



WOODS WATCH

The Official Publication of
The Coventry Woods Neighborhood Association

Winter 2023-2024

5 things to see, enjoy and inspire in our neighborhood

The arrival of a new year is a good time to take stock of what has been done and what can be accomplished.

That's also the case for Coventry Woods, a 55-year-old neighborhood that's a desired place to live for long-time residents as well as newcomers and home-seekers.

It's well-being is due in large part to the Coventry Woods Neighborhood Association, age 24, which works to preserve, protect and promote where we live. The CWNA is a not-for-profit organization led by people who love where we live.

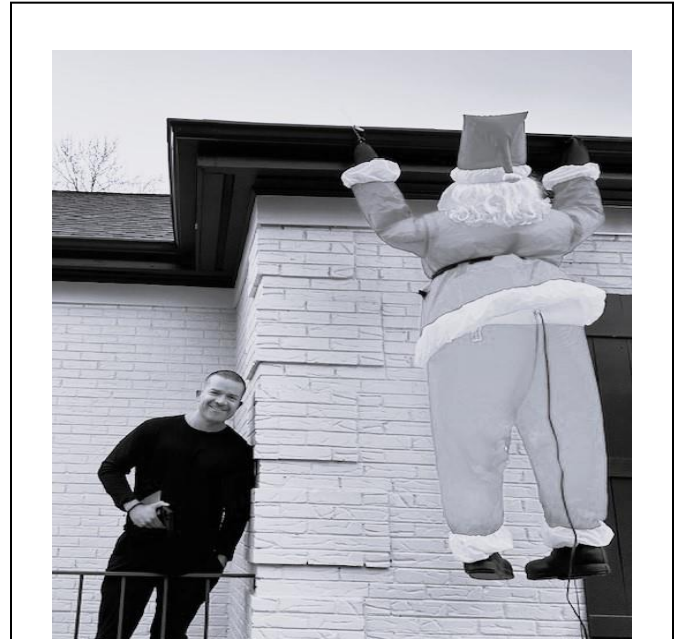
The CWNA is not a home-owners association: It can't assess fees or bill you for anything. It's an all-volunteer outfit. And when money is spent, it's to benefit all.

When it's warm enough to take a stroll or drive through Coventry Woods, take a look at what members' \$30-a-year membership and our volunteers have accomplished over the years.

1. OUR WOODS: Enter its trails on the Scelina stub on Glenbrier Drive.

The geographic spine of Coventry Woods remains the almost 30-acre woodlands arching north behind Glenbrier and Farmingdale to Redmann Road. It was part of the old Reddman family tree farm, and in 2000, a developer wanted to cut it down and

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GREAT WINTER YARDS!

Yard of the Month and Yard of the Season winners. See Page 3.

Vote on March 5

Spring elections whittle the number of candidates down for fall elections, where you have an either/or choice. Your vote in the spring elections – March 5 -- helps determine the future. Here are the basics:

ELECTION DAY

Tuesday, March 5. Polls are open 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

WHY YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT

Your primary choices shape the fall county, state and national general election. Your vote this spring helps determine who will be in the Nov. 5 general elections.

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build new houses on it. Alarmed residents met and decided to fight.

A Steering Committee formed to block the rezoning and pushed Mecklenburg County Parks to instead buy the parcel, now officially called Reddman Community Park. It was a win for Mother Nature – and Coventry Woods.

2. THE REDDMAN ROAD PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE: On Reddman Road, north of Cedarwood Park.

Charlotte’s Transportation Department wanted to build a bridge linking our stub that ended Reddman Road to the Reddman Road that feeds into Albemarle Road. CDOT said a vehicular bridge over Muddy Creek would aid “connectivity.” The Steering Committee -- newly reorganized and incorporated as the not-for-profit Coventry Woods Neighborhood Association -- opposed this, saying that connecting the roads would only increase cut-through traffic in our neighborhood. We pushed our city council representative at the time, Nancy Carter, to step in and deep-six the CDOT plan. We won. What is at that creek crossing is a permanent pedestrian bridge that blocks motor vehicles.

