



## COVENTRY COMMUNITY UPDATE:

May 2018

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

### MANAGER'S MONTHLY MEMO:

A reminder about the Annual Town Meeting on Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM in the Veterans' Auditorium at Coventry High School. A budget-in-brief and explanatory text for a referendum question was mailed to all households and can be viewed [online](#). The meeting will be adjourned to referendum for a vote on the budget and a second question of borrowing for a package of capital improvement projects on Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> with polling places at the firehouses.

Remember that May 28<sup>th</sup> is the annual Memorial Day parade. The Main Street construction project should be pretty much completed by then (see below for parade detail). But construction is not complete as CT Water starts to install a new main for a new well on Old Eagleville Road to Rt. 275 (Stonehouse Road) to tie in on School Street. We also have contractor corrective work on Cross Street near the boat launch and will be starting some shim work and crack sealing. Watch for a brief closure of Flanders Road Bridge over the Willimantic River to allow a re-decking of the paved surface in a joint Coventry/Mansfield project. And just when you thought traffic on Main Street was going to flow, the State is raising catch basins from Boston Turnpike to Route 275 in preparation for milling and paving this year.

Please see information on the various concrete foundation testing grant programs later in this e-blast. New higher income guidelines have just been amended for the CDBG 100% grant for core sampling. First come, first served so apply quickly.

The Town is soon selling off several lots via sealed bid. [Sign up](#) on the Town's website to receive bid notices. The lots are located on Cross (at Orcutt) and Standish (at Daly).

### UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS:

- Sat, 4/28: Annual Town Meeting, 10 AM, CHS Veterans' Auditorium
- Mon, 5/7: Town Council, 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Mon, 5/14: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Thurs, 5/10: WPCA: 6 PM, DPW Conf. Room
- Thurs, 5/10: Board of Education, 7:30 PM, School Admin. Building
- Mon, 5/21: Town Council, 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Weds, 5/23: Inland Wetlands Agency, 7:00 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Weds, 5/31: Board of Education, 7:30 PM, School Admin. Building

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

### HOLIDAYS:

**Monday, 5/28: Memorial Day.** Town offices, schools and Senior Center closed. Trash collection on [holiday](#) schedule.

### COMING EVENTS:

Sat 4/28 **Annual Town Meeting**, 10 AM, CHS Veterans' Auditorium, 78 Ripley Hill Road. Please attend this important meeting for the presentation of the proposed budget for FY 2018-19 to the community. A referendum question on various capital improvement projects will also be presented. The meeting will be adjourned to referendum votes on May 8, 2018.

- Tues 5/1 **Katharine Hepburn: From Hartford to Hollywood**, 6:30 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. With a stage and film career that spanned six decades, Katharine Hepburn is an American icon. Born and raised in Connecticut, Hepburn had a career in stage, film and television that reflected the changing role of women in broader society. The story of her life-long ties to Connecticut offers a complete picture of how Hepburn became the woman and the star she was. Presented by Taylor McClure, a Museum Educator at the Connecticut Historical Society. Sponsored by the generosity of the Porter Library Association. [Library event calendar](#).
- Weds 5/2 **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](#).
- Thurs 5/3 **Line Dancing in the Lodge**, every Thursday from 4-5 PM, Patriots Park Lodge, 172 Lake Street. Beginner level class is for everyone. Instructor Susan Beeching breaks down each dance step by step; \$3 per session payable at the door! For information call the Senior Center at 860-742-3525.
- Thurs 5/3 **Spring Fling Swing Dance**, 4-5:30 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Sponsored by the students of the Tri-M Music National Honors Society, Coventry High School. The jazz band encourages dancing, musical entertainment and provide refreshments. FREE. More information: 860-742-3525.
- Thurs 5/3 **Public Meeting: Eastern Gateways Study**, 7 PM – Town Hall Annex, 1712 Main Street. Studying solutions to address increasing travel demand on Rt. 44 and Rt. 195. Info: Eric Trott, 860-742-5062 or [www.cteasterngateways.com](http://www.cteasterngateways.com).
- Fri 5/4 **Out to Lunch Bunch**, 11:30 AM. The Coventry Senior Center *Lunch Bunch* crew will be visiting Mitchell's in Vernon this month. Meet at the Senior Center, 172 Main Street. Price for lunch is on your own, order off the menu. Information: 860-742-3525.
- Fri 5/4 **Quiet Corner Contra Dance**, Free lesson 7:30 PM, Dance 8-11 PM. Patriots Park Lodge, 172 Lake Street. Dance to live music by Chicks 'n Sync with caller Paul Wilde. Partner not necessary. Wear soft-soled shoes. An alcohol & tobacco-free event. Adults \$12, students \$6, under 12 free. Contact Dave for info: 484-844-5203 or email [cannel.dm@gmail.com](mailto:cannel.dm@gmail.com).
- Sat 5/5 **Town-wide Tag Sale**. 8 AM – 4 PM at locations throughout town. Last chance to register your location in the sale for \$25 – deadline is April 24! Details [here](#).
- Sat 5/5 **Fishing Derby**, 8 AM – 1 PM, Manchester Sportsmen's Association, 612 Merrow Rd. Admission: Adults \$20, ages 13-18 \$10, under 12 free. Raffles, prizes, games, refreshment stand. Gates open at 7 AM for advanced ticket holders. Call 860-836-7673 or 860-331-7555 for advanced ticket sales. Rain or shine.
- Sat 5/5 **Rabies Clinic**, 2-4 PM, Capt. Nathan Hale Middle School, 1776 Main Street. \$20 per animal. Dogs must be on leashes, cats must be in carriers. Proof of prior vaccination required. More information [here](#).
- Tues 5/8 **Budget and Bonding Referendum**, 6 AM – 8 PM. District One votes at Coventry Volunteer Fire Association station, 1755 Main Street. District Two votes at North Coventry Volunteer Fire Station, 3427 Main Street. For more details about voting click [here](#). For budget and referendum information, click [here](#).
- Sat 5/12 **Tea & Calligraphy Workshop**, 10 AM – 1 PM, Patriots Park Lodge, 172 Lake Street. Kathy Lepak will be teaching a workshop entitled "the

