



TOWN NEWS



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HOLIDAY CLOSINGS:

VETERANS DAY - NOV. 11

THANKSGIVING - NOV. 28 & 29

CHRISTMAS - DEC. 24 & 25

NEW YEAR'S DAY - JAN. 1

Message from Lisa Thomas, Town Council Chairwoman

Dear Neighbors:

The Town Council and I extend our wishes to you for a colorful autumn, joyful holiday celebrations over the next few months, and a smooth start to the school year. We are so fortunate to live in such a vibrant, caring community. We are grateful for all that you do such as: making sure that dozens of cats in need find “forever” homes, donating pocketbooks filled with hygiene supplies to women in shelters, running Sunday matinee movies at the library, distributing backpacks filled with school supplies for children in need, donating towards a spectacular fireworks display, and simply giving neighbors a helping hand in their yard or a quick tow when their truck starter dies. You all make Coventry a proud community!

During my comments at our Memorial Day gathering on Veterans Memorial Green, I asked that we “honor the memory of fallen soldiers and the democracy they defended by extending kindness each day not just to the friends and neighbors we know, but also to the strangers we do not yet know - who might just be standing beside you right now. Whether you are face to face or behind the curtain of social media, lift up our community; agree with one another with enthusiasm and disagree with civility.” With election season upon us, I ask that we keep these thoughts in our hearts. No matter who you support, after the election we will all still be neighbors in this hometown of ours. Speaking of elections, you can find all the information you need about registering to vote, early voting, and absentee voting - as well as other important details - at the Registrar of Voters page on the town website. Just visit coventry-ct.gov and search “registrar of voters” to get all the details.

Above photo: The Fireworks event returned to Coventry after a hiatus of several years. See back page for a list of sponsors.

Photo by James Drumm.

Town Manager Update

And like someone has closed a door, the temperature has cooled, and it is autumn. Much has happened in summer. At our Fire/EMS Department citizens probably didn't really see changes, but they happened. Due to the rising contract costs and in accordance with the adopted budget, the Town ended on June 30th its contract with Vintech Management Services, which provided paid Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) to supplement Coventry volunteer EMTs. On July 1st at 12:00 AM, newly employed EMTs clocked in as Town of Coventry staff members. The transition was seamless as we hired EMTs from Vintech with proven qualifications. Using in-house staff will save tens of thousands of dollars annually on the cost of this service by cutting out the profit margin that had been paid to the vendor as part of the service fee to the vendor. Our current scheduling allows for ambulance coverage 24 hours 7 days per week. The transition and the operation of this program over the last three months has been smooth and successful thanks to the leadership of Fire/EMS Chief Bud Meyers and Deputy EMS Chief D.J. Figiela.

In Patriots Park the Town has again had a successful beach season and a well attended summer camp for kids grades K-6th. Our Parks and Recreation staff does a great job for our kids in Coventry. This year, Patriots Park has received a lot of extra attention, as it is going through a Master Planning process. FHI Studios, LLC, a professional planning consultant, has been hired to develop a Master Plan using input from stakeholders, residents, and visitors. They have held several meetings with different stakeholder groups that use the Park frequently to get their views on what they like about the Park and what they would like to see improved. If you haven't had a chance to give your input, a survey is still available on the Parks and Recreation page at the Town website.

Miller-Richardson Park saw the construction of new softball fields in 2023. Now, construction is underway as the first phase of the newly adopted Miller-Richardson Park Master Plan calls for a new safe pedestrian friendly Park layout including new roadways, improved parking and traffic restricted American Disability Act (ADA) compliant sidewalks. The Town awarded this project to All Season Landscaping of Cheshire, CT. The project costs \$590,000, with \$500,000 being State grant funds and the remaining \$90,000 being locally funded.

Over the last few months, we saw much work on our roads and much progress on the Hop River Road bridge reconstruction project. Many streets around the Town were improved as they were paved, chip sealed or crack sealed. The Town has a few more roads to pave, but we have nearly completed the road improvement projects that were planned to be funded by the last Road Bond Referendum. The Hop River Road Bridge is the only bridge under construction this year. It has been out of service since April, when it was demolished. The new bridge is still under construction and is scheduled to open in November. The project total cost is \$3.6 million, and it is 100% grant funded. We have some bridge projects in engineering this year, including Depot Road bridge, Brigham Hill Road bridge, Bunker Hill Road bridge (culvert) and Parker Bridge Road bridge (culvert). This will provide for a busy bridge construction season for the Town in spring and summer 2025.

As autumn sets in and construction winds down, there will be much planning underway for next spring and summer. This fall and into early winter we have several grant funded projects in engineering that will go to construction next construction season. These projects include the Main Street Sidewalk Project (Hemlock to Lisicke), South Street/Swamp Road reconstruction Project, Main Street/South Street Pedestrian Crossing Project, Hale Trail Project, and our Curve Sign Grant project. These improvements that are planned will provide much safer streets, much safer pedestrian crossings, and new recreational trails. You will hear more about these projects in the future.

As autumn begins and we also quickly enter the pathway of the holiday season. There is much to celebrate here in Coventry, and I hope you and your family slow things down a little and enjoy all the traditions and events this holiday season brings. I hope to see you out around the town at the Farmers Market, Halloween on Main, the Coventry Chili Fest, the Coventry PTO Craft Show, Wreaths Across America, and Christmas in Coventry Village.

Sincerely,
James Drumm

Council Chairwoman's Message

Continued from Page 1

Keep in mind that starting this year there are 14 days of early voting before the November 5 general election day. Early voting will take place in the Registrars Office in Town Hall:

- 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. on October 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28 & 30
- 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. on October 29 & 31
- 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. on Nov. 1, 2, & 3

I'll wrap up this column with my usual reminder to get signed up for text, phone, and/or email alerts from the town. You can receive emergency alerts, agendas and minutes from boards and commissions, Senior Center newsletter, and the monthly community updates. At the town web site, click the "alerts & notifications" button on the home page. This will take you to where you can sign up for both "[civic ready](#)" and "[notify me](#)". Get signed up and never miss an alert, exciting event or meeting!

As always, our talented professional staff is available to help you as best they can. Stop by Town Hall and learn who is who. Town Hall hours are Monday-Wednesday from 8:30-4:30; Thursdays, 8:30-6:30; Fridays, 8:30-1:30.

I look forward to seeing you around town during special events or just while shopping local!

Be well,
Lisa

Town Clerk's Office

Lori Tollmann – Town Clerk
 Brooke R. Manning – Assistant Town Clerk
 Lori Beecher – Assistant Town Clerk
 860-742-7966 (#3 on menu)

OUR SERVICES:

Being one of the most visited offices in the Town Hall, the Clerk's office provides the link between the residents, the local governing bodies and the boards, commissions, and committees of town government. Our main functions are the recording, indexing and copying of land record documents and maps; vital statistics (births, marriages, civil unions and deaths); official repository of notices, agendas and minutes of the various boards, committees and commissions; election related matters including but not limited to the issuance of absentee ballots; answering various questions from residents; notarizing of documents; issuing of dog, marriage, civil union, sporting licenses; and receiving for record military discharges, trade name certificates and liquor permits. We also house and safeguard all of the Town's permanent public records.

