



## COVENTRY COMMUNITY UPDATE:

**November 2015**

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

### MANAGER'S MONTHLY MEMO:

November is almost here and that means it is time for elections. Don't forget to vote on Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> between 6 AM and 8 PM. District 1: Coventry Volunteer Fire Association, 1755 Main Street. District 2: North Coventry Volunteer Fire Station: 3427 Main Street. This election is for local officials. Click [here](#) for a sample ballot. Call the Town Clerk's office (860) 742-7966 or the Registrar of Voters (860) 742-4061) for absentee ballots or voter registration information.

This summer was a busy one for road work. We are wrapping up for the season with shimming portions of Grant Hill, Flanders, Flanders River and lower North River Road in preparation for chip sealing next spring. Depending on weather this work is slated to start October 27<sup>th</sup>. Certain sections which are in good shape will be skipped and areas which need more intensive work will be addressed by Town forces prior to chip seal. Crack sealing will start Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> and is planned for 19.5 miles. For a list of roads to be crack sealed, click [here](#). For an update on progress for the first five months of the road bond, see the last paragraph of this e-blast. CT DOT is holding a public information meeting on November 5<sup>th</sup> in the Town Hall Annex about installing rumble strips on Bread & Milk Street in the middle line stripe.

Good news: Both Pucker Street Bridge and the State replacement of Rt. 275 Bridge are currently on track for a late November/early December opening.

For a preview of the proposed Library addition and renovation consider attending the November 19<sup>th</sup> forum (see below).

A reminder that while CoventryVision has moved to Charter channel 191, important information is still being advertised about happenings in your town. Consider adding 191 to your favorites channel on your remote for a quick check during long commercials.

Finally, we want to thank Bridge's Healthy Cooking School for running the Coventry Regional Farmers' Market for the past 12 years. We invite market-goers to sample the [Coventry Winter Farmers' Market](#) on Sundays from 11-2 at Coventry High School starting November 15<sup>th</sup>. This is being organized by several vendors and volunteers who wanted to keep a good thing going. The Towns' [Coventry Farmers' Market at Hale Homestead](#) is in the final stages of hiring a Market Master and is gearing up for the 2016 season. Sign up to receive the Market newsletter [here](#).

### UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS:

- Mon, 11/2: Town Council Meeting: 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Tues, 11/3: **Local Election**. Polls open 6 AM – 8 PM. Click [here](#) for details.
- Weds, 11/4: Inauguration of new Town Council members, 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Thurs, 11/5: Public Information Meeting, CT DOT installation of rumble strips on centerline of Rt. 31, 7 PM, Town Hall Annex. Info: 860-594-2716.
- Thurs, 11/5: WPCA Meeting, 6:45 PM, DPW Conf. Room
- Mon, 11/9: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Thurs, 11/12: Board of Education, 7:30 PM, School Admin. Building
- Mon, 11/16: Town Council Meeting: 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Thurs, 11/19: Public Information Meeting: Booth & Dimock Library expansion, 7 PM, 1134 Main Street
- Mon, 11/23: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7 PM, Town Hall Annex

- Weds, 11/25: Inland Wetlands Agency, 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex

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

**HOLIDAYS:**

**11/11 – Veterans Day Holiday.** Town Hall, schools, Library and Senior Center closed. Trash pick-up on [regular](#) schedule.

**11/26 & 11/27 - Thanksgiving Holiday.** Town Hall, schools, Library and Senior Center closed. Library closes at 5 PM on 11/25. Trash pick-up on [holiday](#) schedule.