- Foundational Hand", which is recommended for study by some of the world's finest calligraphers. Sponsored by the Coventry Arts Guild. \$30 for Arts Guild members; \$35 for non-members. All materials provided. Info: [kathylepak@charter.net](mailto:kathylepak@charter.net). Registration form available [here](#).
- Tues 5/15 **Level 2 Exercise with Mary**, 1 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Main Street. Let's kick it up a notch! Maintain balance, mobility, flexibility and coordination, muscular strength and endurance, and improve your posture. This series of exercises will utilize hand weights and body weight as well as incorporate cardiovascular movements. All exercises are performed in a standing position. Supportive footwear is recommended. \$3.00 drop in session, pay at the door. Also 1 PM on Thurs. 5/24. Information: 860-742-3525.
- Tues 5/15 **Dino Day**, 4 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Celebrate Dino Day at the Library! We will have a dinosaur themed party featuring fun stories, crafts, games, activities and snacks! Grades K-5. [Library event calendar](#).
- Tues 5/15 **It's a String Thing**, 6 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Knit, crochet, cross stitch and more with a group to chat with. Bring a project you have been working on. [Library event calendar](#).
- Weds 5/16 **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 5/16 **Speedy Silly Challenges**, 4 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Do different fun and silly challenges in a limited time frame. Event selected by the Tween Advisory Board and is for grades 4-8 only. [Library event calendar](#).
- Thurs 5/19 **Come Read to the Dogs**, 11 AM – 12 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Sign up for a 10 minute reading slot to read to one of the Healers With Halos Therapy Dogs and their handlers (sponsored by Bolton Veterinary Hospital). The dogs & their handlers have received extensive training and are certified. Open to those in grades K-3. Registration required. 860-742-7606. [Library event calendar](#).
- Tues 5/22 **Stuffed Animal Sleepover**, 6:15 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. The library will have a pajama story time on Tuesday, May 22nd and then you will leave your stuffed animals at the library to have a slumber party! Come back on Wednesday to pick your friend up and see all of the mischief they got into while they had the place to themselves! Ages 3-10. [Library event calendar](#).
- Weds 5/23 **Monthly Lunch Program**, 12 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. The Center is happy to announce their collaboration with the Coventry Food Service Program to bring back the Wednesday Meal Program. Menu and price TBD. Sign up by May 16<sup>th</sup>. Immediately following the luncheon, have a slice of cake and help the Center celebrate their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary! The Center is planning a fun-filled year of celebration and remembrance as they honor where they've come from, where they are now, and what's to come! Information: 860-742-3525.
- Mon 5/28 **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 5/28 **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 27, 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.

Weds 5/30 **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](#).

