



COVENTRY COMMUNITY UPDATE:

November 2016

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

MANAGER'S MONTHLY MEMO:

November is a month of giving thanks and sharing. Thanks for veterans; thanks for the beauty and the bounty of fall; and thanks for all those who donate to the Town's vibrancy through races, chili contests, golf fee donations, church fairs and the many listed opportunities below. If you wish to share your bounty, consider adopting a family for the holidays, or donating to the Clergy Fuel Fund or spending some time ringing the bell for others. We thank the volunteers who ran the Coventry Farmers' Market this summer and wish the Winter Farmers' Market the best for their season starting on Sunday, November 20th.

Don't forget to vote on Tuesday, November 8th. Voting will be at GH Robertson for the south district (#1) and Coventry Grammar School for the north district (#2). Polls open 6 AM – 8 PM. Contact the Town Clerk's office at 860-742-7966 for information on absentee ballots and same-day presidential ballots. Don't forget identification is required at the polls.

Construction projects are winding down for the winter, but the lake gate project is just starting. Don't forget to support the Lakeview Restaurant which will be open during construction with a front row view of the work. The grant-funded sidewalk project to Coventry High School is nearing completion. November will be a busy month for the State's Main Street project. The main culvert in front of Meet Me on Main is due in and the cross-over pipes toward the Bidwell Tavern will be replaced. Please support these Main Street businesses too. A winter shut-down for this project is anticipated in December.

We want to highlight the types of insight you can gain through the Town's financial transparency program, OpenGov. This month we are featuring a report that shows where the Town gets its revenue. View the report [here](#). While you're on the OpenGov site, check out the other pre-created views for frequently-asked questions, or design one of your own.

The deadline for [Solarize Coventry](#) is approaching, but there is still time to join in and add solar to your house at a competitive rate and with various financing options. Talk with solar representatives at the ChiliFest on Nov. 5th, our final workshop on Nov. 9th or at the Veterans' Day race on Nov. 12th. See more details in the coming events section below.

HOLIDAYS:

Friday, 11/11: Veterans Day. Town offices and Senior Center closed. Trash pickup on regular schedule.

Thursday, 11/24 & 11/25: Thanksgiving. Town offices and Senior Center closed. Trash pickup on holiday schedule.

UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS:

- Thurs, 11/3: WPCA Meeting, 6:45 PM, DPW Conf. Room
- Mon, 11/7: Town Council Meeting: 7:00 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Thurs, 11/10: Board of Education, 7:30 PM, School Admin. Building
- Mon, 11/14: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:00 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Weds, 11/16: Inland Wetlands Agency, 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Mon, 11/21: Town Council Meeting: 7:00 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Mon, 11/28: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:00 PM, Town Hall Annex

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

COMING EVENTS:

- Weds 11/2 **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 11/2 **ASK: After School Kids**, 4 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. A new club for school age kids (K-5) that meets every other week. Join us for a different project or activity each week! Check our [Facebook page](#) or [website](#) for information for what we plan on doing each week.
- Weds 11/2 **Sinatra at 100**, 6:30 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. From the Sinatrama of the Bobbysoxers, through his storied fall-and-rebirth, to his becoming the Chairman of the Board (and beyond!), Frank Sinatra embodied the "American Century." During "Sinatra at 100," we'll listen and view some of his most entertaining, powerful, and significant performances in song and film—with a peek behind the scenes at his wives, lovers, friends, and politics. Presented by Gilbert L. Gigliotti, a professor of English and Latin at Central Connecticut State University and the host for more than two decades of "Frank, Gil, and Friends" every Tuesday morning on WFCS 107.7 FM.
- Fri 11/4 **Quiet Corner Contra Dance**, 8 – 11 PM, Patriots Park Lodge, 172 Lake Street. Introductory session at 7:30 PM. Adults \$10, students \$5, family \$20. Dance to live music with caller Billy Fischer. Wear soft-soled shoes. For more info contact Dave at 484-844-5203 or email dcannell@freeshell.org.
- Sat 11/5 **Food for Golf**, 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 11/5 **ChiliFest**, 12-2 PM, Coventry High School, 78 Ripley Hill Road. Sponsored by the Coventry Lions Club. Enter your chili for \$25! Prizes will be awarded for professional and amateur categories. Help us choose the winner! Come try all of the different kinds of chili and vote on your favorites! Tasting fee: \$10 per person. \$7 for Seniors/Student ID. Ages 6 and under are FREE. For more information call 860-985-3558 or 860-742-8709. Information will also be available on the Lions' Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/CoventryLionsClub>. Interested in solar? Reps from [Solarize Coventry](#) will be on hand at the ChiliFest event to answer questions about solar energy.
- Mon 11/7 **Veteran's Day program**, 11 AM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. It is an annual tradition for the American Legion and Coventry Senior Center to come together to honor our Veterans. We will enjoy lunch and a special program. Call 860-742-3525 to register. Must sign up by October 31st.
- Tues 11/8 **Election Day**, polls open 6 AM – 8 PM. District 1 votes at GH Robertson School, 227 Cross Street. District 2 votes at Coventry Grammar School, 3453 Main Street. More info [here](#).
- Tues 11/8 **Teen Maker Club**, 12 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main St. Head to the Teen Zone for some STEAM inspired activities! Library [event calendar](#).