**COMING EVENTS:**

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| Sun   | 11/1  | <b>Hale and Hearty Hearth Cooking Class</b> , 12-5 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Prepare a harvest meal using seasonal foods and historic cooking methods. \$60/\$50 CTL members. <a href="#">Website</a> .  |
| Tues  | 11/3  | <b>Smartphone Holograms</b> , 3 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Teens are encouraged to drop by the Teen Zone and create a device that will let them use their smartphone to create a hologram. Teen Zone <a href="#">website</a> .   |
| Weds  | 11/4  | <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  | 11/4  | <b>Black Bears in Connecticut</b> , 6:30 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Learn about the natural history of black bears, including habitat, diet, behavior and co-existence. Led by Master Wildlife Conservationist Paul Colburn. Info: 860-742-7606.   |
| Thurs | 11/5  | <b>Cookbook Club</b> , 6 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. This month's theme is bread and soup. Come discuss your favorite recipe and bring a dish to share. Info: 860-742-7606.   |
| Sat   | 11/7  | <b>Food for Golf</b> , Skungamaug River Golf Club, 104 Folly Lane. In lieu of greens fees, SRGC is accepting donations of non-perishable food items and/or monetary donations to benefit the Coventry Human Services Food Bank. Spend the day golfing and benefit the community at the same time. Many thanks to John & Susan Motyka and their staff for this wonderful annual event. Tee times: 860-742-9348.                     |
| Sat   | 11/7  | <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Coventry Chili Fest</b> , 12-2 PM, CHS cafeteria, 78 Ripley Hill Road. Taste a variety of chili recipes and vote for your favorites. \$10 adults, \$7 seniors & students with valid ID, ages 6 & under free. Sponsored by the Coventry Lions Club. Proceeds benefit Lions Club programs. Info: 860-985-3558.  |
| Mon   | 11/9  | <b>Veteran's Day Program</b> , 11:30 AM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Held in collaboration with the American Legion. Lunch included. Call 860-742-3525 to reserve your seat.  |
| Tues  | 11/10 | <b>Coventry Garden Club program</b> , 7 PM, Presbyterian Church, Rt. 44 at Trowbridge Road. Local author Holly DiBella McCarthy will share information from her recent book, <i>Birdhouse Beauties</i> , on creating custom birdhouses. Info: Kit Bensen at 860-498-0115.  |
| Sat   | 11/14 | <b>Annual Holiday Fair</b> , 9 Am – 3 PM, Second Congregational Church of Coventry, 1746 Boston Turnpike. Home-made baked goods, Cabot cheese, gleaners' gifts & décor, white elephant tag sale, crafters with carved birds and birdhouses, garden ornaments, jewelry, artworks and holiday décor. Children's cookie & ornament decorating. Noah's Closet will be open. Lunch, beverages and snacks available. Info: 860-742-1616. |

