



COVENTRY COMMUNITY UPDATE:

June 2017

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

MANAGER'S MONTHLY MEMO:

As we leave May and enter June, please remember to participate in Memorial Day events including our annual parade and service on Veterans' Memorial Green. The parade is on Monday, May 29th and kicks off at 10 AM. Details below.

Please watch for more information on the annual budget process. The Town Council paused the process given the great uncertainty with State aid and the related property tax impact. When the State adopts a budget the Annual Town Meeting and referendum will proceed (including a vote on the proposed Library renovation and addition). If the State doesn't reach a budget agreement by early June, pursuant to State law the Council will likely adopt a 90-day interim budget and set an interim mil rate which may need to be adjusted after the Town Meeting/referendum process. If necessary and approved, supplemental bills would go out later in the year with real estate likely adjusting the second payment. More information will be provided as the State budget picture becomes clearer.

To understand the magnitude of the State Aid budget cuts being proposed in the revised Governor's budget we can compare the adopted general fund revenue (capital funds not included) in the FY 16/17 budget of \$10,117,745 to the Governor's proposed budget of \$5,319,809. This is a possible reduction to us of \$4,797,936. This equates to 5.12 mils of lost revenue. These numbers include a proposal for the towns to pay 1/3 of teacher retirement expenses. The Council's proposed budget (without teacher retirement expenses) was actually just below a zero-increase budget.

So if the State budget is adopted using the Governor's revised budget the mil rate without additional spending cuts would be 36.32, a 16.4% increase. Other budget proposals under discussion would have less of an impact. There may also be impacts if car taxes are capped at 32 mils since real estate and personal property will have to be increased to offset the lost car tax revenue. Your voice is important over the next several weeks. Please contact your State officials and let them know State cuts to towns are a property tax increase.

Projects underway include the startup of the State-funded Lake/Cross Street road safety improvement project. This project will have some traffic impacts but will be limited to brief closures and mostly alternating one-lane impacts. It will be complete by fall. Watch for updates.

Smaller projects underway include adding a tennis court at CHS, minor sidewalk tweaks at Main and Ripley Hill/Hemlock. Chip seal is planned for late May/early June: please drive slowly on the loose stone. A [list of roads](#) is available on the Town website.

The State-run Main Street project in the Village will ramp up and move toward their fall conclusion deadline. Questions on this project can be relayed to Tectonic, the project inspectors, in their construction office next door to Phoenix Chinese Restaurant. CT Water has just advised us that they are continuing their Main Street water main replacement project and are starting immediately from Mason Street to their well site near Armstrong Road. This is to get ahead of a State Main Street paving project from Mason to Rt. 32 planned for this summer. This project will also continue up School Street to Rt. 275, then to Old Eagleville Road to a new well. This will resolve water shortages in the village and allow hydrants if the Town builds a water tower at Coventry High School.

UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS:

- Mon, 6/5: Town Council Meeting: 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex.
- Thurs, 6/8: WPCA Meeting, 6:00 PM, DPW Conf. Room
- Thurs, 6/8: Board of Education, 7:30 PM, School Admin. Building
- Mon, 6/12: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:00 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Mon, 6/19: Town Council Meeting: 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Thurs, 6/22: Board of Education, 7:30 PM, School Admin. Building
- Mon, 6/26: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:00 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Weds, 6/28: Inland Wetlands Agency, 7:00 PM, Town Hall Annex

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

HOLIDAYS:

Monday, 5/29: Memorial Day. Town offices, schools and Senior Center closed. Trash collection on [holiday](#) schedule.

COMING EVENTS:

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| Mon | 5/29 | Memorial Day Pancake Breakfast: 7-10 AM, First Congregational Church, 1171 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 | 5/29 | 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. On Sunday, May 28, wreath-laying services will be held at 2 PM at 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. |
| Fri | 6/2 | Quiet Corner Contra Dance, Patriots Park Lodge, 172 Lake St. Lesson 7:30 PM, dancing 8-11 PM. Live band & caller. Partner not necessary. Wear soft-soled shoes. Adults \$10, students \$5, families \$20. Info: 484-844-5203. |
| Sat | 6/3 | Book Bag Beautification, 11:30 AM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Design your very own reusable library tote bag with Miss Nina! Blank bags will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis. Bring your creative ideas and we'll supply the design materials! When you're done, load it up with books – again, and again, and again... Preschool to grade 5. Drop in, no registration required. Other Library events . |
| Sat | 6/3 | CT Trails Day Walk, 2-3:30 PM, Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. A slow 2-mile walk down the 18 th century road toward Norwich that the Hales used to take their livestock to market. Heavy rain cancels. Free. Registration recommended: 860-742-6917. |
| Sun | 6/4 | Coventry Farmers' Market, 11 AM – 2 PM, Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Featuring some of the best of Connecticut-grown, Connecticut-made products around at one of the most unspoiled countryside settings in the state. <i>June 4: Opening Day 2017.</i> Website . |
| Tues | 6/6 | Passport Fair, 12-4 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. The United States Postal Service will present a Passport on Wheels event where you can apply for or renew your passport right at the Library. Payment and application requirements still apply. For questions regarding |

passports, please contact the National Passport Information Line at 1-877-487-2778. More Library events [here](#).