- Tues 11/8 **Diary of a Wimpy Kid Party**, 2 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main St. It's a no school day! Join us for Wimpy Kid activities and a chance to win the newest Diary of a Wimpy Kid book: *Double Down*. Library [event calendar](#).
- Weds 11/9 **Adult Crafternoon**, 1 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main St. Today's craft: Felt Hand Warmers. As the days get shorter and colder, these easy to make hand warmers will sit in your pockets or gloves to keep your fingers warm. Library [event calendar](#).
- Sat 11/9 **Solarize Coventry workshop**, 7 PM, Town Hall Annex, 1712 Main Street. Speak with representatives from the [Solarize Coventry](#) initiative to get the facts on going solar for your home.
- Fri 11/11
& Sat 11/12 **St. Mary Christmas Fair**, 1600 Main St. Crafts, baked goods, Santa's workshop booth, Christmas booth, Country Store booth, raffle. Soup, sandwiches, and fried dough will be available. Hours: Friday 6 PM to 9 PM, Saturday 9 AM to 2 PM.
- Sat 11/12 **CT Veterans Day Patriot Race**, 9:30 AM, Patriots Park. Hosted by the Women Marines Association and the American Legion in collaboration with the Coventry Parks & Recreation Department. You do not need to be a military veteran to participate. Enjoy the USTAF/RRCA certified 4 mile Patriot Race (easy & fast course). Register online at www.ctveteransdayrace.com. More info [here](#). Reps from [Solarize Coventry](#) will also be on hand at the event to answer questions about solar energy.
- Sat 11/12 **Annual Holiday Fair**, 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.
- Sun 11/13 **Hale & Hearty Cooking Class**, 11 AM – 4 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. (*Extra class due to sell out of first date!*) Use autumn's plenty to prepare a special harvest meal using seasonal foods and historical cooking methods. We will make savory soup over the fire, roast meat in the reflector oven, bake apples, churn butter and press our own cider. Ginger cake and whipped cream for dessert. \$60/\$50 CTL members. Reservations required, call 860-742-6917 or email hale@ctlandmarks.org.
- Tues 11/15
Thru 11/17 **3-Day Minecraft Coding Challenge**, 1 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main St. Do you want to learn to code and play Minecraft? Join us for a 3 day coding workshop and learn to customize your world. Registration required, call 860-742-7606. Please plan on attending all three sessions. **For teens in grades 6-12**. Library [event calendar](#).
- Tues 11/15 **Tech Tuesdays**, 6 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main St. These hands-on workshops are intended to help you navigate the vast and growing world of technology. If you have a laptop, tablet or smartphone, feel free to bring them. Tonight's topic: Library databases – Learn about research databases provided by the library and how to use them. Library [event calendar](#).
- Weds 11/16 **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 11/16 **Bistro Lunch**, 12 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Roast turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing and apple pie. The meal is \$7 and must be

ordered by Monday, November 7 in the Senior Center office. More info: 860-742-3525.