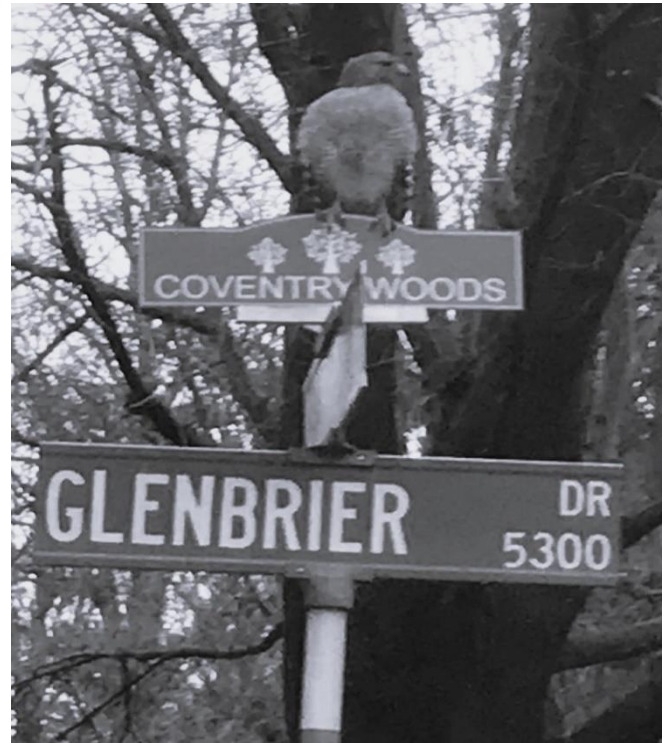
3. COVENTRY WOODS TOPPER SIGNS: Atop street signs at neighborhood intersection.

A City of Charlotte matching grant program made possible the CWNA’s successful push for decorative signs throughout Coventry Woods. We applied for a “sweat equity” grant: Our volunteers would create several designs, ask residents to vote for the best, and install them on street signs at and within our boundaries.

When you drive into Coventry Woods and see the blue-and-white signs, you know you’re home. (P.S: We’re currently looking for volunteers to help reinstall a few signs. Let us know if you have a pickup truck or want to climb a volunteer ladder.)

4. COVENTRY WOODS ENTRANCE SIGN: At Sharon Amity Road and Coronado Drive.

The original 1960s entrance sign was larger and had fountains. But the widenings of Sharon Amity whittled away at the sign and its “island,” and was in disrepair in the early 2000s. The CWNA received a cash settlement after a car crashed into the sign.



Intersection sign “toppers” that identifying our neighborhood are the work of the CWNA.

With that money and a buy-a-brick campaign, the CWNA had the sign rebuilt. Since then, the CWNA has had the sign’s island professionally landscaped and added solar lighting. CWNA volunteers maintain the shrubs and other plantings at the sign. (P.S. We’re still dealing with solar-lighting technical issues. Let us know if you want to help!)

5. CEDARWOOD PARK: On Reddman Road and off the eastern end of Coronado Drive.

The CWNA has worked for more than two decades to keep our neighborhood park a safe and attractive place for children, strollers, picknickers and pet-walkers.

We have worked closely for years with CMPD’s Independence Division to diminish crime at and near our park. We have worked with County Parks to maintain the parks – and most years the CWNA and County Parks have held clean-ups at Cedarwood\ Park that pick-up debris, remove and repair trail obstacles and upgrade the park’s playground.

The CWNA sponsors community events at the park, including a family-friendly trick-or-treat Halloween extravaganza.

Yards of the Month



October 2023

Jodene Pooler, 4752 Amity Place.



October 2023 Honorable (Halloween) mention

Tonya and Dan Edwards, 6429 Farmingdale Drive.



