



One Minute with Coventry President Gary Donley

Where are you from originally? Born in Detroit, I'm the oldest of 10 kids. We moved to Warren when I was two and lived there until age 19 when I joined the Air Force (Vietnam Veteran) as a Motion Picture Specialist. Served for three years, eight months and 17 days. Then worked for Ford Motor Company for 30 years and six months as an Executive Producer Director (with other duties as well.) My wife passed away in March of 2020 and I have a daughter, son-in-law and one grandson.

How did you end up at Coventry? In 2010 or 2011, my wife (Jackie) and I decided we needed a condo. Coventry met our needs at the time.

This is your second stint on the board. What did you learn the first time around? I believe if you want to be looked at in a good light, you should always be out and about and I always am with my dog, Stanley.

What are your goals as a board member? Get our costs down and come in on budget and hopefully not increase our HOA fees.

What at Coventry appeals to you the most? The friendships I've been able to make with a lot of folks here.

What is something about you that no one knows? I am a bona fide cinematographer/photographer. I love shooting out of helicopters. I did a Luther Vandross concert as Executive Director. I've worked with The Three Tenors and Tim Allen (comedian/actor). I shot his reel for the Johnny Carson show and worked with him on some Ford projects.

Info

• **Yard waste bags** are available at the clubhouse – free. Please do not fill them beyond 50 pounds. Place them with your normal trash for pickup. Yard waste placed curbside on any other day will not be picked up.

• **Do Not Knock Registry:** Keep unwanted salesmen and women off your doorstep. Register at www.romi.gov or by calling the City Clerk's office at 248-246-3110.

• **Be Mindful of what you Flush:** If any diapers, wipes, feminine products, etc. are found in a sewer line in a condo, the owner will be charged for the sewer call.

• **Pool passes** still available during normal pool hours:
Monday through Thursday –
11:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Friday through Sunday –
10:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Holidays: 10:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Contact Pool Manager Alexandra Stowers with any questions. stowersalexandra@gmail.com

• **Water aerobics:** 10:00 a.m., Monday through Thursday and 9:15 a.m., Friday through Sunday. \$5 per week. Direct questions or any suggestions to Pool Manager, Alexandra Stowers. stowersalexandra@gmail.com.

Message from Chairperson of Finance/Reserve Committee

I would personally like to thank Gary Donley and the rest of the current board for allowing us to start back up these two important committees.

These committees have played an important role in the past years to help forecast money expenditures and develop long term reserve projects that are funded properly and that in turn, help to stabilize our association dues.

Our goal right now as a two committees combination so we are ten members strong. We have four past presidents, nine former board members and one member who was in banking in commercial loans and service manager in secondary mortgages market.

The long-term strategy of this committee is to work together for the summer. And then in early fall, we each will have a clear path so we can split and become two independent groups. Currently, we worked on our current investments that were not earning much in interest bearing accounts. Based on the interest rates for the last couple of years, that was terrible, no matter where you invested, earned income was not beneficial.

Our first assignment was to review our investment strategy and how we could earn more capital. The board received our recommendations and voted unanimously to take our recommendation and pull all our \$1.3 million in reserves and give it to a local investment company (2nd party) that will have better ROR that we control.

Our next assignment is to review all contracts that Coventry has been using and sit down with suppliers and write contract that are in favor of Coventry, not suppliers.

Keep reading your Caller, there will be more articles that will be written explaining what we are doing and how we treat your money like it our own.

Allan Rupp
Finance/Reserve Chairperson

Finance/Reserve Committee Members

Jim Craft
Vince Antonapulos
Ed Nasrey
Mike McCombs - Board Liason
Chris Nasso
Rebecca Jaye
Ed Anderson
Rick Smith - Vice Chair
Allan Rupp - Chairperson
Nancy Wilson

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This information was inadvertently left out of the July newsletter.

Library News - Sue McCombs



Just a reminder that the Coventry library is open and we have quite a nice selection of books to choose from. We have a small non-fiction section and we are starting a children's section. We are accepting gently used paperbacks and hard covers and any children's books.