- Weds 11/16 **ASK: After School Kids**, 4 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. A new club for school age kids (K-5) that meets every other week. Join us for a different project or activity each week! Check our [Facebook page](#) or [website](#) for information for what we plan on doing each week.
- Weds 11/16 **Lincoln Center Local: Voices of a People's History**, 6 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main St. This Lincoln Center commission commemorates the 35th anniversary of Howard Zinn's seminal book, *A People's History of the United States*, with music and spoken-word performances that will bring life to the extraordinary history of ordinary people in the book: those who built the movements that made the United States what it is today. This is a screening of a pre-recorded event held in partnership with Lincoln Center Local. Library [event calendar](#).
- Thurs 11/17 **Anime**, 6 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main St. Calling all otaku! Check out the newest in anime and catch up on some cult classics. Themed snacks provided. Library [event calendar](#).
- Thurs 11/17 **Homeschool Group**, 12 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main St. A monthly homeschool meeting where we will collaborate, learn, experiment, and create! Each month we will be working on a different topic or skill. All homeschoolers ages 7-17 are invited to attend. Library [event calendar](#).
- Thurs 11/17 **Comics Club**, 4 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main St. A book club all about comics! Read the book before each meeting and join us for a discussion, snack, and activity. Grades 3-5. This month: *A Wrinkle in Time: The Graphic Novel* by Madeleine L'Engle, illus. by Hope Larson. Library [event calendar](#).
- Fri 11/18 **Messy Munchkins**, 10:30 AM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main St. A multi-sensory playgroup that encourages participation from both caregiver and child. *Some activities may get messy so please dress accordingly.* Ages 4 and under. Library [event calendar](#).
- Fri 11/18
& Sat 11/19 **29th Annual Holiday Fair**, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. Hours: Fri. 6-8 PM, Sat. 9 AM-2 PM. Attic treasures, expanded and with \$5 early bird admission Friday at 5:30, crafts, gift baskets, jewelry, café, baked goods & other great foods, books, vendors, silent auction, tin cup raffle, raffle with prizes including Disney World tickets, Kindle Fire tablet package. Photos with Santa Claus and kids shopping area Sat, plus music with Bruce John from *Kidsville Kuckoo Revue* Sat 10:30 for kids of all ages.
- Sat 11/19 **International Games Day, 10 AM – 2:30 PM**, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main St. Bring your friends and family and game at the library! Gaming of all types encourages patrons to interact with a diverse group of peers, share their expertise with others, and develop new strategies for gaming and learning. There will be activities and games for all ages. Kids and teens will have tabletop and board games, video games, and even an opportunity to create your own game. There will also be a special meeting of the Board to Death table top gaming group. Library [event calendar](#).
- Sun 11/20 **Coventry Winter Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, CHS Cafeteria, 78 Ripley Hill Road. More [info](#).
- Fri 11/25

- & Sat 11/26 **Shop, Sip & Celebrate**, 12 – 4 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. The Hale Homestead is open Thanksgiving Friday and Saturday! Sip tea or apple cider and travel through four centuries of Connecticut history with your family. Visit our museum shop for period inspired gifts and the best works of local artisans for the holidays. [Website](#).
- Sun 11/27 **Coventry Winter Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, CHS Cafeteria, 78 Ripley Hill Road. More [info](#).
- Weds 11/30 **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](#).

FOOD FOR FINES AT THE LIBRARY: Large fines? Bring in a non-perishable item for a \$1.00 off your fines. All donations will be given to the Coventry Food Bank. **November 1—November 30.** Food items must be undamaged and not expired. Fine reductions are for fines, not lost/damaged items or printing.

STILL THINKING ABOUT SENDING YOUR CHILD TO PRESCHOOL FOR THIS YEAR? Know someone in another town who is thinking about preschool? The Coventry Early Childhood Center (CECC) a NAEYC accredited preschool in Coventry, has LIMITED openings in its preschool program for BOTH Coventry residents and non-residents. These spaces are available on a sliding fee scale to families with 3 and 4 year old children who financially qualify (for example, a family of 4 would need to earn less than \$78,000, a family of 3 would need to earn less than \$65,000) to receive tuition assistance. Tuition could be as low as \$200 for the year! The amount of tuition assistance available is dependent on family size and income. Coventry is fortunate to receive two state grants from the Office of Early Childhood to support the tuition assistance program. If you are interested in enrolling your child, please contact CECC at 860-742-4550. Applications will be taken on a first come first serve basis.

CLERGY FUEL FUND 2016: The Clergy Fuel Fund assists Coventry residents in need of emergency heating assistance and 100% of the dollars raised remains in the town. To make donations please make checks payable to “Clergy Fuel Bank” and mailed c/o Coventry Town Hall, Finance Office, 1712 Main Street, Coventry, CT 06238. Please contact Coventry Human Services for more information, 860-742-5324.

HOLIDAY “ADOPT-A-FAMILY” PROGRAM: The holiday season is here 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. 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” remain 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.

COUNSELING SERVICES FOR YOUTH: Free counseling services are available to Coventry youth and their families at Youth Services. A licensed clinical social worker provides brief, solution-focused therapy and can address numerous struggles (depression, stress, self-esteem, divorce, etc.) that youth may be having. To set up an appointment, contact Crystal Morawitz, Youth Services Coordinator at 860-742-5324.

POSITIVE CONNECTION MENTORING PROGRAM: MENTORS NEEDED: If you are a mature, responsible, well-rounded sophomore, junior and senior student who enjoys working with students, you may be interested in serving as a mentor. Beginning in November, this program meets every Thursday, during the school year from 2:30-4:30 at Robertson School. For more information or to apply, contact Youth Services at 860-742-5324.

LETTERS TO SANTA: Kids, let Santa know just how good you have been this year! From November 8th to December 6th, 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!

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