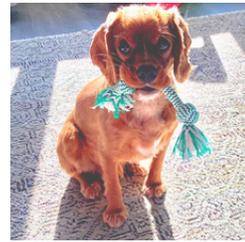
PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IS NOVEMBER 5, 2024:

- **Districts 1 & 2, EDR will be at the Coventry High School, 78 Ripley Hill Rd.** from 6 a.m. until 8 p.m. for those wishing to vote at the polls.
- **Absentee Ballots become available October 4, 2024. Absentee Ballot Applications are available at:** <https://portal.ct.gov/sots> or the Town Clerk's Office.
- **Early Voting Period:** October 21, 2024 through November 3, 2024
- **Early voting hours:** 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., except that the early voting hours are 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., October 29 and 31.
- **Unsure if you are registered?** Use this link: <https://portaldir.ct.gov/sots/LookUp.aspx>



RETURNING OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS:

We strongly encourage you to utilize the secure ballot drop box, which is near the entrance to our office. This will ensure that we receive your ballot in a timely manner.



COVENTRY'S TOP DOG!
 Congratulations to Elvis! Elvis is a member of the Tougas Family.

DOG DETAILS:

Please note that dog licenses expire and are renewed in the month of June.

If a dog license is not received or postmarked by June 30th, pursuant to Sec. 22-338, General Statutes, State of Connecticut, a \$1.00 penalty will be added each month the dog is not registered. This fee is added on the first of each month.

Month	Cost Per Dog as of First of Month	
	Spayed / Neutered	Unaltered
July	\$9.00	\$19.00
August	\$10.00	\$20.00
September	\$11.00	\$21.00
October	\$12.00	\$22.00
November	\$13.00	\$23.00
December	\$14.00	\$24.00
January	\$15.00	\$25.00
February	\$16.00	\$26.00
March	\$17.00	\$27.00
April	\$18.00	\$28.00

***All dogs six months of age and older are required by the law to be licensed, and then renewed annually by June 30th.**

***New dog owners** must provide a current rabies certificate and for altered dogs, evidence of neutering or spaying. QUESTIONS? Please call the Town Clerk's Office.



Licenses are available at the Town Clerk's office or online at www.ct.gov/dep/sportsmenlicensing. For hunting or trapping licenses, you must provide proof that you held a resident hunting or trapping license within the last 5 years, or a certificate from a Connecticut Conservation Education/Firearms course. You can find Firearms Safety courses listed online at www.ct.gov/dep.

Remember Deer/Turkey Kill Tags are now in the Connecticut Hunting and Trapping guides.

Land Use Office

Zoning and Wetlands Regulations can be found on our website at <https://www.coventry-ct.gov/189/Land-Use>. Staff is happy to assist you with your planning and permitting needs and answer any questions you might have.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Connecticut's Countryside: Explore Arts, Agriculture, and Adventure in CT!

The four-town economic development group has launched a new community website and engagement platform for Connecticut's Countryside!



Check out our website and look for
"Connecticut's Countryside" on
Facebook and Instagram!

Website:

<https://www.ctcountryside.org/>

Inland Wetlands & Watercourses

Winter Draw-Down is coming...

The best time to plan a lake wall rebuild, conduct sand reclamation, and any other lakeside construction activities is now. Construction activities along Coventry Lake are considered "Regulated Activities" and require permits. The permit process can take two months or more to be reviewed by the Inland Wetlands Agency for approval. The best time to execute lakeside projects is during the winter level draw down to minimize potential impacts on the water quality of Coventry Lake.

While Beach Sand Replenishment is best done in early spring, it is important to start the planning and permitting process in fall/winter to ensure all stormwater runoff issues are remedied prior to additional deposition.

To learn more about Coventry's Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Regulations and Permit Thresholds, please visit <https://www.coventry-ct.gov/127/Inland-Wetlands-Watercourses>.

If you aren't sure if your proposed activities require a permit, please don't hesitate to contact our Inland Wetlands Agent, Lindsay Beutler, at 860-531-2886 or lbeutler@coventry-ct.gov.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SERVING ON THE INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY, COVENTRY LAKE ADVISORY AND MONITORING COMMITTEE, OR PROTECTED SPACES STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE, PLEASE CONTACT OUR WETLANDS AGENT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.



FARMERS' MARKET HIGHLIGHTS: NO. 1 IN CONNECTICUT!

The Coventry Farmers' Market was named the #1 Farmers' Market in Connecticut by the American Farmland Trust!

This prestigious recognition is a testament the market's commitment to providing fresh, local produce and fostering a sense of community. Attendance is up 20% from last year. The market also received a grant from Farm Credit East for \$500.

Upcoming Market Dates:

September 22 – Fiber and Potters Market
September 29 – CT Cheese Day
October 6 – Apple Harvest/Fire Prevention
October 13 – Holiday Market
October 20 – Farmers' Day
October 27 – Pumpkin Harvest Celebration

Protected Spaces Stewardship Committee

The Protected Spaces Stewardship Committee plans and coordinates trail volunteer events and ongoing stewardship activities across town in several town-owned parks and preserves with public access via walkable trails. With a core volunteer group in place, we always have opportunities for you to join in. Trail vegetation pruning, wood chip spreading, invasive species control, water erosion bars, bridging, trail benches and message boards, trail marker installations and adopting local trails for stewardship work are ongoing activities. Updates are posted on the Committee's Facebook page (Coventry, CT- Conservation Commission). Registrations can be made through the town Parks and Recreation program catalog under Volunteer Opportunities.

Trail Work Parties

Tuesday October 8 @ 9:00- 11:00 am low profile bog bridge building. Location details at Laidlaw Park, Mill Brook Park and/or Rolling Woods-Windy Hill Preserve to be confirmed upon registration.

Multi-day footbridge construction at Williams Preserve. Event and location details will be available after 9/15.

Guided Walk

Saturday November 9 @ 10:00 am. South River Preserve. A short 30-minute, level ground woodland walk with great views along the Skungamaug River and grassy meadow of one of the town's newest preserves. Location details to be confirmed upon registration.

Saturday December 7 @ 1:00 pm. Williams Preserve. A 1.5 hour, moderately challenging woodland walk along the preserve's 3 blazed trails. Location details to be confirmed upon registration.

Questions? Reach out to openspacestewardship@coventry-ct.gov.

Building Department



As pool season comes to an end, check your records to see if a Certificate of Use and Occupancy has been issued for your pool. Many pool owners think that the pool installer scheduled the required final inspections, but in many cases the inspection was never completed. During the pool inspection, all safety items required by the State Building Code will be checked for compliance.

Fall is the time to prepare before winter arrives. Here are a few items to stay ahead of:

- Woodstove and chimneys should be cleaned prior to the first seasonal use.
- Annual maintenance of your homes heating system. Make sure to check your filters.
- Replacement of batteries in your homes smoke detectors.
- Clear gutters of all debris before the first snowfall.
- Caulk and seal around windows and doors to maintain energy efficiency.

By using the following link: <https://coventryct.portal.opengov.com/search>, you can search your address to confirm if there are any open outstanding permits on your property. If you have a permit that needs to be closed out, please call our office to schedule an appointment to have the Building Official come out to your home. We can be reached at 860-742-4064.



Town Manager
 Vendor Permit 1 Year, Vendor Permit 6 Month + 1
[more](#)

VENDOR PERMITS ARE NOW AVAILABLE ON THE TOWN'S PERMITTING SITE. [HTTPS://COVENTRYCT.PORTAL.OPENGOV.COM](https://coventryct.portal.opengov.com). APPLY ONLINE FOR A 1 MONTH, 6 MONTH OR 1 YEAR PERMIT.