We hope to make the library, not only a place where you can read, but also a place where you can socialize and meet new friends.

If anyone would be interested in joining the library committee you can e-mail me at sem517@yahoo.com

I would like to thank Nancy Wilson for her donation of a floor lamp to the library and I would like to thank Ann Massucci for her donation of the alphabet board to the library.

Thank you and have a great summer.

Residential Lock Box Program

The Royal Oak Fire Department has a unique program that helps both the First Responder and home owner. It's purpose is to expedite access to a citizen's residence and reduce the likelihood of property damage that would be caused by the response team if they had to force their way into a home to answer an emergency call.



A person calling 911 after suffering a fall, heart attack, or stroke might not be able to open their door. When firefighters arrive every second counts and without a lock box they would have to break through a door or window to gain entrance or waste valuable time.

The program is open to Royal Oak residents who live alone or are left alone on a regular basis and have a condition which may result in need of immediate assistance due to being incapacitated or unconscious. Residents that qualify include elderly, physically handicapped or those recovering from major surgery or injury.

To learn more, call ROFD (248) 346-3800.

Message from Coventry Vice President - Bill Marino

Coventry Summer



Summer is upon us and there are many new changes at Coventry. We have a New Board which includes four members of the Old Board. But before welcoming the new Board Members, we would like to give a special thank you to the departing Board Members: Anne Pereira, Zoe Harris, and Lynne Ford, who have worked so hard to make our community a better place.

In addition, we would like to thank Roger Oipari who is handing over the Caller duties to current Board Member Mark Stowers. Finally, we thank all of the volunteers and workers who try so hard to improve our daily lives here.

Congratulations to Gary Donley (President), Mike McCombs (Treasurer), and Ann Massucci on their election to the New Board and Mark Stowers for his re-election. They will be serving for 4 years and we will all be working together to harmonize the beauty of our homesteads, landscaping, pool, etc.

The Pool and Clubhouse area is very busy these days and a Board Member can usually be found there to help co-owners with their needs and desires. If not, some Board Members have listed their email addresses in the Caller and they are at your service.

If any Co-owner is interested in serving our community, there are several Committees searching for volunteers and new ideas are always welcome.

All the best, William Marino – Vice President -
wddmarino@tiscali.it

Please submit any story or content ideas to Coventry-Stowers@gmail.com. If you'd like to write, copy edit, design or help sell ads, please send an email!



Don't forget there will be a "Coventry ParkHomes Town Hall Meeting"

at the Clubhouse on Wednesday July 20, 2022 at 6 pm.



Join Board Members, Committee Chairpersons,
and Coventry Co-Owners for brief presentations,
followed by open discussions with Q & A sessions.

AGENDA for the Town Hall Meeting

- 5:30 pm** *Munch and mingle* with Co-Owners/Renters.
Light snacks & refreshments donated by Co-Owners will be served.
- 6 pm** **Town Hall Meeting kick off** - Facilitated by President Gary Donley
- Pool Committee Chairperson** - Eniko Fischer & open Q&A
- Pool Manager** - Alexandra Stowers & open Q&A
- Social Club Chairperson** - Zoe Harris & open Q&A
- Clubhouse Committee Chairperson** - Daniela Marino & open Q&A
- Communications/Coventry Caller Editor** - Mark Stowers & open Q&A
- Coventry Caller/Website Liaison-Chairperson** - Chris Nasso & open Q&A
- Reserve Committee Chairperson** - Allan Rupp & open Q&A
- Finance Committee Chairperson** - Ed Nasrey & open Q&A
- A Management Company or Self-Management or Hybrid ?**
 Gary Donley and William Marino & open Q&A
- 8 pm** **Adjournment** (*or earlier*)

Co-Owners, your help tidying up after the event would be greatly appreciated.

Please remember, the maximum capacity by law in the Clubhouse Hall room is 100 people.

Special thanks from Gary Donley to Daniela Marino for assistance in the production of this flyer.

