



COVENTRY COMMUNITY UPDATE:

June 2015

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

MANAGER'S MONTHLY MEMO:

While June and the summer months call us we have unfinished business. We still do not have a budget for July 1. A Special Budget Town Meeting is scheduled for Thursday night, 5/21 at 7:00 PM in the Town Hall Annex. The vote will be adjourned until Tuesday, June 2, 2015 between 6:00 AM – 8:00 PM at both firehouses. Updated budget information is available on the Town webpage as well as an updated tax calendar. The Council reduced the proposed increase by over 31%. The budget calls for a .31 mil increase (.99% or less than 1). Spending is proposed to be increased 1.64%.

We welcome Julie Blanchard back onto the Town Council to fill the Jeffrey Shorts vacancy. Lisa Thomas was elected as the Council Chairwoman. A lot of projects are planned for this summer so we urge people to like” the Manager’s Facebook page and sign up for traffic alerts through our website. We are very appreciative that the road bond question passed and are scheduling work for this summer. Watch for details.

Finally, Memorial Day is always a special event in our town. Enjoy the Lion’s Club breakfast, the parade and service including a military fly-over at around 10:30 AM. We honor those who died for our county in active service.

UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS:

- Mon, 6/1: Town Council Meeting: 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Tues, 6/2: [Budget Referendum](#), Polls open 6 AM – 8 PM.
- Thurs, 6/4: WPCA Meeting, 6:45 PM, DPW Conf. Room
- Mon, 6/8: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Thurs, 6/11: Board of Education, 7:30 PM, School Admin. Building
- Mon, 6/15: Town Council Meeting: 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Mon, 6/22: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Weds, 6/24: Inland Wetlands Agency, 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Thurs, 6/25: Board of Education, 7:30 PM, School Admin. Building

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

HOLIDAYS:

Monday, 5/25: Memorial Day. Town offices, schools and Senior Center closed. Trash collection on [holiday](#) schedule.

COMING EVENTS:

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| Sun | 5/24 | Memorial Day Wreath-laying Service , 2 PM, St. Mary’s Cemetery, Main St., proceeding to the New Cemetery, Center Cemetery-Rt.#44, Grant Hill Road, Silver St. and Wrights Mill Road Cemeteries, and Nathan Hale Cemetery on Lake Street. |
| Mon | 5/25 | Lion’s Club Memorial Day Pancake Breakfast: 7-10 AM, First Congregational Church, 1172 Main Street. Sausage, pancakes and eggs. \$5 per person or \$12 per family. Children under 5 are free. Come enjoy breakfast while waiting for the parade. All proceeds benefit the Lions Club Coventry Scholarship Program. |

- Mon 5/25 **Memorial Day Parade:** 10 AM. Kicks off at G.H. Robertson School on Cross Street, stopping at Veteran’s Memorial Green for services, and continuing down Lake Street to Main Street and up to Bradbury Road. Sponsored by American Legion Post 52. Military fly-over anticipated at 10:30 AM.
- Sun 5/31 **Opening Day, Coventry Regional Farmers’ Market:** 11 AM – 2 PM. Every Sunday from June - October on the grounds of the Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. [Info.](#)
- Sun 5/31 **Strong Porter Museum opens for the season,** 12-3 PM, 2382 South Street. Open Sundays June through mid-October. Free admission. [Website.](#)
- Tues 6/2 **Duct Tape-a-Palooza,** 3 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Wallets, flowers and more. Everything is more fun made from duct tape. For teens grades 6-12. Info: 860-742-7606.
- Tues 6/2 **After-School Craft: Squirt-Gun Painting,** 4-5 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Paint using a squirt gun! Dress in clothes you don’t mind getting paint on. Meet in the courtyard. Weather permitting, ages 3 & up. Info: 860-742-7606.
- Weds 6/3 **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 6/3 **Farmers Market Public Forum,** 7 PM, Town Hall Annex, 1712 Main Street. Community forum on the creation of a continued Farmer’s Market presence at The Hale Homestead. This is a follow up meeting to the initial one held in May. A discussion on the input that was received, action plan items and next steps will occur. A Survey Monkey community survey is being developed on the subject and will be announced when it is ready. Please visit the new [Farmers Market page](#) on Town website for updates and to sign up for the new Market newsletter. Please contact Eric M. Trott at etrott@coventryct.org or 860-742-4062 with questions.
- Weds 6/3 **Money Smarts for Older Adults,** 7 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Join financial planner Eric Judge and learn how to guard against identity theft, medical identity theft, scams targeting homeowners and veterans, planning for unexpected life events, and financial disaster preparedness. Registration required – call 860-742-7606.
- Thurs 6/4 **Guided walk, Mill Brook Greenway,** 4-5:30 PM, Patriots Park, meet at upper parking lot by the Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. In celebration of CT Trails Weekend and the Get Outside walking/hiking town initiative - the Coventry Land Use Office and Parks and Recreation Department are sponsoring a guided walk on the Mill Brook Greenway from Patriots Park to Mill Brook Park. Town Staff will discuss the variety of exciting projects that will be unfolding in the Village area. Please contact Eric M. Trott at etrott@coventryct.org or 860-742-4062 with questions.
- Sat 6/6 **Fairies Near Laidlaw Park,** 1-3 PM, Brick Schoolhouse, Merrow Road. Costumes provided for “fairies in training” as well as food, games and crafts (building fairy houses). Reservations limited to 12 children. Call Ginney Dilk 860-742-9656 for reservations.
- Sun 6/7 **Guided Nature Walk, Creaser Park,** 7-9 AM, Case Road. In celebration of CT Trails Weekend and the Get Outside walking/hiking town initiative - the Coventry Conservation Commission is sponsoring a guided nature walk at Creaser Park. Please contact Eric M. Trott at etrott@coventryct.org or 860-742-4062 with questions.

