



## COVENTRY COMMUNITY UPDATE:

**October 2014**

...a periodic update of news and events around town.

### MANAGER'S MONTHLY MEMO:

Fall has arrived and with it a full calendar of opportunities. Please take a moment to review the events which enrich our community and make us "Love Coventry." A shout-out to [Coventry Regional Farmers' Market](#) for being named the Number 1 Most Celebrated Farmers' Market in the nation by American Farmland Trust. Take a stroll on one of the many Walktober events or take a run at the Harvest 5K as part of Farm Day Harvest Festival and Pumpkin Play Day on Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup>.

Can't find CoventryVision? It has been moved by Charter to Channel 191 as part of their conversion to all-digital service. No cable box, no picture. A reminder that re-broadcasts of many meetings are available on the Town's [website](#).

Many projects are underway around town. The Rt. 31 Curve project is finally becoming a reality. CT Water will be replacing water mains ahead of the project this fall with road construction slated for next summer. A Public Information meeting to refresh our memories of the project and meet one-on-one with CT DOT to ask questions is scheduled for 7:00 PM on Wednesday, October 29<sup>th</sup> at the Lecture Hall at Coventry High School. At long last the Pucker Street Bridge will be allowed to go out to bid for spring construction.

A peak ahead at next month's busy agenda. Elections are scheduled for Tuesday, November 4<sup>th</sup> between 6 AM and 8 PM at the two firehouses. A [sample ballot](#) is available on the Town's website. There will be a [local referendum question](#) seeking authorization to bond \$1,000,000 to allow the Town to acquire open space, including development rights, for conservation and active recreation. The Town Meeting [video](#) on this topic, as well as presentations by the [Open Space Committee](#) and an [overview of debt service impact](#) are available on the Town's website. There is also a vote for Probate Judge which needs a bit of explanation. There are two votes: one for the remaining term of retired Judge Twerdy and one for a new term.

We are also in the process of joining the ranks of becoming a Purple Heart Town. A service is planned on November 7<sup>th</sup> to recognize our local Purple Heart recipients as part of the middle school Veteran's Day ceremony. If you are or know of a Purple Heart recipient living in town, please get in touch with the Office of the Town Manager at 860-742-6324.

### UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS:

- Thurs, 10/2: WPCA, 6:45 PM, DPW building
- Mon, 10/6: Town Council Meeting: 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Thurs, 10/9: Board of Education, 7:30 PM, School Admin. Building
- Tues, 10/14: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Mon, 10/20: Town Council Meeting: 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Weds, 10/22: Inland Wetlands Agency, 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Mon, 10/27: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Weds, 10/29: Public Information Meeting, Reconstruction of Rt. 31 Curve, 7 PM, CHS Lecture Hall
- Thurs, 10/30: Board of Education, 7:30 PM, School Admin. Building

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

**HOLIDAYS:**

**Monday, 10/13: Columbus Day.** Town Hall offices, Senior Center and schools closed. Trash pick-up on [regular](#) schedule.

**COMING EVENTS:**

- Fri 9/26 **Haunted Corn Maze**, 7-9:30 PM, 9/26, 9/27, 10/3 & 10/4, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Walk the corn maze in the dark with spooks and surprises. Bring a flashlight. Not recommended for very young children. \$8 per person, \$25 per family. Rain date Sun. 10/5, 7-8:30 PM. [Website](#).
- Weds 10/1 **Out to Lunch Bunch**, 11:00 AM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Do you enjoy going out to lunch? Join us the first Wednesday of the month at a local restaurant for great food, great conversation and a fun time with friends! This month we'll be dining at Adams Mill Restaurant in Manchester. Please meet at Senior Center at 11:00 AM, or let Leigh know if you need a ride on the van. The cost for meal and tip is on your own. Please call the Center at 860-742-3525 to sign up by September 29th so that we can make arrangements with the restaurant and organize transportation.
- Weds 10/1 **Walktober – Hop River: Mill Village and Rail Trail**, 2 PM. Scenic walk on the Hop River Rail Trail. Learn about Hop River Village, once an important mill village. See two factory sites and the dam. 1.7 miles, 1.5 hours. Rt. 6 to Hop River Rd. Park at Rail Trail. Rain date 10/5, 10 AM. Sponsored by: CT Eastern Railroad Museum and Columbia Historical Society. Info: 860-617-3308.
- Thurs 10/2 **Walktober – Couch Preserve, Williams Walk**, 5 PM. A fun and relaxing walk on two key properties that contribute to the significant natural features within the Willimantic River Greenway. Scenic views of the river and other wooded upland features will accompany an interesting and informative guided environmental tour. 1.5 hours, 1-1.25 miles. Across the street from 171 Cooper Lane. Sponsored by: Town of Coventry Land Use. Info: 860-742-4062.
- Thurs 10/2 **Meet the Candidates Night**, 7-9 PM, Town Hall Annex, 1712 Main Street. Candidates for Representative from the 8<sup>th</sup> District will respond to questions regarding open space, farms, and economic development. This will be followed by a question-and-answer period open to audience members on any topic of choice. Presented by Save Open Space Coventry. Questions contact Cathy Cementina, [ccementina@charter.com](mailto:ccementina@charter.com), or Jasmine Wolf, [jbirdsings@aol.com](mailto:jbirdsings@aol.com).
- Sat 10/4 **Harvest 5K, Kids Fun Run, Farm Day Harvest Festival & Pumpkin Play Day**, 9:30 AM – 2 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Run a 5K race through beautiful country roads lined with fall foliage. Visit the Farm Day Harvest for local produce to enjoy at home, farm animals, music, and other fun activities. Take a tour of historic Nathan Hale Homestead (FREE for runners and Coventry residents), and stop by the Corn Maze. Coventry Parks & Rec. is also bringing our famed Pumpkin Play Day to this year's race and day of festivities! Kids will enjoy pumpkin carving & painting, a costume parade & contest, hay rides, pony rides, games, arts & crafts, and music! Visit the Recreation [website](#) for information and registration forms.
- Sun 10/5 **Coventry Regional Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Theme: *Artisan Cheese Festival & Potter's Market*. [Website](#).
- Mon 10/6 **Spa Day**, 9 AM – 12 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Michelle DeLuco of Kennedy & Co. Salon & Spa will offer spray bottle