Fall News from the Coventry Lake Advisory & Monitoring Committee

It is fall and Coventry Lake Advisory & Monitoring wants to remind everyone that it is time to CLEAN DRAIN DRY your vessels and boating equipment. It is recommended not to use soap within the watershed due to the phosphorous. Wash with white vinegar and dry in the sun.

Check out CT DEEP's site for other tips: <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Fishing/General-Information/Aquatic-Invasive-Species>

Coventry Lake Advisory & Monitoring joined with GZA, a local limnologist company, to form a Co-Op Water Quality Sampling Program. This increased the number of times testing was conducted from 4 to 8 during the season. Lake Advisory procures the water samples while GZA performs the actual analysis. Lake Advisory also does weekly Secchi disc readings which indicate water clarity. A good reading is about 3 M and that is what the summer readings of 2024 have been. Lower reading below 2 would indicate a watch for a possible cyanobacteria bloom. The 2024 summer season has seen no problems (as of August 1, 2024).

The town of Coventry was fortunate to receive a \$75,000 grant from the CT DEEP Control of Aquatic Invasive Species Program. This grant money is from the additional \$5 surcharge on all CT motor boat registrations. Working with North East Aquatic Research to conduct plant surveys and Solitude Lake Management to apply the three treatments of the systemic herbicide fluridone over a 90 day period the goal is to continue to reduce the slight increase in the few remaining hydrilla colonies. The first treatment of fluridone, a systemic herbicide, was completed on July 29. The next 2 treatments will occur in late august and again in late September. The July plant survey conducted by NEAR did find hydrilla growing in the original areas around Woodland Rd. cove, Hemlock Point, and a new location on the southern end of W. Shore Dr.

Find Coventry Lake Advisory & Monitoring on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/245119282764856>

Questions or concerns reach us at: coventrylakeadvisor@coventry-ct.gov.

Veterans Corner

Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund's "The Wall That Heals"

The traveling Wall will be visiting Manchester, CT, September 19-22, 2024, at Charter Oak Park with the opening ceremony at 11:00 a.m. on the 19th. This Wall is a three quarters size replica of the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C. The Wall brings honor, respect and healing to those who served, and to their loved ones, during this difficult period in our history. It is dedicated to the 58,281 service members, including the 614 from Connecticut, who lost their lives while serving in the Vietnam War. The Wall is accompanied by a 53-foot Mobile Education Center that provides additional information about the war, lists local hometown heroes, as well as the "In Memory Honor Roll" that honors veterans who returned home and later died. For more information on these programs check out www.vvmf.org. This exhibit is FREE to the public and will be open 24 hours a day beginning at 2 pm on September 18th until 2 pm September 22nd. For more information: www.manchesterelks.org/twth2024

CT Veterans Day Race:

Join us in saluting and thanking our military veterans at Patriots Park in Coventry on Saturday, November 2nd. The Opening Ceremony is at 9:45 a.m. followed by the start of the Race at 10:00 a.m. This is the premier Veterans Day event in Connecticut. It was recently selected by the Veterans Day National Committee, Washington, D.C., to be the regional site for the 2024 Veterans Day Commemoration.

The CT Veterans Day Race is a 4-mile run, or a 3-mile walk or rucksack. 100 percent of the proceeds go directly to CT veterans service organizations that serve the needy and at-risk veteran population. Check out www.ctveteransdayrace.com for more information.

ATTENTION RETIRED MILITARY MEMBERS:

Beginning in 2026, the old-style ID cards will no longer be accepted, regardless of the printed expiration date. The new ID cards are white. To maintain base access, please visit your nearest DEERS/ID card office to obtain a new ID. If you're unable to make it to a military installation, you can also request a new card through the RAPIDS ID Card Office Online: <https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/>.

Assessor's Office

REVALUATION 2024 PROJECT UPDATE:

Pursuant to Connecticut State Law, every municipality must complete a new town-wide revaluation every five (5) years. Coventry last implemented a town-wide revaluation for the October 1, 2019, Grand List and therefore is required to implement a new town-wide revaluation for the October 1, 2024, Grand List which will be implemented at the end of January (2025).

This project is well underway, with our vendor, Vision Government Solutions, and the Assessor's Office continuing property visits into at least October. Anyone visiting your property should be well identified. Names and vehicle information are on file in this office and with the Police Department.

VETERANS:

Veterans have until September 30th to file their DD214 with the Town Clerk to be eligible for an exemption for the 2024 Grand List. You must have served at least 90 days during a time of war. If you have already filed, you do not need to re-file. You will receive your exemption automatically each year.

If you are a disabled Veteran with a VA rating at 10% or more you are eligible for increased benefits. A change in law has been made to increase benefits for our totally/100% disabled veterans! More information on this will be forthcoming. If you have filed previously and there has been an increase in rating, please submit your new rating letter to this office

There is also an Additional Veteran's Exemption available for those Veterans who meet income guidelines. These applications must be submitted in person to the Assessor's office before October 1, 2024. Please call our office, 860-742-4067 if your income is less than \$53,400 if married or less than \$43,800 if single. Proof of income is required. We will be happy to give you more information and assist you in filing this application.

OTHER EXEMPTIONS - FILING DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 1, 2024

PERSONAL PROPERTY:

All business owners and owners of unregistered motor vehicles or vehicles registered out of state but present in Coventry for three (3) months are required to declare their personal property by November 1st of each year. The forms are now in the mail to current account holders and are available on the Town's web site, www.coventry-ct.gov and in the Assessor's Office. Please contact us for further information or with any questions you may have.

John Preisner, Assessor and Rachel Vertefeuille, Assistant Assessor are available for any questions at 860-742-4067, or email: assessor@coventry-ct.gov.

Town Employee News

Welcome to **Lori Beecher**, our new Assistant Town Clerk, and **Danielle Baker**, Transfer Station Operator. **Dianna Grindle** has transferred from her role as Human Services Coordinator to serve as the Administrative Secretary at Public Works following the retirement of long-term employee **Donna Wrubel**. Welcome to **Austyn Dolce**, our new Human Services Coordinator. Farewell to **Melissa Bordonaro**, Youth Services Coordinator, and welcome to new Youth Services Coordinator **Madison Baranoski**. Congratulations to **Charlie Harakaly** and **Colin Dunnack** on their promotions to Crewleader at Public Works; and to **Olaph Anderson** and **Robert Michaud** on their promotions to Police Sergeant.

Tax Collector's Office

860-742-4066

The July 2024 installment of the 2023 Grand List tax bills and 2024 COVRRRA/Trash fees are now delinquent and subject to 1 ½ % interest per month. The first installment of the sewer assessment bill due in May 2024 is also now delinquent. Please call or go on the town website for correct amount due on any unpaid bill. The sewer use bills for 2024 were mailed at the end of August and are due in full in September. If your sewer use payment is not received within 30 days of the due date, applicable interest is due.

The real estate second installment bill due in January 2025 is not rebilled. You should retain your two remaining copies from the original July 2024 billing: one to be presented upon payment of the January 2025 (second installment) and the other as your receipt (taxpayer's copy). Supplemental motor vehicle bills will be mailed at the end of December with a January 1, 2025 due date.

Credit card payments for tax, sewer, and COVRRRA trash bills are accepted here in the office as well as online and are processed by Point and Pay. Payments made by bank account (electronic check) is \$0.95. There is a convenience fee charged by Point and Pay for credit & debit card payments. Debit is charged a flat rate of \$3.95. All credit cards charged 2.75% (minimum \$2.00) fee. There is a link from the Tax Collector's page on the town's website www.coventry-ct.gov to pay. Please feel free to call the Tax Office before making your online payments and we will be happy to walk you through the procedure.