- Sun 6/7 **Coventry Regional Farmers' Market:** 11 AM – 2 PM. Every Sunday from June - October on the grounds of the Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Theme: CT Market Chicks. [Info](#).
- Sun 6/7 **Nathan Hale's Birthday Celebration,** 11 AM – 4 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Come and celebrate the 260th birthday of Connecticut's State hero, Nathan Hale: farm boy, school teacher, soldier and spy. Enjoy special activities and birthday treats. Regular admission applied for house tour. [Website](#).
- Sun 6/7 **Learn to Row,** 12-4 PM, Patriots Park, 124 Lake Street. Coventry Lake Community Rowing is hosting their First Annual Rowing Fest. If you have ever watched scullers or crews in action and wanted to try it, here is your chance. If you rowed in high school or college and will like to return to the sport, now is the time. Members of the club will be available to talk with interested people about summer recreational and competition programs. No prior experience necessary. Rowing shells and oars will be on view. Burgers, hot dogs and ribs available for purchase. For a \$20 donation Community Rowing will put you in a stable trainer boat on the water. One of their members will work with you one-on-one to teach the rudiments, review basic technical and accompany you for 20 minutes on the water. Wear a swim suit and water shoes. See [website](#) or [email](#) for more information.
- Sun 6/7 **Connecticut Trails Weekend: Guided Nature Walk,** 9 AM. The Conservation Commission is sponsoring a guided nature walk at Creaser Park - Case Road. Info: 860-742-4062.
- Weds 6/10 **TVCCA Community Luncheon,** 12 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Enjoy oven-roasted top round of beef, jeweled rice, bean medley and peach cobbler. \$7. Tickets need to be purchased at the Senior Center by Wednesday, June 3. You can also purchase a ticket for takeout to bring a meal home with you for later. Please call the Senior Center at 860-742-3525 for more information.
- Weds 6/10 **Community Forum, Aquatic Invasive Species Treatment, Eagleville Lake,** 7 PM, Eagleville Firehouse, Rt. 32, Mansfield. Learn about plans to control an aquatic invasive species (Fanwort) in Eagleville Lake by the use of an herbicide treatment administered by a licensed professional consultant. The work is funded by a DEEP grant. Please contact Eric M. Trott at etrott@coventryct.org or 860-742-4062 with questions.
- Sat 6/13 **CT Open House Day,** 12-4 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Steet. Come for a tour of the Nathan Hale Homestead – admission is free today. [Website](#).
- Sat 6/13 **Spaghetti & Meatball Community Supper,** 4:30-6:30 PM, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. Cost \$10 adults and takeout, \$8 seniors, \$5 children 6-12, Free under age 6. Info: (860) 742-8487.
- Sun 6/14 **Coventry Regional Farmers' Market:** 11 AM – 2 PM. Every Sunday from June - October on the grounds of the Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Theme: BBQ & Moonshine. [Info](#).
- Weds 6/17 **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](#).
- Thurs 6/18 **AARP Tax-Aide, 10:30 AM,** Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. We are pleased to announce that Paul Watson, a local retired CPA, has agreed to be the Local Coordinator for the AARP Tax-Aide Program! We are looking for more volunteers to serve as tax preparers! Join District Coordinator Bert Carbaugh and Local Coordinator Paul Watson for an information session.

They will answer questions and tell you what it is like to be part of this program. Info: 860-742-3525.