This and That and Then Some

At the June Board Meeting, there was a mention of a co-owner smoking marijuana in their backyard - limited common element. Though nothing wrong legally, the concern was neighbors with small children. Be a good neighbor, take care of yourself but look out for others. Smoke and toke on your own but please be mindful.

The Library Committee is on the lookout for volunteers. Contact Sue McCombs if interested.

Board Meetings are now “Hybrid Zoom” meaning we have an “in-person” meeting everyone is invited to attend and we broadcast the meeting over Zoom for those co-owners who prefer to attend the meeting virtually. There is also a “Call In” option - check your meeting announcement email.

We are working to smooth out the audio and video glitches.

If you have experience and ideas about equipment, please contact Mark Stowers at 248.298.9444 or CoventryStowers@gmail.com.

The Coventry Community Picnic was well attended on July 3rd. Delicious dishes were shared and co-owners became friends and neighbors. Let's keep building community. Thanks to everyone who volunteered and made this spectacular event happen. If you have any photos of the picnic, please email or text them (CoventryStowers@gmail.com / 248.298.9444) and we'll try to publish them next month.



Pool Happenings

The Pool Committee will be holding a meeting on July 13, Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. in person in the Clubhouse.

This meeting is open to all interested co-owners. We are looking for everyone's input and ideas and help with the pool party on Sunday August 21!

Agenda:

1. Pool Topics discussion
 - a. Repair status
 - b. Attendant duties
 - c. Miscellaneous topics
2. Pool Improvement Project List
 - a. Discussion
 - b. List due to Board for evaluation and budgeting by September
3. Pool Party
 - a. NEW DATE: August 21, Sunday
 - b. Start/End time
 - c. Food/Drinks/Supplies
 - d. Tables/Chairs
 - e. Decorations
 - f. Games
 - g. Fundraising



Pool News

Pool Manager Alexandra Stowers

Summer has been off to a great start and pool usage is at an all-time high!

It's lovely to enjoy the peaceful mornings and experience the fun and laughs in the afternoon. If you haven't had a chance to use the pool yet we encourage you to do so.

If you still need to get your pool pass you can do so anytime the pool is open. All you have to do is bring a photo ID with your Coventry address. The attendant at the pool will have you sign the pool rules, fill out the household information sheet and will make up your card for you.

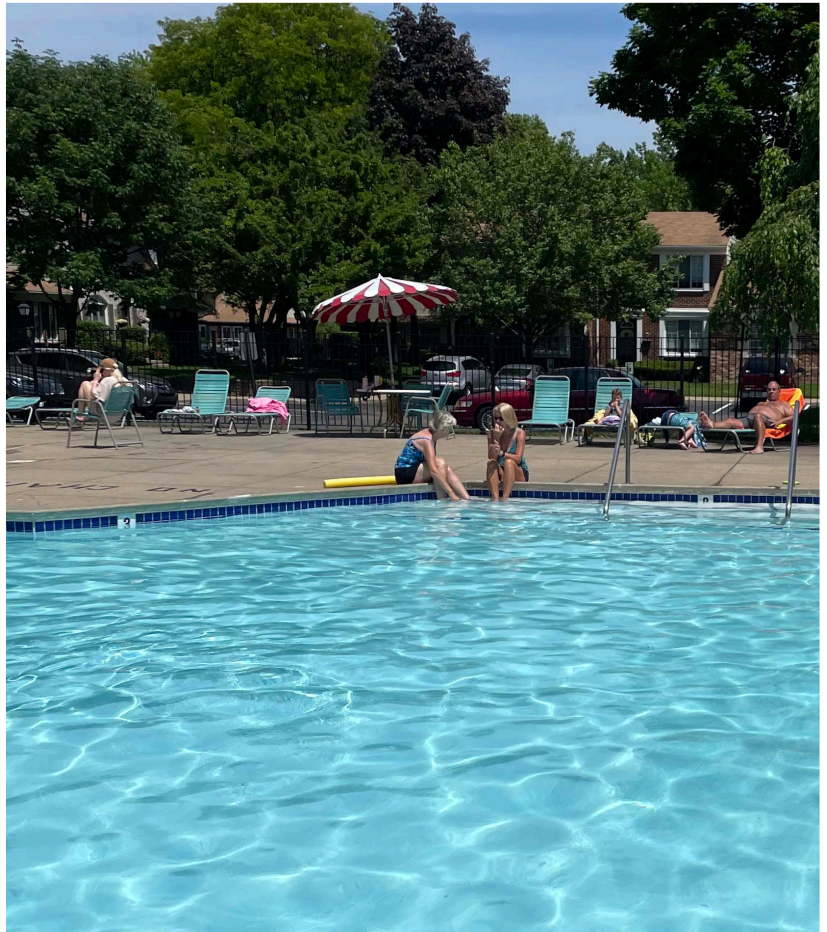
The pool hours are Monday-Thursday 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Friday through Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