Webster Bank Lockbox will be processing current tax payments during January 2025 for Real Estate 2nd installment and Supplemental Motor vehicle tax. Please include your current payment coupon with your check and mail to Town of Coventry, Dept 336, PO Box 150417, Hartford CT 06115-0417. All other payments (partial, late, sewer, COVRRRA/Trash) should be mailed directly to the Town of Coventry, 1712 Main St., Coventry CT 06238.

Any individual needing an immediate DMV clearance in order to register any vehicle is reminded to pay by cash or a money order at the Tax Collector's office. Check payments delay your DMV clearance up to ten (10) business days. Online payments by credit card, debit card or bank account through the town's website will take 4 business days from the date you made the payment to clear with DMV (due to weekends and holidays). All bills must be paid for clearance (it is by name, not by vehicle).

We strongly encourage paying online at our website www.coventry-ct.gov, by mail or use the convenience of the drop box permanently installed inside the rear vestibule entrance to Town Hall. We do not recommend paying via your bank's online service. Please do not use the ballot box located outside for payments.

PAYMENT DUE CALENDAR: SEPTEMBER - Sewer Use Fee single payment. **NOVEMBER** - Sewer Assessment fee 2nd installment. **JANUARY** - Real Estate 2nd installment and Supplemental Motor Vehicle tax only if applicable. **MAY** - Sewer Assessment fee 1st installment. **JULY** - Real Estate 1st installment; Motor Vehicle, COVRRRA and Personal Property single payment.

News from Parks & Recreation



Camp Wangumbaug (Camp W) had a successful summer serving over 90 campers per week for 8 weeks. In addition to Camp Wangumbaug, the Parks and Rec Department ran 7 specialty camp programs including Basketball Camp, Football Camp, Soccer Camp, Cooking Camp, Fitness Camp, Multisport Camp, and Science Camp. A BIG THANK YOU to the Camp Wangumbaug staff for their hard work providing an amazing camp experience to so many campers this summer!

Patriots Park and Lisicke Beach saw big crowds on the sunny days we had in between many thunderstorms. A BIG THANK YOU to the lifeguards, gatekeepers for a GREAT SEASON!

SAVE THE DATE for Halloween on Main: Saturday, October 26th with a rain date of Sunday 10/27.

Fall/Winter Edition of 06238 Program Guide hitting homes in September! Parks and Recreation continues to add new program offerings each season!



Brick School House
Coventry, CTStrong-Porter House
Coventry, CT

Keepers of Coventry's History

John Holmy- Town Historian

Coventry is an old Connecticut town. Not the oldest, old enough to have cemeteries established in the 1700's and people buried in them born in the 1600's. With our Town's age and antiquity comes a lot of fascinating local history. There are many ways to enjoy and experience this history. The most obvious is the Nathan Hale Homestead, birthplace of our State Hero. Our public library has an excellent collection of local history books. There are many local history articles on the Town's website. The single largest repository of local history is the Coventry Historical Society, keeper's of Coventry's past. The Coventry Historical Society maintains two physical locations, **The Strong-Porter Museum** on South Street, and the Brick Schoolhouse on Goose Lane. Both are open on Sundays, the Strong-Porter Museum from 11-3, and the **Brick Schoolhouse** is open through the first weekend in October from 1-4 pm. I encourage you to visit them both, or better yet, become a member of the Coventry Historical Society. As a member you would receive our newsletter, The Sign Post, and notification of our monthly events. Follow us on Facebook and find membership information on our website at <https://ctcoventryhistoricalsociety.dreamhosters.com>.



DAFFODIL BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT

Since this project, sponsored by the Village Improvement Society, began in 1993, approximately 384,195 daffodil bulbs have been planted in Coventry! To order bulbs at \$6/dozen for fall planting, call Judy at 860-214-9567. Varieties include Dutch Master (all yellow) or a Giant Mixture.

Booth & Dimock Memorial Library

The Booth & Dimock Memorial Library is looking forward to a fun fall! The Library is open Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 10-8, Friday from 10-6, and Saturday from 10-3. The Library will be closed on November 9 in observance of Veteran's Day, November 28-30 for Thanksgiving, and December 24 and 25.

Did you know that the Library no longer collects late fines? Did you know that we'll accept any returns no matter how overdue they are? If you have a long-overdue library book, we would love to get it back! Any overdue items returned to the library will be accepted with no fines or fees, and any borrowing restrictions will be lifted!

Booth & Dimock Library offers circulating collections for all ages, including books, DVDs, video games, puzzles, tabletop games, and a wide selection of e-books and digital audiobooks! Stop by to utilize our free high-speed wi-fi, desktop computers, or printing and copying services. Study or work in a cozy parlor, or lounge while reading a newspaper or magazine in a comfy chair. Come by to ask a librarian for reference or research assistance, or attend one of our many fun programs!

Adult Programs

- **The Secret Lives of Owls** – November 23rd at 11:00 – We are welcoming back Horizon Wings to tell us all about the extraordinary features of owls, including exceptional eyesight, hearing, and ability to fly silently. This is your chance to be only a few feet away from a Northern Saw-Whet Owl, an Eastern Screech Owl, a Barred Owl, a Barn Owl and a Great-Horned Owl!
- **Book Banter** – October 22 and November 26 at 11:00 – A book club without an assigned book! Each month has its own topic and we pick whatever book we want to read related to it to be discussed at the next meeting! In October we will discuss thrillers and in November we will discuss historical fiction.
- **Genealogy Club** – October 17, November 21, and December 19 at 11:30 – Join us on the 3rd Thursday of every month from 11:30 – 1:00 to discuss research, commiserate over those stubborn brick walls, and just trade tips. No registration is required and drop-ins are always welcome. Bring any research or questions you'd like to share with the group!
- **Tea Explorers** – October 9, November 21, December 11 – Come join us as we resume our world travels through tea! Pre-Registration required. Sign up or request info by: calling 860-742-7606, emailing BDLibrary@coventryct.org or asking at the main circulation desk!
- **Spice Life** – October 23rd, November 27th – Each monthly kit comes with a sample pack of the spice of the month, a recipe, and a little history about it! Sign up or request info by: calling 860-742-7606, emailing BDLibrary@coventryct.org or asking at the main circulation desk!

Children's Programs

- **Playgroup** – Every Wednesday at 10:30 – Immerse your child in the enchantment of reading at our Play Group! 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!
- **Sweet Dreams Story Time** – October 15, and November 19th at 6:30 – All ages are welcome to join Miss Rachel for a calming and relaxing evening story time!
- **Messy Munchkins** – September 27, October 18, and November 22 at 11:00 – Bring your little ones to enjoy some messy sensory play! We will have multiple sensory stations for your child to play in. Make sure to wear your play clothes!
- **Sing, Stomp, & Story** – October 10 and November 14 – Join us in the children's area for a fun storytime filled with music and movement!
- **Scary Stories Story Time** – October 24 at 4:00 – Join Miss Rachel for some spooky, scary stories in this special evening time event!
- **Dog Man Trivia** – November 8 at 1:00 – Join us as we answer fun questions about one of our favorite literary characters – Dog Man!
- **Saturday Crafts** – November 16 – Stop by the library any time between 10:00 and 3:00 for some crafting fun. All ages are welcome!

For a complete and up-to-date listing of all our programs, visit www.coventrypl.org/events, or visit our Facebook @BDLibrary.