- Sat 6/20 **Coventry beaches open for the season.** Friday-Sunday & holidays, 9 AM – 7 PM. Monday-Thursday, 12 PM – 7 PM. Need a resident permit? Get info and an application [here](#).
- Sat 6/20 **CHS Graduation**, 78 Ripley Hill Road. [Info](#).
- Sun 6/21 **Coventry Regional Farmers' Market:** 11 AM – 2 PM. Every Sunday from June - October on the grounds of the Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Theme: Herb, garden, wine & art. [Info](#).
- Sun 6/21 **Sundae on a Sunday**, 1-4 PM, Brick School House, Mellow Road at Goose Lane. Treat Dad to an ice cream sundae. Toppings include fresh strawberries and homemade hot fudge sauce. Sundaes are \$1.50 each; Dads are free. Brick Schoolhouse open first and third Sundays of the month mid-May through early October. Free admission, donations welcome. More [info](#).
- Weds 6/24 **TVCCA Community Luncheon**, 12 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Enjoy spaghetti and meatballs, garlic bread, Caesar salad and apple pie. \$5. Tickets need to be purchased at the Senior Center by Wednesday, June 17. You can also purchase a ticket for takeout to bring a meal home with you for later. Please call the Senior Center at 860-742-3525 for more information.
- Weds 6/24 **Children's Performance Series: "Zoo Station"**, 1-2PM, Patriots Park Community Center, 120 Lake Street. FREE! Meet a variety of creatures during this fun and educational presentation, brought to you by the Children's Museum. Info: <http://www.coventryrec.com/info/>.
- Thurs 6/25 **Red Cross Blood Drive**, 1:00-6:00 PM, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. Info: (860) 742-8487.
- Fri 6/26 **Antique Appraisal Nite**, 5:30 – 8:30 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Come in and bring your antique pieces with you (or photos) and meet with a local antiques expert to determine its value. \$10 per item. [Website](#).
- Sat 6/27 **All Ages Comic Con**, 10 AM – 3 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Kick off summer reading with a day full of events including special guests, comic workshops, video game design, table top and video games, tournaments, costume contest, superhero story time and more. Details [here](#) and more will be added as they become available.
- Sat 6/27 **CoventryFest**, 3-PM 'til end of fireworks, Patriots Park, 124 Lake Street. Food, live performances, Castle Bounce, balloon animals, vendors. Fireworks at dusk. Admission free, donations accepted. Limited on-site parking \$10. Off-site parking with shuttle services \$5. Rain date June 28. Family Package available with priority seating, meals & parking. Sponsored by Coventry Knights of Columbus, American Legion Post 52 and Boy Scout Troop 65. Email: Info@coventryfest.org or visit www.coventryfest.org. The **Senior Center** will be open at 6 PM to enjoy CoventryFest events. Check out the activities and vendors in the Park and watch the fireworks from the lounge. Off-site parking with shuttle service will be available for \$5. Limited transportation will be available for non-drivers. Sign up at the Senior Center by Monday, June 22. Info: 860-742-3525.
- Sun 6/28 **Coventry Regional Farmers' Market:** 11 AM – 2 PM. Every Sunday from June - October on the grounds of the Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Theme: CT Farm Table Cookbook. [Info](#).
- Mon 6/29 **AARP Smart Driver: 12 PM – 4 PM**, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. The AARP Smart Driver course is designed for drivers over age 50. It will help you learn the current rules of the road and how to safely navigate

your vehicle. This is a four-hour classroom course and does not involve a written or driving test. Many auto insurance companies offer a discount to drivers for completing the course. The cost is \$15 for AARP members and \$20 for non-members. **Reservation and payment due by Wednesday, June 24.** Info: 860-742-3525.

SEEKING ARTWORK FOR COMIC CON EXHIBIT: The Booth & Dimock Memorial Library is seeking artwork to display in a community art show unveiled at [Comic Con](#). Those who live, work or are otherwise affiliated with Coventry are encouraged to submit hero or pop culture themed artwork by June 19th to be part of a display featured through July. The artwork must be able to be displayed on the wall. Contact [Meg Schiebel](#) for more information.

SUMMER READING IS COMING! *Every Hero Has a Story* and *Escape the Ordinary* are the themes for this summer's celebration of reading for fun. Prizes, events and reading challenges will be available for all ages. Visit the Booth & Dimock Memorial Library [webpage](#) mid-June for final details!

COVENTRY HISTORICAL SOCIETY WANTS TO DISPLAY STORIES AND PHOTOS OF COVENTRY LAKE! Do you have pictures of activities, fishing, boats or boating excursions, family picnics, swimming events, ski shows or a fishing derby? The Coventry Historical Society is preparing an exhibit for display at the Strong Porter Museum on South Street. All photographs will be considered for the exhibit. To submit, provide descriptions of the activity, with dates and photographer's name if known, names of people, places and things that will help the display come alive. If you have stories to go with the pictures that would be great. You may send duplicates or the originals and CHS will make copies and return the originals to you. Mail to Coventry Historical Society, P.O. Box 534, Coventry, CT 06238. When mailing photographs please use proper mailing containers to protect the pictures. Deadline for submission is June 1, 2015. For more information, call Pat at 860-465-9437.

PLOTS AVAILABLE FOR COVENTRY COMMUNITY GARDENS! Visit the Parks & Recreation [website](#) for more information.

To list your event in next month's bulletin, contact Laura Stone at LStone@coventryct.org by the 15th of the month.