- Sat 11/14 **Author Faire**, 10 AM – 1 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Co-hosted by Booth & Dimock Memorial Library. Hear from local authors followed by a panel discussion about the publishing process. Call 860-742-3525 to reserve your seat. Click [here](#) for a complete list of authors.
- Sat 11/14 **Roast Turkey Community Supper**, 4:30 – 6 PM, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. Roast turkey, stuffing, potatoes, gravy, vegetable, rolls, dessert and drinks. \$12 adults, \$10 seniors, \$6 children 6-12. Takeout available. Table service available upon request. Info: 860-742-8487.
- Sun 11/15 **Coventry Winter Farmers' Market opening day**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Coventry High School cafeteria. Fresh produce, prepared foods, CT-grown products, artisans and more. [Website](#).
- Tues 11/17 **DIY Hunger Games Pins**, 3 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Teens can prepare for the final Hunger Games movie by making a mockingjay pin and district seal. Teen Zone [website](#).
- Tues 11/17 **Read it & Eat Book Club**, 4 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Children grades 3-5 are encouraged to attend this book club just for them. Pick up the book in the children's room prior to the meeting where you will enjoy discussions, activities and snacks. November's selection: *Mr. Lemoncello's Library* by Chris Grabenstein. Children's Library [website](#).
- Weds 11/18 **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 11/18 **After School Dream Catcher Craft**, 4 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Make a special dream catcher to hang by your bed to keep the bad dreams out. Ages 5 and over welcome. Info: 860-742-7606.
- Thurs 11/19 **Free Developmental Screening for children ages 3-4**, 9 AM – Noon and 3:30 – 6:30 PM, North Coventry Volunteer Fire Department main station, 3427 Main Street. Early childhood educators from Coventry Public Schools will review your child's development in skill areas such as self-help, concepts, speech, hearing, vision, language, motor skills and social emotional development. 25-minute appointments with feedback for parents. Call for an appointment: 860-742-4550 or email Christine Murphy at [cmurphy@coventryct.org](mailto:cmurphy@coventryct.org) for more information.
- Thurs 11/19 **Fancy Glass Painting**, 6 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Join us for a crafty evening for grown-ups. Dress up your dinner table with a pair of painted glasses. Learn the process of making a full set at home. Free! Advance reservations requested: 860-742-7606.
- Thurs 11/19 **Public Information Session – Library Expansion**, 7 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. The Library Building Committee and DRA Architects will present conceptual designs for an expanded library facility. Info: 860-742-7606.
- Fri 11/20 **28<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Fair**, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. Friday 11/20, 6-8 PM and Saturday 11/21, 9 AM – 3 PM. **Bigger** this year with more in every room! **Attic treasures** – expanded and with early-bird admission Friday at 5:30, **all-new GINGERBREAD HOUSE CONTEST**, variety of crafts, gift baskets, jewelry, café, baked goods, Cabot cheese, books, vendors, silent auction, tin cup raffle and a **HUGE** raffle with prizes including **Disney World tickets, a hot-air balloon ride, Kindle Fire tablet package**. Photos with **Santa Claus**. Kids shopping area Sat. 9:30-11:30. Music with **Bruce John** from *Kidsville Kuckoo Revue* Sat. 11:30. Info: 860-742-8487.

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| Sat | 11/21 | <b>International Games Day</b> , 10 AM – 2:30 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Join us for this library-wide, all-ages event where we celebrate games and gaming! Board games and video games for both teens and kids. Info: 860-742-7606. |
| Sun | 11/22 | <b>Coventry Winter Farmers' Market</b> , 11 AM – 2 PM, Coventry High School cafeteria. Fresh produce, prepared foods, CT-grown products, artisans and more. <a href="#">Website</a> .  |
| Mon | 11/23 | <b>Hearing Screenings</b> , 9 AM – 12 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Audiology students from University of Connecticut will conduct free hearing screenings. Call the Senior Center at 860-742-3525 to request an appointment.                     |
| Fri | 11/27 | <b>Shop, Sip &amp; Celebrate</b> , 12:00 – 4 PM, Friday 11/27 & Saturday 11/28. Tour the Homestead, participate in a hearth cooking demo, shop for gifts and enjoy a snack. <a href="#">Website</a> .  |
| Sun | 11/29 | <b>Coventry Winter Farmers' Market</b> , 11 AM – 2 PM, Coventry High School cafeteria. Fresh produce, prepared foods, CT-grown products, artisans and more. <a href="#">Website</a> .  |

**LETTERS TO SANTA:** Kids, let Santa know just how good you have been this year! From November 10<sup>th</sup> to December 8<sup>th</sup>, we will be accepting letters to Santa for delivery just in time for the “big day.” Drop boxes will be located in the Town Hall and Booth & Dimock Library, and at the Town Hall tree lighting ceremony in early December. You may also mail your letter to: Santa Claus, c/o Coventry Recreation, 1712 Main Street, Coventry, CT 06238. Be sure to include your name and return address if you want Santa to write you back!

**TREES SOUGHT FOR CHRISTMAS IN THE VILLAGE:** The Coventry Lions Club needs artificial trees of all sizes for the Christmas in the Village event on December 6<sup>th</sup>. To donate, call Gary for pick-up, 860-742-6128.