Staff Updates

We are proud to announce the promotions of **Aubrey Bond** and **Rachel Hora** from Library Assistant I to Library Assistant II. Aubrey works at our upstairs desk and is now the library's outreach representative! Rachel works at the children's desk and creates many of our great programs and all of our fun coloring sheets!

We are also excited to recognize two staff members with milestone tenures. **Donna Murphy**, Library Assistant II, has worked for the library for 20 years and **Christa Kiedaisch**, Children's Librarian, has worked for the library for 5 years!

1134 Main Street, Coventry, CT
860-742-7606
www.coventrypl.org
Facebook @BDLibrary

Department of Public Works

Director: Bill Watkins, wwatkins@coventry-ct.gov
 Town Engineer: Todd Penney, P.E., tpenney@coventry-ct.gov
 Highway Crewleader: Charlie Harakaly, charakaly@coventry-ct.gov
 Facilities & Grounds Crewleader: Colin Dunnack, cdunnack@coventry-ct.gov
 Admin. Secretary / COVRR: Dianna Grindle, dgrindle@coventry-ct.gov
 Engineering Technician: Mark St. Germain, P.E., mstgermain@coventry-ct.gov

Town/State Capital Projects:

LOTICIP - Swamp Road and South Street Improvements

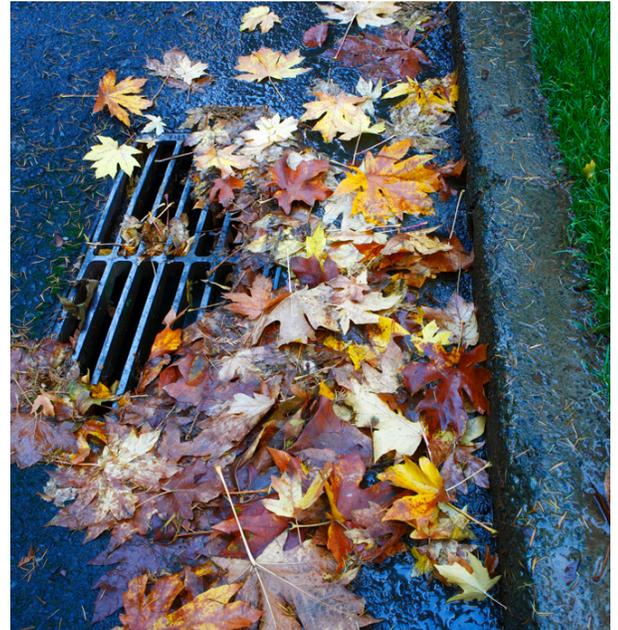
Project: Project in permitting and right of way phases. Project expected to be bid in early spring of 2025 with construction starting in early summer of 2025.

FLBP - Hop River Road Bridge Project: Construction is progressing on the bridge replacement project. Construction is on schedule for the re-opening of the road in early November. Minor punchlist items are expected to take place in early 2025.

CCGP - Main Street Sidewalk Extension to Lisicke Beach: No activities done on the project in this quarter due to other project timing demands.

2021 DEEP Rec Trail Grant: No activities done on the project in this quarter due to other project timing demands.

Miller Richardson Park Improvements: The State earmark grant will start the first week of September and will continue through November. The project will improve the traffic flow, pedestrian flow and safety, provide additional parking, improve ADA compliance, drainage improvements and minor landscaping features.



Tree Removal and Disposal of Leaves & Yard Waste:

Planting, pruning or removal of trees within the Town Right of Ways (ROW) at roadside requires approval of the **Tree Warden**. State Statute requires a written request for permission to remove or plant trees in the ROW area. Unapproved work in the ROW is subject to fines and damages. The Tree Warden's email address is wwatkins@coventry-ct.gov. Do not use email to contact the Tree Warden for emergencies – call Public Works at (860) 742-6588 or the Police Department at (860) 742-7331.

DPW is requesting that residents refrain from disposing leaves and yard waste into ditches, catch basin structures and culverts. It is vital to keep these areas clear and open to convey storm water in peak flow rain events. If you have a structure in front of your property please help clean the top off. DPW swept the entire town and cleaned all of the basin tops in the spring, but the grates still get covered over and plugged with organic debris. Leaves can be disposed of at the Transfer Station at no charge and brush may be cut up into 3 foot lengths, bundled and tied, 30-lbs. maximum and put out for bulk pickup on the second Monday of the month.

Household Chemical Waste Drop-Off Facility:

57 Hancock Road in Willington. Open 9/21/24 and 10/19/24 - THEN CLOSED FOR SEASON!!!

See the DPW section of the Town website for a list of acceptable materials. Prepare the materials by:

- Packing carefully in original containers only, seal and label
- Do not mix materials
- Drive carefully to prevent tipping
- No smoking while handling and transporting materials
- Residential limits of 10 gallons liquid and 100 pounds dry materials

As a Coventry resident you may bring residential quantities of hazardous waste to the facility at no cost but bring proof of residency. **There is also a small business program.** Email MidNEROC@cox.net for information, or call 860-965-1910.

Chemical Waste is a problem! When hazardous wastes are poured down the sink or toilet, dumped "out back", poured into a street drain or put out into the trash, they eventually make their way into our water supply. If you have doubt whether or not a material is hazardous you could call Public Works at (860) 742-6588.

Other FAQ's:

- **Medication:** Do not flush down the toilet or drain. Many prescriptions may be disposed of at the Coventry Police Department (860) 742-7331.
- **Asbestos:** Double bag and seal this material. One cubic foot can be disposed with trash. For large quantities, contact an asbestos removal company.
- **Explosives, fireworks, ammunition:** Contact your state police barracks.
- **Water reactive materials:** For peroxides and metallic sodium, contact a licensed environmental contractor.
- **Biologically active materials:** Contact a licensed medical & infectious waste contractor.

Recycled at Coventry Public Works Facility:

Car batteries, motor oil, transmission oil, #2 fuel oil, brake fluid, kerosene, gas cylinders, diesel fuel, antifreeze.

DUMPSTERS - For major cleanup projects, the COVRRRA contract for curbside pickup with All American Waste also includes pricing for 6 cubic yard dumpster for 30 days rental currently at \$175 haul/\$98 ton, 15 cubic yard dumpster for 30 days rental at \$195 haul/\$98 ton, and 30 cubic yard dumpster for 30 days rental at \$195 haul/\$98 ton. Additional rental after 30 days will be billed at \$5 per day. Residents contract directly with All American Waste at (860) 289-7850. Be sure you specify you are a Coventry resident to get this discounted rate.

Bye Bye Mattress is a mattress recycling program. The program was established by law and is operated by Mattress Recycling Council, a nonprofit that uses a recycling fee collected on each mattress and box spring sold, making recycling easier in our communities. Whether a retailer takes it back with your new purchase or **you drop it off at the Transfer Station,** the Bye Bye Mattress program converts your old product from waste to recycling. As a result, our landfills and incinerators are less crowded as old mattresses are recycled into new, useful products. Residents can drop-off their old mattress at no cost at the Coventry Transfer Station on Olsen Farm Road.

Textile Recycling is available in Coventry at the following locations: next to the Annex behind the Town Hall anytime and Public Works on Olsen Farm Road anytime. Textiles can be donated in any condition as long as they're clean and dry. Must be contained in bags.