New Rule in Affect

According to Coventry pool rules, residents 15 years old or older may come to the pool without an adult present. We will now be issuing a different color pool pass to any unit with a 15-17 year old. To obtain the new pass, the parent or legal guardian should come and sign the updated pool rules acknowledging that the child is at least 15 years old.

The child will also sign the pool rules. Please bring your 2022 pool pass with you.

Unaccompanied minors will not be allowed in the pool until their parent or legal guardian has obtained the new pool pass.



Two of the five pool lights have been replaced with LED lights creating a more welcoming atmosphere for night swimming.





Calling on Pool Enthusiasts and all Co-owners and residents who like to mingle
to join us for food, drinks, games, and fun!

August 21, Sunday starting at 2:00 p.m.
outside the Pool in the Park

**Let's be
Neighborly!**

DO YOU KNOW HOW TO DRIVE IN DETROIT????? - Anne Pereira

Detroit Driving Tips

1. First, you must learn to pronounce the city name. It's Di-troit. NOT DEE-troit. If you pronounce it DEE-Troit then we will assume you are from Toledo.
2. Forget the traffic rules you learned elsewhere. Detroit has its own version of traffic rules... Hold on and pray.
3. The morning rush hour is from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. The evening rush hour is from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Friday's rush hour starts Thursday morning. Weekends are open game.
4. If you actually stop at a yellow light, you will be rear-ended, cussed out. If you're first off the starting line when the light turns green, count to five before going. This will avoid getting in the way of cross-traffic who just ran their yellow light. BUT, be prepared to have the person behind you lay on the horn the instant the light turns green.
5. Schoenherr can only be properly pronounced by a native of the Detroit metro area. That goes for Gratiot too. Schoenherr is pronounced SHAY NER. Gratiot is pronounced, GRASH IT.
6. Construction and renovation on I-94, I-96, I-75, I-275, I-375, The Lodge and Southfield freeways are a way of life. Just deal with it. There are two seasons in Detroit; winter and construction.
7. If someone actually has their turn signal on, it is probably a factory defect, or they are from out of town.
8. The minimum acceptable speed on I-696 is 85 regardless of the posted speeds. Anything less is considered downright sissy. Don't even think of allowing more than one car length between cars. If you do, you will immediately get cut off when someone quickly squeezes into the opening before you can even blink. Inevitably they will also repeatedly hit their brakes and most likely go slow.
9. If you are in the left lane, and only going 70 in a 60 mph zone, people are not waving because they are so friendly in Detroit.
10. I-275 / I-696 is our daily version of NASCAR.
11. It's not M-10, it's "The Lodge".
12. That's not a lake, it's a pothole.
13. If someone tells you it's on Outer Drive, you better have a map.
14. The left turn is simple. If you want to turn left, go a 1/4 of a mile past your turn, get to the left, then make a left, then make a right. Now you have gone left.
15. The roads are like the surface of the moon. Craters and potholes are landmarks and tourist attractions. Some have been there so long that they have names, road signs and are listed on Google maps.

Sidenotes:

5 mile turns into Fenkell, 6 mile turns into McNichols, 8 mile turns into Baseline and Vernier at opposite ends, 15 mile turns into Maple.

16 mile turns into Big Beaver and becomes Metro Parkway, then Quarton, somewhere along the way.

