always green. Did you know the green tree frog can be brown or gray if the frog is at rest or is cool? Well, they can, but the lime green comes back as soon as they are active again. While some people like to have these frogs as pets because they are charismatic and interesting to watch, they do not make good pets for those who are not willing to learn about their care first. Their skin is fragile and are not good pets for someone who wants something to hold.

Rainfall drives their mating habits; so much so that they have a special rain call that is different from their normal mating call. It is their sounds that we hear on a summer night singing with the crickets. Other factors also play a part in their

things like the length of the days and temperature. Breeding takes place from October to March. The females lay their fertilized eggs in shallow water and the 400 to 2000 eggs hatch in about a week's time. It generally takes another 8 to 10 weeks for the tadpoles to develop into a frog.

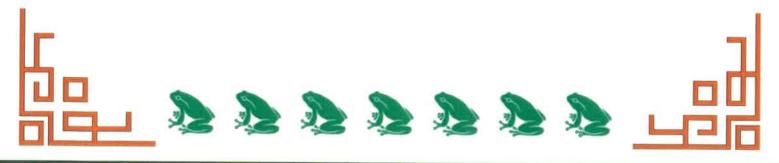
So, what are some things we can do as individuals to help our amphibian friends? Since amphibians breathe and absorb water through their skin. All the typical things we hear as important to the environment, are exceptionally important to protect as many of these bug eaters as possible:

- Having backyard ponds; these make great water features and help support amphibians and other wildlife
- Use native plant species in your landscape and other natural landscape elements provides shelter and food
- Don't release foreign species of plants or animals into the environment as they are detrimental such as the Cuban tree frogs that compete for food and sometimes eat the green tree frog
- Limit the use of pesticides

breeding and those factors are

- Avoid using bug sprays with DEET
- Keep litter, pet waste, leaves, and debris out of street gutters and storm drains
- Fertilize wisely
 - o Allow grass clippings to decompose on the lawn (this equates to two fertilizations annually)
 - Use organic fertilizers
 - o Test your soil to determine what it needs to avoid using unnecessary fertilizers
 - Water lightly after fertilizing. This ensures the fertilizers are absorbed in the soil and don't just run off or blow off.
 - Use compost for gardens

Chemicals in our waterways can cause terrible deformities in the amphibian populations like malformed legs and missing eyes. The continued health of these populations is reliant on our good stewardship. While we often don't feel like our contributions count for much, our contribution combined with the contribution of others who willing to do the same has a compounding effect and can make a huge difference. I hope to welcome these visitors on my windows during the summer months for years to come.





AND THEN JUST LEAVE YOUR OLD SHOES ON

YOUR FRONT PORCH FOR PICK-UP.

Need To Find A Location
For a Party?

The Coventry Clubhouse is available during day and evening hours from noon to midnight for private, social use by homeowners and sponsored outside social groups. Contract forms are available in the office and should be signed four weeks in advance. All charges are prepaid in advance and due at the time the contract is signed, the costs are:

- -Resident: \$275 (Includes \$75 refundable deposit)
- Non-Resident: \$475 (Includes \$75 refundable deposit)

If a party is cancelled 14 days before the scheduled event, the \$75 deposit will be refunded within 14 days. Residents will be provided a user agreement check-list so they are aware of all requirements. Alcohol is allowed, but the resident must obtain the necessary ABC license for the event.



Coventry Chronicles Advertisement Information

If you would like to get the word out about your business to the 1,028 families living in Coventry, please consider advertising in the neighborhood newsletter. It is preferred that quarter page and full-page ads be submitted in portrait format; business cards and half page ads be submitted in landscape layout. Ads must be digital ready, in pdf or jpg format, or an additional fee may apply.

The Coventry Chronicles are published four times a year. The deadlines for ad submissions are March 1st, June 1st, September 1st, and December 1st. Make checks payable to Coventry HOA. They may be dropped off at the office or mailed to: Coventry HOA, 100 Wrought Iron Bend, Yorktown VA 23693. We appreciate your support and advertisement with us.

Advertising Costs:

Business Card Size: Resident- \$30

Non-Resident-\$40

Quarter Page Size: Resident-\$40

Non-Resident- \$50

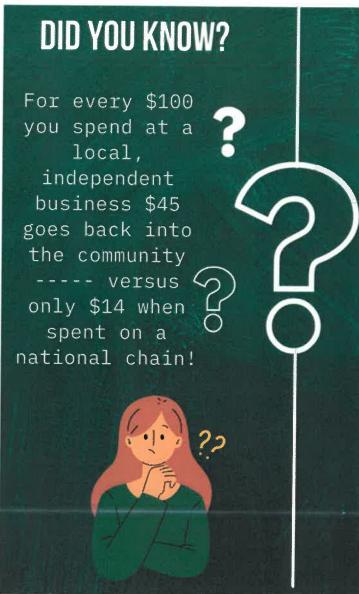
Half Page Size: Resident- \$80

Non-Resident-\$100

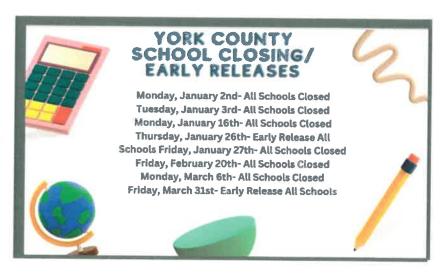
Full Page Size: Resident- \$160

Non-Resident-\$200











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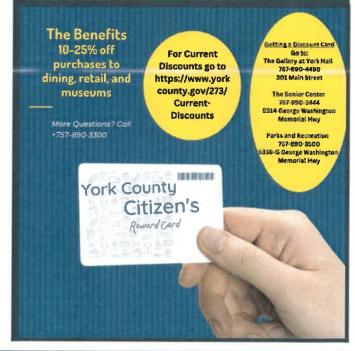
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NSIDE

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We know there's an art to creating living spaces that are functional as well as beautiful. From minor repairs to major additions and renovations, you're assured of the best concept design, materials and craftsmanship available on the market today.

- Free Estimates
- Free Design
- Free help with color selection window treatment selection
- We want to help you with every part of your remodeling project.



BATH

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OUTSIDE

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EFORE

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