variety haircuts, clipper cuts and eyebrow or beard trimming. The price for haircuts is \$15, payable directly to Michelle at the time of the appointment. Hope Charette of Hope & Wellness Salon will also offer nail clipping, manicures & pedicures. The price for nail clipping is \$15; add scrub and polish for an additional \$15, payable directly to Hope at the time of the appointment. Please call the Center at 860-742-3525 to make an appointment or for more information.

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| Tues  | 10/7  | <b>Massage Therapy &amp; Reflexology Sessions with Deb Turner, L.M.T.,</b> 9 AM – 2 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Due to the overwhelming demand for Deb’s services, she’ll now be with us twice a month! Come and experience the many health benefits for yourself (and see why Deb is so well loved among Coventry Seniors!). Increase your blood flow to all major organs and relieve muscle tension in your neck, shoulders & lower back with a 20 minute chair massage. Or, treat your feet and increase joint mobility & balance through body awareness with a reflexology session. There is a \$15.00 fee payable directly to Deb at the time of the appointment. Please call the Center at 860-742-3525 to schedule your appointment. <i>Also Tuesday, 10/21 from 9 AM – 2 PM.</i> |
| Weds  | 10/8  | <b>Mobile Foodshare,</b> 10-10:30 AM, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. An outdoor food distribution service for persons of low income. Please bring your own grocery bag. More <a href="#">info</a> .   |
| Weds  | 10/8  | <b>Music &amp; Movement,</b> 10:30-11:30 AM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Join us for a brand new music enriched program for anyone under the age of 5! Music & Movement is a noisy half hour of songs, dance and musical instruments. Parents are encouraged to participate with their young one to model active play. This fun program is designed to share new concepts with your child such as following directions, rhyme and rhythm, and creative play. Wednesdays through 11/12. Registration required. Call 860-742-7606. Library <a href="#">website</a> .   |
| Thurs | 10/9  | <b>Cookbook Club,</b> 7 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Whether you are a seasoned chef or a novice cook, if you enjoy looking through a new cookbook, join us for our brand new Cookbook Book Club. Pick up a copy of the first selection <i>Smitten Kitchen</i> by Deb Perelman at the library and come to our first meeting for samples and a discussion. Info: 860-742-7606. Library <a href="#">website</a> .   |
| Sat   | 10/11 | <b>Walktober – Treasures of Coventry Village,</b> 11 AM. Enjoy a 1-mile walk through historic Coventry’s 19th-century mill village. Explore mill sites, architecturally significant buildings, and experience a few surprises. 2-2.5 hours, 1 mile. From Main St. (Rt. 31), take Lake St. south, 3 <sup>rd</sup> driveway on the right. Sponsored by: Village Improvement Society. Info: 860-742-9401.  |
| Sat   | 10/11 | <b>Homestyle Meatloaf Community Supper,</b> 4:30-6:30 PM, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main St. Meatloaf, potatoes, gravy, vegetable, assorted desserts, drinks. \$12 adults, \$10 seniors. Takeout available. Info: 860-742-8487.   |
| Sun   | 10/12 | <b>Coventry Regional Farmers’ Market,</b> 11 AM – 2 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Theme: <i>Fungus Festival</i> . <a href="#">Website</a> .   |
| Sun   | 10/12 | <b>Walktober – Stories in Stone,</b> 1 PM, Nathan Hale Cemetery, Lake Street. Discover the stone carver’s art and hear stories of some of the citizens and heroes who are buried in the Nathan Hale Cemetery. Park at Patriots Park. 1 hour, 0.5 miles. Sponsored by: Nathan Hale Homestead. Info: 860-742-6917.  |
| Mon   | 10/13 | <b>Walktober – The Gravestones of Grant Hill,</b> 1 PM, Grant Hill Cemetery, Intersection of Grant Hill and North School Street. Gravestone epitaphs and  |