**EVER SEE THE FLAGS AT TOWN HALL AT HALF-STAFF AND WONDER WHY?** There are many occasions where the Town is requested to lower flags to half-staff: in honor of a deceased military service person, in memory of a national event, etc. Such requests are typically made at the State or Federal level. We have a link under General Information on the [FAQ section](#) of Town website where you can view the flag status to see relevant details. You can also download a widget there if you maintain a flag on your own property to observe these protocols.

**COVENTRY SCOUTING FOR FOOD:** Boy Scout Troop 65, Cub Scout Pack 65 and Girl Scout Food Drive, bag drop off October 31/November 1 & donation pickup November 7, 2015. All Donations benefit Coventry Food Bank. Info: 860-742-5324.

**HOLIDAY DONATIONS:** As we begin to plan for the upcoming holiday season, please take a moment to consider how your family or business can make a difference by adopting a family or senior in need this holiday season. If you would like to hear more about the many opportunities available, please contact Coventry Human Services at 860-742-5324. **The Holiday Committee and the Human Services Office** welcomes turkeys, chickens, hams, stuffing and other holiday food, packaged or fresh for the holiday baskets. The holiday distribution dates are as follows: Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup> and Friday, December 18<sup>th</sup>. Please call in advance if you plan on dropping off a frozen item to ensure room in our freezers.

**CLERGY FUEL FUND:** The *Clergy Fuel Fund* has begun the gift of caring for the 2015-2016 winter season. The fund assists Coventry residents in need of emergency heating assistance and 100% of the dollars raised remains in town. Our goal is to help our clients utilize all other resources available that provides emergency heating assistance in order to ensure that *our* funds

are available during the coldest winter months. For more information, contact Coventry Human Services at 860-742-5324.

**SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING:** Attention all past and present bell ringers, Coventry Human Services will begin coordinating the annual “Red Kettle” fundraising activities at local Coventry businesses. For more information on the kettle locations, schedules and availability, please contact the office at 860-742-5324. Please join us beginning Friday, December 4-Thursday, December 24. The proceeds from the fundraiser directly support our programs and 90% of all proceeds return to the community.

**ENERGY PROGRAM:** The Coventry Human Services office is accepting energy applications for winter heating on Tuesdays and Thursdays by appointment only. Please call 860-742-5324 for more information about the Access Fuel Assistance Program and income guidelines.

**3<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL PROMAGANZA!** Coventry Human Services is now accepting donations of prom dresses, shoes, accessories and services (hair, nails, alterations, etc.) to help offset the cost of attending prom for Coventry High School students. Items can be dropped off at Coventry Human Services during office hours, 1712 Main Street. For more information call 860-742-5324.

**ROAD BOND WORK TO BE FINISHED IN 2015:**

1. Crack Sealing scheduled to begin 10/27/15 for the next several weeks (See [Crack Sealing Fall 2015](#) on the Town website). Crack sealing seals the roadway surface to reduce water infiltration that can cause subbase saturation. Reducing subbase saturation will preserve the road integrity and reduce further cracking during winter freeze/thaw cycles. Crack sealing can be used as a stand- alone surface treatment or can be done in preparation for the road to be Chip sealed in the future.
2. Full Width Roadway Asphalt Shimming scheduled to begin 10/28/15. Roadway Shimming is a process where sections of a road are identified as needing structural repair or an improved road profile. The shimming is done to improve the surface of the roadway and to allow surface water to shed to the shoulder and away from the road. Asphalt Shimming targets the areas of the roadway that need structural improvements and allows areas that are not compromised or deteriorated to be skipped so that more road miles can be improved. The following roads are scheduled for Shimming in 2015:
  - 1.) Grant Hill Road (Broadway to the Coventry Town Line).
  - 2.) Flanders and Flanders River Road.
  - 3.) Springdale Road
  - 4.) North River Road (Rt. 31 to Rt.44)

Town forces will complete additional drainage and shoulder improvements during the remainder of the 2015 construction season with Crack Sealing and Chip Sealing to complete the road improvements in 2016.

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