November 2023

Kathleen Alvis, 5314 Amity Place.



Yard of the Season (December 2023)

Alex Vellve, 5218 Glenbrier Drive.

Mark Your Calendar

Feb. 1 – Black History Month begins

Feb. 2 – Groundhog Day

Feb. 10 – Chinese New Year

Feb. 11 – Super Bowl Sunday

Feb. 13 – Mardi Gras

Feb. 14 – Valentine's Day

Feb. 14 – Ash Wednesday

Feb. 14 – Early-release day for CMS students

Feb. 19 – Presidents Day. Federal holiday. No school for CMS students.

Feb. 23 – 2024 CWNA Membership Meeting & Dinner (see Page 4)

Feb. 24 – Full moon (Snow Moon)

Feb 29 – Leap Year Day

March 1 – Women's History Month begins

March 5 – Election Day

March 10 – Daylight Savings Time begins at 2 a.m. Set your clocks AHEAD one hour.

March 13 – Early-release day for CMS students.

March 17 – St. Patrick's Day

March 19 – First day of Spring (Vernal Equinox; day and night are equal length)

March 24 – Palm Sunday

March 25 – Full moon (Worm Moon)

March 29 – Good Friday

March 29 – No CMS classes (teacher workday)

March 31 – Easter

Real Estate Transactions

Recent activity in Coventry Woods

For sale

5500 Amity Place

List: \$390,000

4712 Amity Place

List: \$265,500

Sold

4732 Holbrook Drive / \$330,000

5020 Coronado Drive / \$320,000

5102 Coronado Drive / \$375,000

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WHAT'S ON THE MARCH 5 BALLOT?

Presidential primary

U.S. House of Representatives (we live in District 12)

N.C. governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, attorney general, various commissioners (insurance, labor, etc.) as well as state judges.

N.C. General Assembly (NC House 100 and Senate 40).

Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners, at-large and District 4 (representing our neighborhood). Various county offices.

ELECTION DAY (MARCH 5) VOTING

Last day to register: Friday Feb. 9

WHERE COVENTRY WOODS VOTES

Our neighborhood is split into two election precincts. Homes west of Farmingdale Drive are in Precinct 6, and vote at Amity Presbyterian Church, 2831 N. Sharon Amity Road. Homes that face Farmingdale as well as any homes to the east, are in Precinct 130, and vote at Cokesbury United Methodist Church, 6701 Idlewild Road.

While voting locations are different, the ballots are the same.

VOTER ID

Voters are required to provide identification. A

North Carolina driver's license will work. Details on other accepted identification:

www.ncsbe.gov/voting/voter-ID.

EARLY VOTING

The ballots are the same as those on election day. You may early-vote at Independence Regional Library, 6000 Conference Drive (across Monroe Road from East Meck High School).

First day of early voting: Thursday Feb. 15

Last day of early voting: Saturday, March 2

ABSENTEE VOTING

Deadline to request a ballot: February 27, by 5 p.m.

WHO CAN VOTE IN THE MARCH 5 PRIMARY?

Any registered voter. If you're registered with a political party, you can vote for that party's primary ballot. If you are independent – not registered with either party -- you can choose which party's ballot you wish to vote for. You cannot vote in more than one party's primary.

IF YOU'RE NOT YET REGISTERED TO VOTE The deadline to register for the March 5 primary election is 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9. Details on how to register on election day:

www.ncsbe.gov/registering/how-register/register-person-during-early-voting.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://vote.mecknc.gov>

2024 CWNA MEMBERSHIP MEETING & DINNER

Open to ALL residents of Coventry Woods!

Family-friendly, free-of-charge!

5:30-7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 23, at Amity Presbyterian Church,
2821 N. Sharon Amity Road (at Coronado Drive)

Our annual Italian dinner is a great time to meet your neighbors, join the CWNA (or renew your membership) and enjoy fine food.

Watch for your CWNA flyer.