**WANT TO CHANGE YOUR TIPPER BARREL SIZE?** In response to citizens' requests, we are offering another opportunity to exchange your tipper barrels for a different size at the reduced fee of \$25. If you would like to swap, contact the Tax Office at (860) 742-4066 for various options and rates. They will help you with the next step. **The swap order must be requested and paid for by May 16, 2018 in order to receive this reduced price.** The swap will occur the last two weeks of June in conjunction with the billing cycle for the new fiscal year. Consider upsizing your recycling barrel. There is no increase in your annual bill for a larger recycle barrel.

**NOTICE TO ALL ENROLLED ELECTORS IN COVENTRY:** If you are registered in a political party, you are eligible to vote in that party's primary on **August 14, 2018**. If you wish to vote in the primary of one party and you are currently registered in a different party, you may transfer your registration by May 14, 2018. If you are unaffiliated, you may register in a party before the primary on August 14, 2018. For information, contact the Registrar of Voters office at 860-742-4061 or visit their [web page](#).

**VISITORS' CENTER OPEN:** Located in the newly-restored Coventry Village, the Visitors' Center will reopen on weekends from April 28<sup>th</sup> through mid-October from 10 AM – 2 PM. Featured are free brochures on local and regional attractions, Coventry memorabilia, as well as displays of local gravestone mysteries and the Daffodil Beautification Project. Sponsored by the Village Improvement Society. For more information call 860-742-7847.

**DAFFODIL BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT:** Sponsored by the Village Improvement Society, this town-wide service project is celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> year! Enjoy the welcoming sight of daffodils through town this spring and consider placing a bulb order for fall planting. To order Dutch Master (all yellow) or the popular Mixed Variety at \$4/dozen, call Judy at 860-214-9567.

**SALUTING OUR HEROES:** Nathan Hale Homestead will have a temporary exhibit, "Saluting Our Heroes" on display from May 5 through July 8, in the museum (2299 South Street). This exhibit will salute local service men and women from Coventry and surrounding towns who served from the time of the American Revolution to current time. If anyone has a uniform or memorabilia they would like to loan for the exhibit we would love to talk to you. Please call 860-742-6917 or email [hale@ctlandmarks.org](mailto:hale@ctlandmarks.org).

#### **RELIEF FOR HOMEOWNERS EXPERIENCING CRUMBLING CONCRETE**

**FOUNDATIONS:** Funds are available through the Council Region Council of Governments for reimbursement of testing expenses for households that may be affected by crumbling concrete foundations, and CDBG funds have been awarded for new core sampling. A portion of the CDBG program funds is set aside for income-eligible persons. For details about the CRCOG program click [here](#). For details about the CDBG program call Community Consulting at 860-456-0782. More information about the crumbling concrete issue can be found in the Spotlight column on the home page of the [Town website](#).

**MOTHERS DAY ROSES SALE:** The Coventry Lions Club is sponsoring a Mothers' Day Roses Sale. One dozen long stem roses bouquet is selling for \$18. Roses can be ordered by

calling Cindy at 742-8709 or Gary at 742-6128. Orders can be picked up on Saturday May 12 at the parking lot at Coventry HS between 9am and noon. All proceeds go to supporting Lions Club scholarships and other community service activities.

**LIBRARY WELCOMES NEW TEEN SERVICES/REFERENCE LIBRARIAN:** Kayla Fontaine has joined the staff at Booth & Dimock Memorial Library as the new Teen Services / Reference Librarian. Kayla comes to Coventry from Killingly Public Library where she served as the Technology Specialist. She is an experienced teacher of technology, and a recent library school graduate who is ecstatic to begin her career as a teen librarian. She's here to help you with anything from picking out your next YA read, to setting up your first email account. Stop by the Library Teen Zone to say hi!

**FREE ONLINE PARENTING CLASSES:** A free resource to help parents reduce family stress, get kids to listen and cooperate, and build strong connections without raising your voice. Details for May & June topics [here](#).

**SENIOR CENTER MAY(BE) FIELD TRIP:** The Coventry Senior Center is planning an excursion to **Shady Glen and the Wadsworth Atheneum**. If you are interested in participating in a fun-filled day, sign up at the desk or call 860-742-3525. Ten people are needed to make the trip possible. Tentative dates: May 16 or May 30, departure time TBD.

**SENIOR CENTER SEEKING FEEDBACK:** Give us your opinion! The Coventry Senior Center is interested in hearing from you to help them prepare for future program offerings. Please take their [online survey](#). Thank you!

**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.**