Trash Holiday Schedule: All American Waste will observe the following legal holidays thereby altering curbside pickup accordingly:

- Thursday, November 23rd – Thanksgiving Day
- Wednesday, December 25th – Christmas Day
- Wednesday, January 1st – New Year's Day

Curbside Monthly Oversized Items Pickup:

On the 2nd Monday of every month residents may place at curbside by 6:30 am up to three oversized items to be picked up for free. These large nonmetal items must be out on Monday regardless of your regular trash day. Examples are dresser, rolled carpet or recliner chair w/metal removed. If you don't want to wait for this event you are now able to bring your furniture / oversized items to the Transfer Station on Olsen Farm Road – however rates will apply.

No Electronics Curbside: Electronics will not be picked up at curbside. Coventry residents must bring their electronics to the town's transfer station for recycling. **No Mattresses Curbside:** Mattresses and boxsprings will not be picked up at curbside. Must be brought to the Transfer Station for recycling.

Excess trash and recycling? The Transfer Station is now able to accept excess bags of trash and recycling! The fee is \$2.00 per bag for trash and recycling free. Check your COVRRRA calendar for open days / times.

Pickup missed? Call All American Waste at (860) 289-7850 if your curbside trash or recycling is not picked up. This direct communication allows for pickup arrangements to be made. This same number should be called if you have monthly items out that don't get picked up or if your cart is broken. PLEASE CALL DURING THE WEEK OF THE PICKUP TO RECTIFY THE SITUATION.

Tipper Cart broken? Call All American Waste at (860) 289-7850 for information. Push the lid plugs in periodically to keep them snug and inspect them regularly so they stay tight. This will ensure your tipper cart lid stays on your cart. Homeowners are reminded that the tipper carts are owned by All American Waste and must remain at the property location that is billed for this service.

Coventry's Best Kept Secret -**"In yard" trash/recycling service available:**

Do you know someone who might benefit from having their trash or recycle cart picked up right at their back door? (A mutually agreed upon location somewhere along the driveway may be necessary for those extra long driveways.) No more struggling to wheel their carts to the curb!! The town has a **few** slots for those with a medical need (no additional fees involved) who are elderly or handicapped and have no one living with them or visiting regularly who can assist them with this task. Call Human Services (860) 742-5324 to apply for this service.

COVRRRA questions should be directed to Public Works at (860) 742-6588 or email dgrindle@coventry-ct.gov.



Thursday hours April - September: noon - 6 PM
 Thursday hours October - March: 10 AM - 4 PM
 Open every Saturday from 9 am until 3 pm (excluding holidays).
 Proof of residency required. Electronic payments available.

Materials acceptable with cost:

- Construction and demolition debris. Free of cardboard, metal and garbage.
- Land clearing debris; stumps & brush.
- Furniture - rates apply
- Fire Extinguishers \$6 each
- Propane Tanks - rates vary by size
- Appliance with refrigerant \$10 each, no weigh-in necessary.
- **PLEASE - DOORS MUST BE REMOVED FROM REFRIGERATORS**
- Tires - automobile size - on or off rim \$5 each.
- Garbage - \$2 each bag

Materials acceptable no cost:

- Single stream recyclables (for example bottles, cans, cardboard, paper)
- Leaves for composting
- Electronics, fluorescent light bulbs, batteries
- Paint, primers, stains, shellacs, rust preventatives
- Mattress and box spring (\$20 fee if excessive damage or wet)
- Appliance without refrigerant (stove, washer, dryer)
- Metal materials (metal tanks must be cut open and crushed).

Materials NOT acceptable:

- Grass clippings
- Hazardous waste

Commercial Users Must Remember... The Town of Coventry Transfer Station is not intended for commercial use although small repair/remodeling contractors doing work for Coventry residents may be allowed limited use to dispose of materials incidental to their work within the limits of the Town of Coventry. Proof of residency and building permits, as applicable, will be checked as part of normal facility operations to insure the facility waste stream remains residential in nature.

WPCA

Water Pollution Control Authority (Sewer Department)

Project Updates:

- Bolton Gateway (Route 44) Sewer Project: This sewer expansion project will help protect groundwater quality and facilitate commercial redevelopment for 21 properties on Route 44 near the Bolton Town line. Congressman Joe Courtney selected our project for a \$1.2 million EPA grant. We had hoped the grant would cover the majority of costs but tie-in fees from Bolton were much higher than expected. We will try to negotiate lower rates.
- The treatment plant upgrade study has been completed and is in final review stage with CT DEEP. The study concluded that upgrading our plant will be less expensive than connecting to Willimantic and better for the Town in the long term. The total cost is around \$30 million. We are eligible for DEEP grants and are exploring additional grant sources.
- Cured-In-Place-Pipe Lining: Insituform Technologies won the bid to install over 1900 feet of 12 inch diameter pipe liner in the ductile iron sewer main that runs underneath the lake adjacent to Woodland Rd. This no-dig pipe rehab method has become very popular in areas where open excavation is not practical. The liner will outlive us all. Total cost was \$133,000 and was funded by an ARPA grant.

Contact Us:

Mike Ruef, WWTP Operator: 860-531-2913
mruef@coventry-ct.gov

www.coventry-ct.gov: the link to the WPCA page can be found by clicking on Your Government > Boards & Commissions > Water Pollution Control Authority

**Low Interest Loans
for Sewer
Connections:**

Low interest/deferred loans for new sewer connections may be available through HUD. Contact Mike Ruef for details.

Human Services Office



860-742-5324

Annemarie Sundgren - Administrator
Austyn Dolce - Human Services Coordinator
Madison Baranoski - Youth Services Coordinator

FOOD BANK

Coventry Food Bank is available to any individual or family living in town that is experiencing difficult times and is in need of assistance with food.



We have a variety of pantry items and toiletries. Please contact our office to schedule a brief intake and a food bank appointment.

We are solely a donor-funded program and would not be able to provide for this community without the generous donations from our residents, churches and schools. Thank you for your continued support!!

If you would like to donate to the food bank, we are always in need of: cereal, pasta/pasta sauce, peanut butter/jelly, rice, kids snacks, mac and cheese, laundry soap, paper goods, tuna, condiments, personal care items (toothbrush, deodorant, shampoo/conditioner).

The needs of the Food Bank can change depending on the month/season, so follow us on Facebook for updates or give the office a call for an updated list. **Please remember we cannot distribute expired items so please check expiration dates!**

CLERGY FUEL

Residents who wish to contribute to the Clergy Fuel Fund can mail their donation to Coventry Human Services c/o Clergy Fuel Fund.

100% of the money raised is used to assist Coventry families in need of emergency fuel assistance once all other resources have been exhausted. We require proof of 1 out-of-pocket fuel payment.

Your contribution can make a difference this winter!

WORRIED ABOUT WINTER HEATING COSTS?

Connecticut Energy Assistance Program
October 2024-March 2025

The Energy Assistance program is designed to offset winter heating costs for low-income (below 60% of state median income) households.

What do I do if I want to apply for help?

To apply for assistance, applicants must schedule an appointment and provide copies of required documents for all household members (ALL documentation needs to be brought to the appointment, if not the appointment will need to be rescheduled) - Please contact office for specific details.

We strongly encourage applicants to make an appointment with ACCESS Agency or Coventry Human Services early as space is limited. Appointments will be re-scheduled if proper documentation is not provided at the initial intake.

**Program follows CT Poverty Guidelines; please call the office to see if you qualify.*

HOLIDAY "ADOPT A FAMILY" PROGRAM

October - December 2024

If you are a family or individual in need of help this holiday season, we can help with a holiday meal or even gifts for the children in the house (birth to 18 if still in high school). Please call our office to set up an appointment to discuss your needs.