17 mile turns into Wattles

18 mile turns into Long Lake

19 mile turns into Square Lake

20 mile turns into Hall Road and then Highland Rd., before it becomes M-59

Main street starts as "Main Street" and turns into Livernois & Rochester for no apparent reason.

If someone tells you to take "75 South to Detroit" make sure you merge onto 375 or you'll end up in Toledo.

Good Luck!

During the last blackout on Wickham, I stepped outside to a street teeming with clusters of people chatting animatedly. Don't wait for an emergency to mingle with neighbors. The Welcome Committee invites you to "Let's Be Neighborly!!"

Look at the list of summer events and join the festivities.

Daniela Marino – The Welcome Committee

Meet Your Neighbor Summer

Did you know being neighborly not only creates a pleasant environment to live in, but can also save money for a community? Studies show, when neighbors know each other and communicate freely - complaints decrease - freeing up the Board and the management company to focus on improving the community for the benefit of all.

The Welcome Committee invites you to "Let's be neighborly!!!" Have a great summer.

Coventry is declaring July and August "Meet Your Neighbor" Months



"Smile and say Hi" – all summer long

- Summer months are perfect to get to know your neighbors as we are all out and about more. When you see neighbors – say Hello, introduce yourself and chat for a minute if you both have time!

"Community Picnic" – July 3, 1pm

- Come join us in the park for Potluck, fun, and games.
- organized by the Social Club



"Coventry ParkHomes Town Hall Meeting"

- at the Club House on July 20, 6 pm

- Join us for brief presentations, open discussion, and Q&A.
- light snacks & refreshments donated by co-owners will be served at 5.30 pm
- organized by the Clubhouse Committee and facilitated by President Gary Donley

"Pool Party" – August 13, 2 pm

- Come join us at the festively decorated pool for some refreshments served outside the pool area.
- organized by the Pool Committee



"Block Party" – various dates

- Encouraging all to revive the old Coventry tradition of block parties where small groups of neighbors meet for a chat and share food and drinks.
- organized by grassroots co-owner groups

Keep an eye out for more info and specific flyers for each event!

Do you have an idea to promote being neighborly? Email CoventryIdeas@hotmail.com

All parties are funded by co-owner donations of money, decorations, food, and drinks.



Coventry's Rodent Issues - IRM Margie Elzerman - Community Association Manager

A co-owner recently contacted me about the rodent issues at Coventry. I'd like to share my response to that co-owner with the entire community.

Many factors contribute to Coventry's rodent problem.

1. A co-owner who removes the rodent traps because she is trapping feral cats her own way.
2. Co-owners who set food out to feed feral cats.
3. Co-owners who insist on putting out bird feeders.
4. The neighboring community's dumpsters directly behind the wall of Cara Ct., Shire Ct., and Newporte Ct. The dumpsters are a huge contributing factor that the city of Royal Oak won't do anything about.
5. Decks missing proper skirting, which allows rats and other unwanted wildlife to nest under the decks.
6. Co-owners who continue to keep trash cans on their patios, even after multiple violations and fines.
7. A co-owner on the social media site "Nextdoor" who encourages co-owners to store their trash outside, saying the city of Royal Oak ordinances allow trash cans outside at Coventry. However, our deed restrictions override city ordinances, and our deed restrictions say no trash outside. Storing trash outside is a violation that prevents neighboring co-owners from enjoying their space.

Note: The Michigan Court of Appeals recently held that deed restrictions establish contractual obligations that a municipality cannot impair through its ordinances. Deed restrictions are separate from a municipality's authority to regulate property and both the deed restrictions and the municipality's ordinances may be enforced. So, while the municipality of Royal Oak may permit trash receptacles to be stored within the rear yard setback, the deed restrictions for Coventry ParkHomes Condominium Association do not permit those actions.

With that being said....

