



## TOWN MANAGER'S MESSAGE:

Spring is in full bloom. It's time to get out in the yard and plant some flowers and maybe a tree or two. You can make it a family event. Local growers have what you need. You can support local Coventry businesses and visit Edmondson's or Creative Living Community of CT on Route 44. On May 4th, you can tour around the Town and visit those participating in the Town-wide Tag

Sale. Also that same day, stop by the Coventry Historical Society Annual Tag Sale at the Strong Porter House Museum. You might find that treasure you didn't know you needed until you saw it. As we wind down the school year, we look ahead to summer fun. Our Parks and Recreation Department has recently mailed out a long list of summer programs and activities. If you didn't get your "06238" catalogue in the mail you can still check out the programs available [online](#). Beach passes are on sale starting May 1st. Patriots Park will be open for swimming on May 25<sup>th</sup> throughout the season. As we close the month of May, we will observe Memorial Day with a parade to honor the members of the U.S. Armed Forces who died while in service to our Nation. The parade starts at 10:00 AM at George Hershey Robertson School with a stop at Memorial Green for a ceremony, then it continues on to Main Street into the Village.

Within Town government, Revaluation is underway. Every five years Connecticut municipalities must by law professionally update real estate values for taxation. The Town's contractor, Vision, is on the job. They are widely used by local governments in Connecticut and throughout New England. They were used the last two times the Town conducted property revaluation. Data mailers were mailed out to property owners in March to verify the assessment information. Please fill out the forms and mail them back. Don't be surprised if you see a Vision inspector visiting your property. Inspections with Vision staff are actually part of the process of revaluation and will continue in the months ahead. Revaluation will be completed by January 2025.

As I mentioned last month, our Public Works Director is once again planning and coordinating drainage and paving projects around Town. Work began on North River Road and Pucker Street last week and will advance to the "Waterfront Park" neighborhood soon. This work is being funded by bonds approved by voters in 2022. For more details about the road bond, see this [link](#).

This past month at Town Hall, Town Council and staff have been preparing our Town Council adopted budget. The Town Council has made significant cuts to the Town Manager's proposed budget in order to minimize the need to raise property taxes. Their goal is to maintain our current level of services while reducing our budget's dependence on reserves and the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant funds. These grant funds were very helpful over the last few years to keep the tax burden low for all of our citizens and our businesses, some of which were financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Unfortunately, these non-renewable grant funds have all been spent and now we must choose to raise taxes or choose to reduce services or programs that we have come to expect. You can review the "Budget in Brief" for more information. That document is available [online](#) or in the Town Clerk's Office. May 7<sup>th</sup> is day for the Budget Vote. This year the vote for District 1 and District 2 will take place at the South Coventry Fire House (across from Town Hall). I hope everyone that is eligible to vote comes out to vote. Your vote impacts which path our Town will take moving forward.

I hope to see you all around Town this month, perhaps on voting day or perhaps at the Memorial Day Parade. Should you wish to contact me, please email [JDrumm@coventry-ct.gov](mailto:JDrumm@coventry-ct.gov) or call the office at 860-742-6324. Frequent updates are also posted to the Town Manager's [Facebook page](#).

Sincerely,

James Drumm

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### UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS:

- Mon, 5/6: **[Town Council Meeting](#)**, 7:30 PM. Town Hall Annex.
- Thurs, 5/9: **[Board of Education Meeting](#)**, 7:00 PM, School Admin. Building
- Mon, 5/13: **[Planning & Zoning Commission meeting](#)**, 7 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Mon, 5/20: **Town Council Meeting**, 7:30 PM , Town Hall Annex.
- Weds, 5/22: **[Inland Wetlands Agency Meeting](#)**, 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex..
- Tues, 5/28: **Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting**, 7 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Thurs, 5/30: **Board of Education Meeting**, 7:00 PM, School Admin. Building

For a monthly calendar of other Board & Commission events, click [here](#).

### HOLIDAY CLOSINGS:

- Mon, 5/27: **Memorial Day**. Town offices closed. [Trash collection](#) delayed by one day for remainder of week.





## COMING EVENTS:

Fri 5/3 & 5/17: **BINGO Night**, first and third Fridays of the month, doors open at 5 PM, BINGO starts at 6 PM. First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. Presented by the American Legion Post 52. 50¢ entry fee, must be 18 or older to play. Raffles, prizes and refreshments available. [Email](#) for info.

Fri 5/3: **Quiet Corner Contra Dance**, 7:30-10:30 PM, Patriots Park Lodge, 172 Lake Street. Newcomer workshop at 7:15. Adults \$13, Students \$6. Partner not necessary. Live music by Headwaters and caller Rich Sbardella. all dances taught. Bring water, wear soft-soled shoes, and dress in layers. For more information contact Dennis: [knowdj@frontier.com](mailto:knowdj@frontier.com). or see [website](#).

