

CEN 2016 Conference News, Coventry Library Member Spotlight, Tech Update, New Connections and Upcoming Events!



CEN LINK Conference May 13, 2016: Be a Part!



On May 13, 2016, CEN hosts its 4th annual member conference focusing on Leveraging Ideas, Networks and Knowledge (LINK). Planning for the conference is well underway and CEN is excited to announce Jennifer Courriero, co-founder and director of

TakingITGlobal, will be our keynote speaker at this year's conference. Jennifer, named a Forbes 2013 Innovative Rising Star in Education, Healthcare and Environment, has spoken about online activism and technology in education in over 20 countries in addition to serving as a youth engagement consultant for companies like Microsoft.

The conference schedule is available [here](#). If you have not yet done so, [register today!](#) We look forward to seeing you on May 13th in Hartford!

Member Spotlight: Booth and Dimock Library

An update to our November newsletter regarding the Booth and Dimock Library, Coventry, managed wifi pilot. The library's wifi, provided by two routers on a standard Charter account, was insufficient for the library's needs. The signal was disrupted by the library's concrete floors and brick walls; and capacity was insufficient resulting in students in the game design and graphic design programs often having to share devices to prevent overloading the network and preventing them from reaching their full creative potential. Even accessing email and usage of Skype to connect with authors was made difficult by these capacity limitations.

CEN recently completed the upgrade to the Coventry Library's 12,000 sq ft building for a new managed wifi system. The new system allows them to meet current demand for internet connectivity, run larger community programs and access websites with ease. In the future, managed wifi could also help libraries perform web filtering on student workstations and improve hosting of local Minecraft servers.

Coventry Library's managed wifi system is intended to serve as a proof of concept. By identifying the setup and equipment requirements for this service in Coventry, CEN is looking to roll out this service to libraries on its network in the future.

[Coventry Library Website](#)



Tech Update

CEN hosted a webex on Jan. 22nd featuring Paul Dodero, vCloud Air Specialist at VMware, focused on the collaboration between CEN and VMware. CEN members have access to VMware cloud services, specifically IaaS, disaster recovery, virtual desktops

and object storage at reduced rates. This allows CEN members access to private connections and a huge amount of bandwidth with VMware. View the presentation slides [here](#).

VMware offers multiple service packs, including dedicated clouds, virtual private clouds and virtual private clouds on demand. Please know that the cost to CEN members is that of a layer 2 (transport) connection. These services will be available to all CEN members as of July 1, 2016. For specific questions on VM services, please feel free to contact Paul Dodero directly at: pdodero@vmware.com or 703-629-6302.

New Connections

Municipalities

CT Metropolitan COG

Town of Bethany

Town of Clinton

Town of Ellington

Town of Meriden

Town of Old Saybrook

Town of South Windsor

Town of Torrington

Libraries

South Windsor Public Library

Upcoming Events

Certified Information Systems Security Officer - C)ISSO, February 8-12, Online, [Register](#)

Presidential Powers (with Documents from the National Archives), February 9, Online, [Register](#)

Connecting the Dots: Synthesizing Key Topics in the Evolution of E-Content, February 10, Online, [Register](#)

Reorganizing the Executive Branch: Hoover and the Federal Government, February 17, Online, [Register](#)

Assessing & Managing Your Building: Things They Did Not Teach You in Lib School, February 24, Middletown Library Service Center, [Register](#)

President Ulysses S. Grant and Civil Rights, March 10, Online, [Register](#)

CEN 2016 Members Conference, May 13, Hartford Convention Center, [Register](#)

CEN in the News

Pomfret Townhall Connects to CEN

Pomfret received a \$125,000 grant to build a new fiber-optic connection to CEN at its townhall. Thanks to CEN's growing customer base, Pomfret is paying just a fraction of what they would have been to maintain the connection in 2014. Read more:

[\(The Bulletin, December 17, 2015\)](#)

Manchester Bridging Digital Divide to Bring in Businesses

Manchester officials are pushing to build on their CEN network connection by increasing connectivity through the CT Gig Project. Read more:

[\(Journal Inquirer, December 31, 2015\)](#)

Old Saybrook Gets Gigabit Speed

Town of Old Saybrook received a \$22,000 grant to connect to CEN's network. This upgrade will allow town departments to back up files to the cloud in just minutes. Read more: [\(Zip06, January 13, 2016\)](#)

Letter to the Editor: Connecticut Assets

West Hartford Deputy Mayor Shari Cantor on Connecticut's assets, including its high speed internet, universities and businesses. Read more: [\(We-Ha, January 18, 2016\)](#)

CEN Provides High Speed Internet in CT: Key to Attracting Businesses

CEN provides high-speed Internet connections, up to "70 times faster than the average in Connecticut." Read more: [\(CT Post, January 24, 2016\)](#)

Coventry Students Using 3D Printers to Create Prosthetic Hands

Students at Captain Nathan Hale Middle School (with a CEN connection) are using 3D printing to create prosthetic hands for people in need around the world. Read more: [\(Hartford Courant, February 1, 2016\)](#)

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