HOLIDAY DONATIONS

November - December 2024

The holidays are quickly approaching! Many families and individuals will benefit from your generosity this holiday season. How can you help?

Donate a turkey or ham

- Donate canned goods, fresh fruit and vegetables, dessert
- Donate new unwrapped toy
- Donate gift cards (Walmart, Amazon, Target, Grocery Store, Gas cards, etc.)
- Call for information on you can "Adopt a family" for the holiday
- Monetary donations can be made in lieu of food or gifts. Please mail your donation to Coventry Human Services- 1712 Main Street, Coventry

Freezer space is limited, please call ahead if you are making a large donation of frozen turkeys or hams

Please follow Coventry Human Services on Facebook for updates on future programs and events!!
Email: Humanservices@coventry-ct.gov; Administrator: asundgren@coventry-ct.gov.

Coventry Senior Center

The Coventry Senior Center is committed to providing adults 55+, a welcoming, inclusive and supportive environment to participate in recreational, educational and wellness programs. The Center is committed to these core principles, focusing on the integration of best practices in program development and continued community collaboration. We are here to meet the needs of our adult citizens in Coventry.

Physical Address: Patriots Park, 172 Lake Street, Coventry, CT 06238

Mailing Address: 1712 Main Street, Coventry, CT 06238

Phone: 860-742-3525

Website: www.coventryct.org/SeniorCenter

"Friend" Us: www.facebook.com

Staff:

Brenda Bennett, Coordinator; bbennett@coventry-ct.gov

Jessica Richardson, Senior Center Assistant, jrichardson@coventry-ct.gov

Hours of Operation:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9am-4pm
and Friday 9am-1pm

COVENTRY RIDES TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

Staff: Sarah Leete, Transportation Coordinator; sleete@coventry-ct.gov. **Welcome aboard to new driver Kerry Kilbourne!**

Hours: Call and leave a message. Your call will be returned within 48 business hours.

Telephone: 860-742-3525

Coventry Rides Transportation Program provides free handicap-accessible service for Coventry seniors and residents with disabilities to the towns of Bolton, Tolland, Vernon and Manchester.

Rides must be scheduled at least 48 business hours in advance and no later than noon on Thursday for a Monday ride.

Coventry Rides is funded with grants from CT Department of Transportation and the Town of Coventry.

WRTD - Dial-a-ride WRTD (Windham Region Transit District) Dial-a-Ride services are available for Coventry-to-Coventry transit, as well as to the 9 towns within the Windham region. Reservations can be scheduled a minimum of one business day in advance and up to two weeks prior. To schedule a ride or for more information call 860-456-2223.

Check out the new van for the Coventry Rides program! We look forward to driving you in style! Shown L to R: Sarah Leete, Transportation Coordinator; Brenda Bennett, Senior Center Coordinator; and Jessica Richardson, Senior Center Administrative Assistant.



SENIOR CENTER COMING EVENTS:

COFFEE HOUR WITH STATE SENATOR JEFF GORDON

Hosted by the Veterans Coffee Hour and American Legion Post 52

September 24th at 9:30am

Light refreshments will be provided.

All are welcome!

RSVP is appreciated. Please contact the front desk at 860-742-3525.



EASTERN HIGHLANDS HEALTH DISTRICT VACCINE CLINIC

September 26, 2024 12:30-2:30pm

* RSV * COVID19 * Seasonal Flu * High dose seasonal flu

All major insurance plans are accepted.

On line registration links, coming soon.

ATTENTION HOMEBOUND RESIDENTS

If you are homebound or know someone that is, please pre-register and arrangements will be made for a visit. Call the Senior Center at 860-742-3525 for more information or assistance.

WHAT'S NEW WITH MEDICARE FOR 2025? October 25th at 11am

Learn about Medicare, Supplemental Insurance and Prescription Drug Insurance. Our certified CHOICES Counselor will present an overview of all parts of Medicare as well as the changes in store for 2025. RSVP is appreciated.

If you would like to review your health insurance options, please call us at 860-742-3525 to make a confidential appointment with a certified CHOICES Counselor. Appointments are the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from 9:00am to 12:00pm

VETERANS DAY TRIBUTE AND LUNCHEON November 6th at noon

Hosted by the Coventry Senior Center and American Legion Post 52 to honor and recognize our Coventry Veterans and their families. If you are a Veteran and would like to attend, please give the Center a call @ 860-742-3525. The ceremony will begin at noon followed by fellowship and lunch.

Immediately followed by a raffle drawing for the American Legion Post 52 in support of our children, youth and veterans' programs. If you wish to purchase a raffle ticket, please contact Manny Rodriguez at 860-338-4877.

Coventry Public Schools

COVENTRY BOARD OF EDUCATION: The Board of Education members are Jennifer Beausoleil, Chairperson; Eugene Marchand, Vice-Chairperson; Mary Kortmann, Secretary; Joseph Cleary; Emma Eaton; Courtney Rossignol; and Christina Williams.

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS: The Board of Education generally meets on the second and last Thursday of each month. The regularly scheduled meetings for the remainder of 2024 are as follows: September 26, October 10, Wednesday October 30, November 14, and December 12. Unless noted on the agenda, all meetings are held in the Administration Building Conference Room at 7:00 p.m. and can be viewed on Channel 194.



We are excited to share some recent district headlines with you:

- Coventry High School softball and baseball teams win Class S State championships!
- Coventry High School seniors Kaitlin Anderson and Grace Heller received Tri-M National Music Honors Student Recognition of Excellence Award

You can find the full press releases for these highlights and more on our website at: <https://www.coventrypublicschools.org/district/news>

OPEN DOOR MEETINGS: Superintendent of Schools, David J. Petrone, Ed.D. will continue his practice of holding Open Door Meetings for the public. Open communication is a key component for true collaboration. Once again, all of these informal gatherings will be held virtually via ZOOM.

The link for meetings will be posted on the www.coventrypublicschools.org website, on the Superintendent's page. All community members are invited to keep informed about education in Coventry by attending any of these Open Door meetings. The dates for the 2024-2025 school year are:

- Thursday, October 10, 2024 from 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, January 15, 2025 from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.
- Wednesday, April 30, 2025 from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. (budget focus)

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS AND INFORMATION CLOSINGS, LATE OPENINGS, UNPLANNED EARLY RELEASES: In addition to parents receiving messages through SchoolMessenger, these announcements are carried on radio stations WILI (98.3 FM, 1400AM), WTIC (96.5 FM, 1080AM), WRCH (100.5 FM), WZMX (93.7), WKSS (95.7), and WWYZ (92.5). Announcements are also carried on the television stations WFSB Channel 3, WVIT Channel 30 (cable Channel 4), and WTNH Channel 8. For more information on start and end times during unexpected delays or early releases, please see our website.

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES: Coventry Public Schools has always benefited from the generous efforts and talents of community and parent volunteers. Interested in volunteering in any of the schools in the district? To become a volunteer, please contact the building principals for more specific information.

