



COVENTRY COMMUNITY UPDATE:

September 2017

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

MANAGER'S MONTHLY MEMO:

Back to school but the normal routine doesn't mean that life is dull. The month is full of amazing events at the Library, Senior Center and around town. My three picks for the month are the Arts in the Park Festival on Saturday, September 9th at Patriots Park, the State of the Lake Forum on September 19th at the Lodge and the Historic Photos Project reception (funded by the Last Green Valley) at the Library on September 21st. See below for details.

Construction continues on Lake/Cross Street with the majority of the work scheduled for completion by September. The State Main Street project is in the home stretch. The State will also be milling and paving Main Street from Mason Street to Rt. 32 in Mansfield this October. Watch for a second round of chip seal on the lower section of Grant Hill, which the contractor is repairing at their cost in late August or early September. The smaller stone will need to stay down a bit longer to seal before we can sweep it up, so watch for signs to "drive slow."

We have also scheduled a bridge deck repair for the Flanders River Road Bridge in September which will require a detour of at least a week. Watch for details on [Road Alerts](#). In the good news department we received an \$800,000 grant for re-roofing the senior housing at Orchard Hills and some sidewalk and door work. We also received preliminary approval for a grant to replace the Folly Lane Bridge. This bridge project will take several years of design and permitting.

Finally, a word on the budget. We still are waiting for the State to take action and let us know how much State aid we will receive. In the interim the Town Council has imposed a discretionary spending freeze and a hiring freeze. We are also working cooperatively with the Town Unions for labor agreements. A dialogue with the Board of Education on potential impacts of budget cuts is ongoing. The summer roads budget was cut in half due to not receiving the traditional \$300,000 in aid. At some point the Town will have to adopt a formal budget through a Town Meeting and referendum. A reminder that we were already at less than a zero increase before considering additional reductions. Please contact State leadership and tell them to finalize the budget so we can move on and do our job.

UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS:

- **Tues, 9/5:** Town Council Meeting: 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- **Mon, 9/11:** Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:00 PM, Town Hall Annex
- **Thurs, 9/14:** WPCA Meeting, 6:00 PM, DPW Conf. Room
- **Thurs, 9/14:** Board of Education, 7:30 PM, School Admin. Building
- **Mon, 9/18:** Town Council Meeting: 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- **Mon, 9/25:** Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:00 PM, Town Hall Annex
- **Weds, 8/27:** Inland Wetlands Agency, 7:00 PM, Town Hall Annex
- **Thurs, 9/28:** Board of Education, 7:30 PM, School Admin. Building

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

HOLIDAYS:

Monday, 9/4: Labor Day. Town offices, schools and Senior Center closed. Trash collection on [holiday schedule](#).

COMING EVENTS:

- Sun 9/3 **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. *Sept. 3: Dog Days.* [Website.](#)
- Tues 9/5 **Glam Your Locker in the Teen Zone**, 3 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Cover your textbooks, make decorations for your backpack, and customize your locker! Supplies provided or BYO. [Library event calendar.](#)
- Tues 9/5 **Author Visit with Susan Strecker**, 6:30 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Susan Strecker has a B.A. in Psychology and a Master of Marriage and Family Therapy. Her first novel, *Night Blindness* was an IndieNext pick. Her newest novel, *Nowhere Girl* won the 2016 Beverly Hills Book Award and was shortlisted for the Chanticleer Book Reviews Award. [Library event calendar.](#)
- Weds 9/6 **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 9/6 **Afternoon Adventures**, 4-5 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. A 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. [Library event calendar.](#)
- Sat 9/9 **2nd Annual Arts in the Park Festival**, 10 AM – 4 PM, Patriots Park, 124 Lake Street. Showcasing area visual, literary and performing artists. Artists will exhibit their work and local musicians and dancers will perform continuously on the band shell stage. Demonstrations and readings will be held throughout the day. Children's Corner with a variety of hands-on arts projects. Coventry Arts Guild Members will display their works at the Community Center. Food/beverages available for purchase. Free. Sponsored by the Coventry Arts Guild. For more information, visit their [Facebook page](#), email festival@coventryartsguild.org or call 860-377-1338. For more information on becoming a member of the Coventry Arts Guild visit www.coventryartsguild.org.
- Sat 9/9 **BBQ Chicken Community Supper**, 4:30-6:30 PM, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. BBQ chicken, coleslaw, corn, baked potatoes, dessert. Adults: \$12, Seniors: \$10, Children 7-12: \$6, Children under 6 FREE. Takeout & sit-down service available. Info: 860-742-8487.
- Sun 9/10 **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. *Sept. 10: Farm-to-Beauty.* [Website.](#)
- Tues 9/12 **Tinker Tuesday**, 3 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Make something cool after school! For grades 6-12. Today's item: Origami Slinky. [Library event calendar.](#)
- Tues 9/12 **Board to Death**, 6 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Tabletop gaming fun. Bring your friends or come and meet new people. The Library has a variety of games, and you are always welcome to bring a favorite or two as well. [Library event calendar.](#)
- Tues 9/12 **RB Digital / Libby Tech Class**, 6:30 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. The programs and apps the library uses to download and read, listen to or view e-books, e-audiobooks, magazines and movies have been given new names and a new look. If you are struggling