- Sat 6/10 **Tag Sale and Plant Sale**, 9 AM – 2 PM, Strong Porter House, South Street (across from Nathan Hale Homestead). Also Sunday 6/11. Tools of various types. Vendor space available for \$15. Sponsored by the Coventry Historical Society. Proceeds help support the Strong Porter Museum and property. Come early to get the best parking before the Farmers' Market opens at 11 AM on Sunday. If you have items to donate call 860-377-8290 or email info@ctcoventryhistoricalsociety.org to arrange for pick-up or drop-off.
- Sat 6/10 **CT Open House Day**, 12-4 PM, Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Tours of the Homestead are free today! [Website](#).
- Sun 6/11 **Nathan Hale Barns Renovation – Grand Opening & Ribbon-cutting Ceremony**, 10-11 AM, Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. [Website](#).
- Sun 6/11 **Coventry Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Featuring some of the best of Connecticut-grown, Connecticut-made products around at one of the most unspoiled countryside settings in the state. *June 11: Homegrown How-To*. [Website](#).
- Weds 6/14 **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 6/14 **Housing Options for Coventry Seniors and Millennials**, 1 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. The Planning & Zoning Commission is currently working on the housing section of Coventry's Plan of Conservation and Development and has asked for a report on the discussions from this group. Participate in this final round of discussions and get an opportunity to recommend to the regulation writers what kind of housing you want and where you think it should be built. Information: Christine Pattee, 860-742-6511 or email c2pattee@aol.com.
- Thurs 6/15 **Teen Graphic Novel Club**, 6 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Do you love graphic novels, manga, and comic books? Join our summer reading group! *June 15: Introduction & favorite comic*. Other Library [events](#).
- Fri 6/16 **Ice Cream Social**, 2 – 3 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. The Board of Trustees invites you to kick-off Summer Reading at this informal celebration and registration event. More info about Library summer programs [here](#).
- Sat 6/17 **2017 Beach Season Begins**. Resident parking stickers available for purchase beginning June 1st. For information and beach updates visit www.coventryrec.com.
- Sun 6/18 **Coventry Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Featuring some of the best of Connecticut-grown, Connecticut-made products around at one of the most unspoiled countryside settings in the state. *June 18: Carbs & Carburetors*. [Website](#).
- Tues 6/20 **Author Visit: Sara Prager**, 6:30 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Join Connecticut native Sarah Prager for a discussion of her new book *Queer, There, and Everywhere: 23 People Who Changed the World*, a first-of-its-kind young adult book that tells the once-hidden stories of LGBTQ history. Copies of the book will be available for purchase. Other Library [events](#).
- Thurs 6/22 **Summer App Series**, 4:30 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Learn to create using apps on your favorite devices. *Today's topic: photo editing*. Other Library [events](#).

- Fri 6/23 **Drone Build**, 10:30 AM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Are you interested in learning about drones or building them? Come to this four-part program and build your own! For teens entering grades 6-12. Registration required – must be able to attend all dates, Fridays at 10:30 AM on 6/23, 6/30, 7/7 and 7/14. Call 860-742-7606.
- Fri 6/23 **Family Fort Night**, 5:45 – 7:30 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Have you ever wanted to be in the Library after hours? Don't miss this fun event! We will be starting off the evening with a couple of stories and then each family will be able to create a fort in the children's room and continue to read together! We will also have snacks, beverages, and other fun activities. All ages, registration required. Call 860-742-7606. *Please arrive by 5:45 to ensure you will be let into the Library before closing at 6 PM.*
- Fri 6/23 **“The Not So Good Life of a Colonial Goodwife”**, 7 PM, Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Learn what life was really like for colonial women. Velya Jancz-Urban will have you laughing & crying as she discusses topics you are too shy to ask about. Not recommended for under age 16. \$25/\$20 CTL members. Reservations required: 860-742-6917. [Website](#).
- Sat 6/24 **Artist Talk: Brian Trainor**, 11 AM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Photographer Brian Trainor will discuss his over 30 years of professional photography experience, particularly his work in Biscayne Everglades National Parks. He will provide a behind-the-scenes look at creating his work along with the backstory of what he photographs and why. Other Library [events](#).
- Sat 6/24 **CoventryFest**, 3-10 PM, Patriots Park, 124 Lake Street. Live music, games, rides, entertainment, and fireworks over Coventry Lake. More [info](#).
- Sun 6/25 **Coventry Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Featuring some of the best of Connecticut-grown, Connecticut-made products around at one of the most unspoiled countryside settings in the state. *June 25: Farmers' Market Fitness*. [Website](#).
- Weds 6/28 **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 6/28 **Children's Performance Series – Mad Science: Fire & Ice Stage Show**, Patriots Park Community Center, 124 Lake Street. Mad scientists will demonstrate the concepts of combustion and the different states of matter. They will also reveal the secrets behind some of Hollywood's special effects! Free and open to everyone. [Info](#).
- Weds 6/28 **Creating Notebooks**, 6:30 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Creating your own notebook (or journal, calendar or scrapbook) from recycled materials doesn't have to be complicated or ugly. Explore a variety of unconventional stamping and marking techniques while creating the covers of your soon-to-be-favorite book. Other Library [events](#).

FARMERS' MARKET VOLUNTEERS: The 2017 season of the Coventry Farmers' Market at Hale will kick off on June 4! There are plenty of opportunities for folks to volunteer and be part of the fun with this wonderful community event. Even just a couple hours a week during certain events in the season can be of great help to the Market and get you involved! Please contact Erica Pagliuco, Market Master, at epagliuco@coventryct.org if you are interested.

HEALTHY GRIEVING WORKSHOP: First Congregational Church of Coventry, 1171 Main Street, is considering hosting a monthly Healthy Grieving group. Come learn what helps us to regain resilience when we experience grief. The group would be led by Rev. Mary Horan from

Hartford Health Care East Region. Rev. Horan holds a MDIV from Andover Newton Theological School and is ordained into the United Church of Christ. She is a Board Certified Chaplain and is Director of Spiritual Care for Harford Health Care East. If you would be interested in participating in this group, please let us know by calling 860-742-8487 or email at first.congregatnl@snet.net by June 5th. The group will or will not be organized depending on interest from the community.

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