- images have changed from century to century. Follow a path through the 1700s and 1800s and discover what they are trying to tell us. 1.5 hours, 0.5 miles. Park on grass along roadside near cemetery. Sponsored by: Coventry Cemetery Commission. Info: 860-742-0274.
- Tues 10/14 **Maker Camp**, 2-4 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Join Miss Meg and Kristi to experience, invent and explore in a STEAM based creative environment. Grades 2-9. No registration required. Info: 860-742-7606. Library [website](#).
- Tues 10/14 **“Oddball Plants for Oddball People”**, 7 PM, Presbyterian Church, corner of Trowbridge Rd. and Rt. 44. Join the Coventry Garden Club as Adam Wheeler of Broken Arrow Nursery, a dynamic and knowledgeable speaker, shares a program most certainly to be enjoyed by all. Info: Carole Miller, [carole.miller@att.net](mailto:carole.miller@att.net).
- Tues 10/14 **The Healing Power of Meditation**, 7 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Join Dr. Matthew Riader MD, a clinical physician and coordinating director of the Geriatric Teaching Program at Middlesex Hospital. He has been practicing meditation for over 35 years and will present clinical research on how meditation can improve health. Info: 860-742-7606. Library [website](#).
- Thurs 10/16 **Pete the Cat Party**, 4-5 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. My buttons my buttons! Come and enjoy Pete the Cat stories, groovy activities, a cool craft and a snazzy snack. Based on the books by Eric Litwin & James Dean. 2nd grade and under. No registration required. Info: 860-742-7606. Library [website](#).
- Sat 10/18 **Walktober – Where Heroes Trod**, 1 PM, Nathan Hale Forest. Take a walk through the magnificent Nathan Hale Forest. This land was purchased 100 years ago by George Dudley Seymour to preserve the farm and homestead of Connecticut’s State Hero. 1 hour, 2 miles. Park at Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Sponsored by: Nathan Hale Homestead. Info: 860-742-6917.
- Sun 10/19 **Coventry Regional Farmers’ Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Theme: *Farm to Latte*. [Website](#).
- Sun 10/19 **Walktober – I Spy a Letterbox**, 1 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Discover clues and take your “turn” to find the hidden letterboxes of the famous Culper Spy Ring during the American Revolution. Beginners welcome. Kits available for purchase. 1 hours, 0.5 mile. Sponsored by: Nathan Hale Homestead. Info: 860-742-6917.
- Mon 10/20 **Cook’s Club**, 10 AM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Calling all cooks! Join us for this new and exciting group! We’ll meet once per month to share & test recipes, taste samples and discuss strategies for healthy eating. No experience necessary, just a love of good food and good company! Info: 860-742-6324.
- Weds 10/22 **Mobile Foodshare**, 10-10:30 AM, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. An outdoor food distribution service for persons of low income. Please bring your own grocery bag. More [info](#).
- Weds 10/22 **TVCCA Community Luncheon**, 10 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Join us this month for a delicious meal of meat loaf with gravy, mashed potatoes, carrots & peas, apple pie and beverages. The cost for the meal is \$5.00, and tickets need to be purchased at the Senior Center by October 15th. Please call the Senior Center at 860-742-3525 for more information.
- Fri 10/24 **Evenings at Hale: “Things That go Bump in the Night”**, 6 & 8 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. A special candlelight tour,

- room-by-room, all the way up to the dark & dreary attic. Hear the traditional, long standing Homestead ghost stories & the Hale staff's spooky Homestead stories, as featured on the Syfy Channel's Ghost Hunters. Refreshments. \$25/\$20 for CTL members. Reservations required. [Website](#).
- Sat 10/15 **Arm Knitting**, 1 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Join Dawn Zillich and make scarf in one sitting. Learn the art of arm knitting—no prior knowledge required. Registration requested as space is limited. Call 860-742-7606. Library [website](#).
- Sun 10/26 **Coventry Regional Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Theme: *Halloween & Harvest*. [Website](#).
- Weds 10/29 **SOUPer Douper Halloween Party**, 11 AM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Celebrate Halloween with a warm bowl of soup and the company of good friends! “Treat” us to your favorite soup, stew, side dish or dessert for this Pot Luck Luncheon. Beverages will be provided. Call the Senior Center to sign-up and to let us know what you'd like to bring! Costume optional (but fun)! Reservations due by 10/22. Call 860-742-3525.
- Thurs 10/30 **Halloween Craft**, 4-5 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Come decorate pumpkins to take home and enjoy! Pumpkins and paint will all be provided. Wear your costumes for a parade throughout the library at the end! Pumpkins donated by Edmondson's Farm in Coventry. Ages 5-11. Registration required. (Registration begins Oct 15, space limited). Call 860-742-7606. Library [website](#).
- Fri 10/31 **Trick or Treat at the Library!** Stop by the Library on Halloween in your costume for a fun treat! Library hours: 10 AM – 6 PM.