Sat 5/4: **Town-wide Tag Sale**, 8 AM - 4 PM. Visit participating locations around town to find a treasure at this annual spring event. Maps available 5/3. Pick up maps at Dunkin' Donuts or Woke Restaurant, or download a digital copy on the [Parks & Recreation web page](#) or [Facebook page](#).

Sat 5/4: **Coventry Historical Society Annual Tag Sale**, 9 AM - 3 PM, Strong Porter Museum, 2382 South Street. CHS will gladly accept clean usable items for the sale (please no clothing, computers or large electronics.) Call or text Sue Way at 860-712-4278 to arrange to put items in the barn, or for pickup. Proceeds from this sale support the CHS annual budget.

Sat 5/4: **Rabies Clinic**, 10 AM - 12 PM, Capt. Nathan Hale Middle School, 1776 Main Street. \$20 per animal. Cash only. If previously vaccinated for rabies, please bring written proof. Dogs must be on leashes; cats in carriers. Click [here](#) for a flyer or call 860-742-7966.

Tues, 5/7: **Budget Referendum**, 6 AM - 8 PM. Polls for District 1 & 2 at South Coventry Fire Station, 1755 Main Street. See this [link](#) for details on the Town Council's proposed budget for fiscal year 2024/25. For details about voting, see the [Registrars of Voters page](#) on the Town website.

Tues 5/7-5/28: **T.O.P.S. - Take Off Pounds Sensibly**, 5:15-6:45 PM, Second Congregational Church, 1746 Boston Turnpike (Rt. 44). A non-profit weight loss support group. See [website](#) or call 860-944-4945 for info concerning weekly dues (determined by each chapter) and yearly membership fee set by the TOPS organization.

Weds 5/8: **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](#).

Fri 5/10: **Famous Baked Fish Dinner**, 6 PM, 1171 Main Street. Presented by First Congregational Church & American Legion Post 52. Featuring baked cod, baked potato, coleslaw, Italian bread & drink. \$15 per plate. Take-out available. Info: 860-742-8487 or email [firstchurchcoventryct@gmail.com](mailto:firstchurchcoventryct@gmail.com).

Sat 5/18: **CLCC Farmstand Opening Day**, 10 AM- 4 PM, 2645 Boston Turnpike. The Creative Living Community of Connecticut opens for the season. Featuring locally-grown seasonal vegetables, microgreens, flowers, eggs, craft products, and more. Opening event co-hosted by [Round Hill Alpacas](#). CLCC [Website](#).

Sat 5/18: **Food Truck Fest and Veggie Plant Sale**, 12-4 PM, Capt. Nathan Hale Middle School parking lot, 1776 Main Street. Sponsored by Coventry CT Cares, Inc. Info: 860-377-7754 or visit the [CCC website](#).

Sat 5/18: **Historic Window Restoration Techniques**, 1-3:30 PM, Strong Porter Museum, 2382 South Street. Join the Coventry Historical Society for this informative demonstration by historic preservation specialist Stephen Marshall, who will share techniques used in traditional restoration and repair of wood windows. FREE. [Email](#) for more information or visit the [CHS Facebook page](#).

Sat 5/18: **Drive-thru/take-out Dinner**, Second Congregational Church of Coventry, 1746 Boston Turnpike. Turkey, gravy, dressing, cranberry sauce, vegetables, and dessert. \$15. Place orders by calling 860-742-1616 or [email](#) 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.

Tues 5/21: **50% Off Everything in the Shop**, 9-11 AM, Noah's Closet, 1746 Boston Turnpike. Also on Saturday 5/25 from 9 AM - 1 PM. Noah's Closet is a children's second-hand resale shop, offering clothing, toys, books games, puzzles, DVDs, CDs and furniture. Donations of clean gently-used items for children are welcome on Tuesday & Saturday mornings. Call for info 860-742-1616 on Saturday mornings. [Website](#).

Weds 5/22: **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](#).

Thurs 5/23: **Conversations with Town Council Chairwoman Lisa Thomas**, 11 AM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street, and 7:00 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Share a concern or ask questions at this monthly session.

Mon 5/27: **Memorial Day Parade**, kicks off at 10 AM along parade route from G.H. Robertson School, stops at Memorial Green for a ceremony, and then continues south on Main Street to Bradbury Lane. A military flyover is anticipated at approximately 10:15 AM. Stop by First Church for the Lions Club pancake breakfast while you're waiting for the parade to come by.

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**COVENTRY PARKS & RECREATION:**  
**Resident Beach Parking Stickers on sale starting May 1st!** Opening Memorial Day weekend. See this [link](#) for more information about the 2024 beach season.



Please take our [Patron Survey](#). [Scan this QR code](#) or [click the link at right](#).

### **BOOTH & DIMOCK MEMORIAL LIBRARY:**

The Booth & Dimock Library is open Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 10-8, Friday from 10-6, and Saturday from 10-3. Visit the library to check out books and movies, work or study in one of our cozy parlors, attend a fun program, or to get help with an electronic device!