- Management submits work orders to rodent control vendors with a directive to trap, kill and remove the rats.
- The Board, Management and Maintenance are constantly inspecting and looking for trash violators. However, we cannot do it alone. It is imperative that trash be kept inside units and off patios. If someone sees a trash can out, please (I beg everyone to please) take a photo and report it on the In Rhodes Management website with the address so a violation letter and demand for removal can be sent.
- Please share the information I have provided here regarding trash outside with your neighbors. If you are on "Nextdoor," "neighbor" share it there. We need to do everything we can to help slow the rampant rat issue so everyone in the community can enjoy their patios and the common areas.

Non-compliant co-owners who feed cats, feed birds, do not properly maintain their decks, and store trash outside are largely responsible for Coventry's excessive pest control expenses, which impact everyone in the association. The Board and Management are working together to send violation letters to and levy fines against non-compliant co-owners until they become compliant.

No one likes to be the bad guy. But we all want all co-owners to be able to enjoy this community.

A reminder about our “pets” policy

It's illegal to permit your pet to deposit poop in any place other than the premises where the animal is harbored.

Basically, your pet must leave its droppings at home or you must transport them back there. No exceptions, no excuses. It's simply a matter of respecting other co-owners.

If you have a complaint about a pet, email a written, signed complaint to margie@inrhodes.com with:

1. the date(s) and time(s) of the pet violation (if possible, take a photo of the pet in the act of the violation), and
2. The address where the pet lives.

Mark Your Calendar

July: Community rummage sale

October 30: Sunday, Halloween gathering

December 14: Wednesday, annual Holiday Party

Questions? Call Zoe Harris, 707-815-0210.

COVENTRY REALTY

Information courtesy of co-owner Kathy Haack, Max Broock Realtors

ACTIVE:

None

PENDING:

4936 Coventry 3 Bedroom, 1.1 Bath
1,280-square feet - \$230,000.

4954 Coventry 3 Bedroom, 2.1 Bath
1,480-square feet - \$185,000.

1854 Torquay 3 Bedroom, 2.1 Bath
1,480-square feet - \$234,900.

1901 Wickham 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath, ranch
878-square feet - \$218,000.



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COVENTRY PARKHOMES

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reception@inrhodes.com • coventrypark.org

Office hours by appt. Clubhouse open 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Board of Directors

President: Gary Donley

Vice President: William Marino

Secretary: Alexandra Stowers

Treasurer: Michael McCombs

Directors: Ann Massucci, Chris Nasso, Mark Stowers, Renee Wattenberg

Committees/Clubs

Caller. Board Liaison and Chairperson, Chris Nasso. Mark Stowers

Clubhouse/Library. Board Liaison: Renee Wattenberg. Library Chairperson, Sue McCombs. Daniela Marino, Al Rupp, Kathy Rupp, Susanne Jacobson, Geraldine Pasquinelli

Garden/Landscaping. Board Liaison: William Marino. Chairperson, Mary Johnston. Beverly Arnold, Jacqueline Duskey, Bonnie Erickson, Lynne Ford, Daniela Marino, Doug Stone, Kathy Thornton, Sharon Wetherington

Welcoming. Board Liaison and Chairperson, William Marino. Gary Donley, Daniela Marino

Pool. Board Liaison: Renee Wattenberg. Chairperson, Eniko Fischer. Laura Carey, Andrea Dell, Daniela Marino, Trish Smith, Peg Smith, Mark Stowers. Pool Supervisor, Alex Stowers. Contact: *coventryIdeas@hotmail.com*

Social. Board Liaison: Ann Massucci. Chairperson, Zoe D. Harris. Sharon Wetherington, Bonnie Erickson, Ann Massucci, Penny Cottrill, Julie Bommarito, Kate Walsh

Election. Board Liaison: Renee Wattenberg. Kathy Rupp, Al Rupp

Finance/Reserve. Board Liaison: Michael McCombs. Chairperson, Al Rupp

Website. Board liaison and Chairperson: Chris Nasso

Communications. Board Liaison: Mark Stowers. Chairperson, Anne Pereira

Policy Handbook. Board Liaison: Chris Nasso. Chairperson, Ann Massucci

Compliance: Board Liaison and Chairperson: Gary Donley

In Rhodes Management

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