- Joseph Blake, Coventry High School Principal, 860-742-7346, or jblake@coventryct.org
- Ross Sward, Capt. Nathan Hale School Principal, 860-742-7334, or rsward@coventryct.org
- Jennifer DeRagon, George Hersey Robertson School Principal, 860-742-7341, or jderagon@coventryct.org
- Dr. Beth Giller, Coventry Grammar School Interim Principal, 860-742-7313, or bgiller@coventryct.org
- Dr. Lois Hasty, Preschool and Early Childhood Education Coordinator, 860-742-4550, or lhasty@coventryct.org

Coming Events

September 28 - 10-11:30 AM

Nathan Hale Cemetery Walk. Join Town Historian John Holmy, in collaboration with the Coventry Cemetery Commission, for a walking tour of the historic Nathan Hale Cemetery. We will talk about the gravestone carvers represented, Puritan burial practices, and most importantly, we'll talk about many of the Coventry citizens buried here and what makes them interesting people of note. Parking- Patriots Park. Rain date: 9/29. Info: jholmy@coventry-ct.gov.

October 13 - 1 PM

CROP Hunger Walk, Coventry Fire Station 208, 1645 South Street/Judd Road. This annual walk raises money for world hunger. It's a 2.4 mile circle starting and ending at the fire house or walk an alternate ½ mile route on South St. Register and/or donate online at <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2024> and join our team "First & Second Churches of Coventry Walk." Registration also available the day of the event at 12:30. For more info contact Laura Young at LBYoung1964@gmail.com.

October 19 - 10-11:30 AM

Grant Hill Cemetery Walk. Join Town Historian John Holmy, in conjunction with the Coventry Cemetery Commission, for a walking tour of the Beautiful Grant Hill Cemetery. We will learn why it is called Grant Hill. This is an amazing cemetery to view the work of Puritan era local grave stone carvers Amasa Loomis and Aaron Haskins. We will learn about Coventry citizens buried there like Henry Walker, who ran the town poor house, Hinkel and Mae, retired vaudevillians from the Actor's Colony, and more! Parking- along the road in front of the cemetery. Rain date: 10/20. Info: jholmy@coventry-ct.gov.

November 2 - 12-2 PM

The Coventry Chili Fest is back for another year. Sponsored by the Coventry Lions Club, the Chili Fest will take place on Saturday Nov.2 from 12-2pm at Coventry HS. Prizes will be awarded. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$7 for seniors and student ID, and free for age 6 and under. Information will be available on the Lions' Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/CoventryLionsClub> or the Lions Club of Coventry website. New chili cookers are welcome to the competition.



December 14 - 2 - 12 PM

Wreaths Across America. The 7th year of Wreaths Across America! The Coventry Cemetery Commission will be hosting the ceremony on 12/14/2024 at Coventry Cemetery, 386 Main St., at 12 Noon. Look for the 50 ft flag on the Fire Department's hook and ladder truck! Our veterans are honored each year by the American Legion, the V.F.W., the Boy Scouts and distinguished speakers all of whom participate to make the ceremony a fitting tribute to all veterans. Ceremonial wreaths will be presented to all eight services; Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard, Merchant Marines, and POW's and MIA's. The High School band will accompany throughout the ceremony. Wreaths will be placed on the graves of specifically honored veterans by donors and then everyone who wishes can place a wreath on a veteran's grave and say his or her name to honor them. The band will play Taps, in echo, and the American Legion will do a 21 gun salute. You can donate for a specifically named veteran's grave by sending a request with the veteran's name and the cemetery with a check, made out to Wreaths Across America, to Coventry Cemetery Commission, 1712 Main St. Coventry Ct 06238. The Donation is \$17.00 per wreath. This address can be used for all donations. The check MUST have the code CTCCCC to be counted to veterans in Coventry and the wreath to be delivered to the commission. You can order for other cemeteries by following this procedure BUT you must pick it up after the ceremony and place it yourself. Wreaths can also be ordered online at www.wreathsasscrossamerica.org/CTCCCC and follow instructions. CTCCCC must be used for your donation to be matched to Coventry. Paypal and Google Pay are accepted. All payments must be received by 11/22

Saturday December 7 - 9 AM-2 PM

**48th Annual Coventry PTO Craft Show
Coventry High School Gym**

Join us for this cozy indoor event!! Come grab a cup of coffee, a tasty baked good, and shop our vendors' tables, while your children take part in one of our craft classes!! All proceeds from this event benefit the children of Coventry Public Schools. ALL goods sold are handcrafted!

If you have never been, come check us out!

50+ Crafters! Bake Sale Luncheon Take a Chance Table Craft Classes

Admission:

Adults \$3 or 2 for \$5 . Children and Students: Free
Adult Admission is free with a confirmation of registration in one of our craft classes.

This event is sponsored by the PTOs of our Coventry Public Schools.



Sunday Dec. 8 - 12-4 PM

Christmas in Coventry Village is coming! The holiday season is welcomed along historical Main Street as well as at Patriots Park as this event celebrates its 20th year. Vendors, businesses, community groups offer a variety of activities, events and specials throughout the afternoon. The Lions Club hosts its annual Decorated Tree Festival and is joined by an array of crafters and artisans. Santa rides down Main Street, stopping at Coventry Arts and Antiques where families can take photos with him. Later, Santa is part of the Torchlight Parade which precedes the lighting of the Christmas/Holiday tree. Horse and wagon rides! Coventry Arts Guild Members Show! Refreshments! Giveaways! Lots of Holiday Music! Great shopping! And so much more. A schedule of events will be available online and at local businesses as the day nears. Visit the Lions Club "Christmas in Coventry Village" Facebook Page for ongoing updates. If you are interested in participating, helping, or would like more information, please contact Cindy Houser, Coventry Lions Club, 860-617-3588, cjhouser@sbcc.global; Barbara Barry, Coventry Lions Club, 860-803-7163, 307barbara@charter.net or Ruth O'Neil 860-918-5957, songaday@hotmail.com, Donations to Christmas in the Village are welcome and may be made by contacting one of the above coordinators.



*****ECRWSS***
POSTAL PATRON
COVENTRY, CT 06238**

COVENTRY TOWN NEWSLETTER

FALL 2024

Coventry Fireworks Events Sponsors

Thanks to all who donated to the 2024 Coventry Fireworks event. Your support made the event possible! Donations for the 2025 event are being accepted. Mail your check, made payable to the Town of Coventry, with "Fireworks" in the memo line to Parks & Recreation Department, Town of Coventry, 1712 Main Street, Coventry, CT 06238.

Platinum Sponsors

Agio Saranda LLC
Amazing Hardwood Floors
Earth Dynamics
Blanchard & Rossetto
Taylor Family Trust
The Merchant at Storrs Commons

Gold Sponsors

Ackert Electric
Bidwell Enterprises LLC
Champagne Family
Codiack Financial Services LLC
Marcia Krajewski
Yankee Oil

Silver Sponsors

James Florence & Karen Munson
Malcolm Gill
Cheri Trudon Real Estate Inc.
Coventry Lions Club
Crosen Builders
Heart Builders & Remodelers
Robert Mazzone
Thaller Enterprises, LLC

Bronze Sponsors

Bushnell Associates
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Dennis Clark
Dough Mamas LLC
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Scott Holmes
JDM Imports
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Bronze Sponsors, Cont.

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Dawn Love
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David Montany
The Confidential Search Co.
Norval Smith
Woke LLC
Weston Antiques

Friends of the Lake

Phoenix Nest BnB
Coventry Wine & Spirits
Hale's Barber Shop
Lindlau Realty Inc
Meadowbrook Wine & Spirits
New Panda Garden
Ramlaxman LLC
Worn Yesterday Shoppe LLC
Joseph Cleary
Marilyn Barrette
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Alice Bevvino
Lorraine Mara Burokas
Michael Byam
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