The Library wants to hear from you! Please take a few minutes to complete our Patron Survey. Use [this link](#) or QR code to access the survey, or stop by the library for a hard copy.

Check out some of the following programs happening this month!

#### **For Kids**

- *Playgroup* - Every Wednesday at 10:30 - Immerse your child in the enchantment of reading at our Playgroup! Enjoy free-play and the chance to socialize with other kids, all while nurturing a lifelong love for books. Join us for a delightful adventure of imagination and fun!
- *Chapter Book Storytime* - Every Friday at 4:30 - Join us on Friday afternoons to read chapter books together! Miss Rachel will read aloud from books chosen as a group.
- *Sing, Stomp, and Story* - May 9 at 11:00 - Have fun reading, dancing, and singing in this fun movement and music program
- *Sweet Dreams Story Time* - May 23 at 6:30 - All ages are welcome to join Miss Rachel for a soothing evening story time!
- *Messy Munchkins* - May 24 at 11:00 - Bring your little ones to enjoy some fun (and messy) sensory play!

#### **For Teens**

- *Open Gaming* - Every Friday from 3:00 - 4:30 - Take the bus to the library and enjoy open gaming after school on PS5, PS4, Switch, PC, and tabletop.
- *Anime Night* - May 14 at 4:00 - A night of all things anime! Noodles, Crunchyroll, crafts, and more!

- *Jackbox Games Night* - May 22 at 4:00 - Play some Quiplash, Trivia Murder Party, and more from the Jackbox catalog.
- *Teen Dungeons & Dragons* - May 31 at 4:00 - Join our party for a Teen DnD one-shot! Characters will be provided. Never played? Learn with us! For teens in grades 6-12 only.

### **For Adults**

- *Inside the Royal Bedchamber* - May 8 at 11:30 - Treat yourself to an extended lunch break as we delve into some juicy stories, sorrows, and scandals of historical queens.
- *Genealogy Club* - May 16 at 11:30 - Calling all genealogy lovers, from novices to experts! Join us on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month from 11:30-1:00 to discuss research, commiserate over those stubborn brick walls, and trade tips. No registration required and drop-ins are welcome. Bring any research or questions you'd like to share with the group!
- *Mystery Book Club* - May 3 at 1:30 - Join your fellow sleuths to read and discuss a book chosen from the Time Magazine's list of "The 100 Best Mystery and Thriller Books of All Time" each month. May's book is *The Honjin Murders* by Seishi Yokomizo.
- *Wednesday Night Book Club* - May 15 at 6:30 - May's book is *The Dictionary of Lost Words* by Pip Williams.
- *Senior Center Book Club* - May 22 at 1:00 - This book club meets at the Senior Center. For more information call the Senior Center at 860-742-3525. May's book is *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles.
- *Spice Life & Tea Explorers* - Travel the world with us through tea and spice! Each month, members will receive a tea and spice to take home and try, along with some history and fun facts on the featured tea or spice. Registration is required. To sign up, call, email, or stop by the library!

For up-to-date information on all our programs, visit [www.coventrypl.org/events](http://www.coventrypl.org/events) or visit our Facebook @BDLibrary.

Booth & Dimock Memorial Library  
 1134 Main Street  
 Coventry, CT 06238  
 860-742-7606  
[www.coventrypl.org](http://www.coventrypl.org)

[bdlibrary@coventry-ct.gov](mailto:bdlibrary@coventry-ct.gov)

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## LIONS CLUB MOTHER'S DAY ROSES SALE & PANCAKE BREAKFAST:

The Lions Club of Coventry is selling roses for Mother's Day for \$25/dozen, delivered right to your house in Coventry on Saturday, May 11th. Others can be placed on their [website](#).

On Memorial Day, stop by for the Lions Club traditional pancake breakfast at First Congregational Church before the parade. Look for details on [Facebook](#).

Did you know that the Coventry Lions rent tables and chairs at a much lower price than retail rental stores? If you're having a spring or summer party this can be very handy, and the money raised benefits many different local organizations.

For questions or comments, [email](#) the Lions Club.

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## COVENTRY VISITORS' CENTER OPEN FOR THE SEASON:

Located in historic Coventry Village, the Visitors' Center was built in 1876 to house the Town offices. It has served as a Visitors' Center since the early 1990's and has been operated by the Village Improvement Society since 2006. The Center is stocked with local history books, Capriland's books and a variety of Coventry memorabilia as well as local and regional travel brochures.



The Center is open weekends, 10 AM to 2 PM from late April through October. Any questions, call Pat at 860-742-7847.

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## COVER PHOTO:

*Close-up view of a marching band in a Memorial Day Parade.*

**To list your non-profit organization's event in this bulletin, contact Laura Stone by [email](#) by the 15th of the previous month.**

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