**COVENTRY DAFFODIL BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT:** The Village Improvement Society initiated this Town wide project in 1993. Since then approximately 225,000 daffodil bulbs have been planted throughout Coventry. We have donated and planted thousands of bulbs in public places and residents have participated by purchasing bulbs to plant on their properties. To order bulbs for fall delivery, call Judy at 860-214-9567.

**NEWS FROM THE TOWN CLERK: Absentee Ballots** become available in the Town Clerk's Office for the November 4, 2014 State Election on **October 3, 2014**.

**Who Can Apply?** An elector may vote by absentee ballot for the following reasons:

- Active service in the U.S. Armed Forces
- Absence from their town for all of the hours of voting
- Illness or physical disability
- Religious tenets forbid secular activity on the day of election, primary, or referendum
- Service as a polling place official

**Voter Registration Sessions – Registrar's office, Town Hall:**

September 30, 2014 9:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m.  
 October 18, 2014 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**SPECIAL DATE FOR HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF:** The MidNEROC household hazardous waste facility on Hancock Road in Willington will be open Thursday, Oct. 2, 2014 from 9 AM until 2 PM for a special mid-week collection day, for the convenience of residents who find it difficult to come on a regular Saturday. For a list of materials accepted at this facility, click [here](#).

**SPONSORS AND PARTICIPANTS SOUGHT FOR COVENTRY CHILIFEST:** The Coventry ChiliFest takes place on Saturday, November 1, from 12-3 PM at CHS soccer field.

Enter to participate and see how your favorite chili recipe stacks up against the competition! Sponsors are also sought for the event, with levels ranging from \$50-\$500. Call the Coventry Parks & Recreation Department at 860-742-4068 for an application or more information. Click [here](#) for the event flyer.

**FOOD BANK ITEMS NEEDED:** The Coventry Human Service Food Bank shelves are in need of restocking. We are in need of the following non-perishable and personal hygiene items: cereal, canned fruit, kid snacks/crackers, pancake mix, syrup, gluten free, salt free, sugar free items, coffee/tea, condiments, Beefaroni, applesauce, boxed potatoes, napkins, paper towels, napkins, dish soap, deodorant, razors, toilet paper, laundry detergent, and shampoo/conditioner. To donate, drop by the Human Services office during regular hours. **Please remember we cannot distribute expired canned items so please check expiration dates.** If you are in financial crisis and need food, please call Human Services at 860-742-5324 to schedule a brief interview and appointment to utilize the Food Bank. Fall Food Bank hours are Tuesdays, 8:30-10:30 AM and Thursdays, 12-2 PM.

**HOLIDAY “ADOPT-A-FAMILY” PROGRAM:** The holiday season is quickly approaching and there are many families and individuals who could benefit from your generosity. The Human Services Department will be accepting turkeys and all the trimmings, toys, coats, mittens/hats and gift cards for ages birth to 18. Please call 860-742-5324 to indicate how you can help this season. Freezer space is limited, so please call ahead if you are making a large donation of frozen turkeys. If you wish to make a monetary donation in lieu of a food or gift item, please mail your contribution to: The Holiday Committee, c/o Coventry Human Services, 1712 Main Street, Coventry, CT 06238. **If you are a family or individual in need of some help at the holidays, please call the office for a brief interview at 860-742-5324.**

**BELL RINGERS NEEDED:** The Coventry Human Services Office and the Salvation Army are looking for “Bell Ringing” volunteers. 90% of the donations to the “kettle” remains in town to help support Coventry residents in need of emergency assistance such as utilities, housing, food, prescriptions, camp scholarships and the “Gearing Up To Learn” program. Please call Human Services at 742-5324 if you would like to be a “bell ringer” or a Salvation Army volunteer. Many families and individuals have made this activity part of their holiday tradition of neighbors helping neighbors. Please give a couple of hours of your time to help Coventry residents in need throughout the year.

**VIDEO-ON DEMAND:** Watch a Coventry Conversations interview with David Sumner, and view Town meetings and other special programming from your computer - no cable TV required! Click here to visit [Pegcentral](#) online.

**To list your event in next month’s bulletin, contact Laura Stone at [LStone@coventryct.org](mailto:LStone@coventryct.org) by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.**