- using them, or want to get started with downloadable resources for the first time, this class is for you. [Library event calendar](#).
- Weds 9/13 **Police Department Q & A**, 11:30 AM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. The Center will welcome Sergeant McDonagh and new members of the Coventry Police Department for a Question and Answer session! This is a wonderful opportunity to meet the officers who keep Coventry safe, and get all those “I wonder if this is legal?” questions answered! Light Refreshments will be provided. Info: 860-742-3525.
- Thurs 9/14 **Cookbook Club**, 6 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. New members are always welcome for culinary camaraderie at our Cookbook Club on the second Thursday of the month. Make a recipe, bring a sample to the Library and join us for dinner and conversation. *This month's feature: Farm to Table Recipes.* [Library event calendar](#).
- Fri 9/15 **Pop Up Storywalks**, 1-5 PM, [Mill Brook Park](#). Go on a walk through Mill Brook Park while reading a story as a family! Pages of a storybook will be posted along the trail in the park for you to walk through and read together. This is a drop-by, family friendly event. Today's book: *Duck on a Bike* by David Shannon. [Library event calendar](#).
- Fri 9/15 **Anime Club**, 3:30 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Watch some of your favorite series, eat themed snacks and enjoy! For grades 6-12. [Library event calendar](#).
- Sat 9/16 **Evening at the Homestead**, 5:30-8:30 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Enjoy a lovely fall evening & celebrate the renovation of the Nathan Hale Barns. Proceeds benefit educational programming at the Homestead. Register at 860-247-8996 x 23 or email www.ctlandmarks.org. More [info](#).
- Sun 9/17 **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. *Sept. 17: Find Your Whey to CT Farmstead Cheese.* [Website](#).
- Tues 9/19 **Annual State of the Lake Forum**, 7 PM, Patriots Park Lodge, 172 Lake Street. Learn how fish are stocked by CT DEEP, an update on Hydrilla and the general health of the lake. More [info](#).
- Tues 9/19 **It's a String Thing**, 7 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Knit, crochet, cross stich and more with a group to chat with. [Library event calendar](#).
- Weds 9/20 **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 9/20 **Afternoon Adventures**, 4-5 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. A 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. [Library event calendar](#).
- Weds 9/20 **Family Game Night**, 6 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Take some time out of your hectic family schedule to play games and eat pizza provided by Coventry's own Wicked Slice! We will have a large variety of board and tabletop games available as well as pizza--all for free. All ages. [Library event calendar](#).
- Thurs 9/21 **Opening Reception, Coventry Historic Photos Project**, 6-7:30 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. View and help identify a series of historical images of Coventry and its people donated to the town by John Welles Brainard. More [info](#).

- Sat 9/23 **Walktober: Hale Homestead Landscape Tour – Reading an 18th Century Farm**, 11 AM – 1 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Free. Walk the property of the Hale family farm looking for clues that tell us about life when Nathan Hale lived there. 1.5 miles, 2 hours. More [info](#).
- Sun 9/24 **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. *Sept. 24: Know Your Roots – Around the World CFM Style*. [Website](#).
- Mon 9/25 **Dial-A-Ride Update**, 11:30 AM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Representatives from the Windham Region Transit District will be on site to discuss (and answer questions) about the Dial-a-Ride program, and other transportation services provided by the Transit District. Info: 860-742-3525.
- Weds 9/27 **Ocean Frontiers III: Leaders in Ocean Stewardship & the New Blue Economy**, 6:30 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Savor rare underwater footage of stunning marine life along the coast from Virginia to Maine in this documentary--a truly unique and hopeful ocean film that chronicles efforts to plan for a healthy, safe, and sustainable future. It explores the intersection of national security, maritime commerce, fishing, and recreation, plus expanding industries such as offshore wind energy and aquaculture coupled with scientific discovery. The film tells the story of how ocean planning helps us manage and balance all the uses of our ocean to keep it thriving for generations to come. A brief participant lead discussion will follow. [Library event calendar](#).
- Sat 9/30 **Slime!** 10:30 AM – noon, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Join Nina in the Children’s Room and learn about different ways to make slime! [Library event calendar](#).

LIBRARY LAUNCHES NEW STORYTIME SCHEDULE. Click [here](#) for details and a list of activities.

SENIOR CENTER UPDATE: September is another busy month at the senior center! We are excited to welcome Sarah Leete, our new transportation coordinator! Coventry Seniors can request rides for medical appointments on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM by calling 860-742-3525.

The Center is disappointed to announce that the Thames Valley Council for Community Action has discontinued their senior nutrition BISTRO program which the Center had been using for its twice monthly lunches. Human Services & Senior Center staffs are working to identify alternative meal options. In the interim, we are lucky to have WONDERFUL neighbors in the Mansfield Senior Center who have invited us to their *Luuu Lunch and Hula Performance* on **Friday September 18th at noon**. The meal and performance is \$7 and transportation will be provided! Contact the Center at 860-742-3525 for details.

Senior Yoga is moving to the afternoons! Join us for a class on **Friday September 1st, Wednesday September 13th or Wednesday September 20th** from **3:00-4:00 PM**. Classes are \$3 per session and taught by local instructor Anna Glowacki.

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