



COVENTRY COMMUNITY UPDATE:

September 2018

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

MANAGER'S MONTHLY MEMO:

Hard to believe we are falling into autumn already. Please see below the many opportunities you have to enrich yourself in the many community events which are offered in our town.

Charged by the Town Council to revisit the Library project, a Special Town Meeting has been called to consider the Building Committee's revised plan on a reduced project which cuts square footage and will reuse the existing driveway, eliminating the need for a large retaining wall. The Special Town Meeting will be on Wednesday, September 5, 2018 at 7:00 PM in the lecture hall at Coventry High School. The vote will be deferred to the standard election on Tuesday, November 6th.

A new service is being offered by COVRRRA: a Shed-it Day on Saturday, September 8th, and save the date of Thursday, September 27th for the grand opening and tour of the Williams Preserve open space on Cooper Lane (see below for more information on both.) This is one of the walking weekend events sponsored in town and our region by The Last Green Valley.

A new statewide service is now available to allow texting to 911. Since having a conversation in an emergency is always better when reaching out to 911, "call if you can, text if you can't." More details [here](#).

The lake Hydrilla treatment is still underway with two of the possible three applications completed and water samples are coming back in the acceptable range. Please watch for more tails as the season wraps up.

Summer road work has been impeded by rain. The State's paving project on Main Street from Rt. 275 to Rt. 44 should be finished this week. It has pushed back several Town paving and shimming projects. This season's chip seal is complete and sweeping and line striping scheduled. Thank you for your patience on these projects.

Enjoy the start of fall.

UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS:

- **Tues**, 9/4: Town Council, 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- **Weds**, 9/5: Special Town Meeting: Library Building Expansion, 7 PM, CHS Lecture Hall
- **Mon**, 9/10: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7 PM, Town Hall Annex
- **Thurs**, 9/13: WPCA: 6 PM, DPW Conf. Room
- **Thurs**, 9/13: Board of Education, 7:30 PM, School Admin. Building
- **Mon**, 9/17: Town Council, 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- **Weds**, 9/26: Inland Wetlands Agency, 7:00 PM, Town Hall Annex
- **Mon**, 9/24: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7 PM, Annex
- **Thurs**, 9/27: Board of Education, 7:30 PM, School Admin. Building

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

HOLIDAYS:

Monday, 9/3: Labor Day. Town offices and Senior Center closed. Trash collection on holiday schedule.

COMING EVENTS:

Sun 9/2: **Coventry Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Join us for the 15th season as the market carries on the tradition of being one of the largest farmers' markets in Connecticut, featuring some of the best of Connecticut-grown, Connecticut-made products around at one of the most unspoiled countryside settings in the state. Sept. 2nd program: Dog Day. Website.

Weds 9/5: **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.

Fri 9/7: **Bingo**, 7 PM, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. Sponsored by the Coventry-Mansfield American Legion. Bingo, snacks, and fun for everyone. 50 cents per person includes your first surprise Bingo card. Doors open at 6 PM and close at 7 PM. First and fourth Fridays of the Month. Information: 860-541-1840.

Fri 9/7: **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. First Friday of the month from Sept. – June. Contact Dave for info: 484-844-5203 or email cannel.dm@gmail.com.

Sat, 9/8: **Shred-it Day**, 9 AM – noon, Public Works facility, 100 Olsen Farm Road. Get rid of your documents securely. Limit two bags or boxes per household. Bring a non-perishable food item for the Coventry Food Bank and increase your limit to three. Info: 860-742-6588. Flyer.

Sat 9/8: **Pork Supper**, 4:30 – 6:30 PM, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. Pork loin with choice of two sides – steamed broccoli, herb roasted potatoes, sautéed green beans or orzo pilaf – and dessert. Adults \$12, seniors \$10, kids 6 and up \$6, kids under 6 free. For questions call (860)742-8487.

Sun 9/9: **Coventry Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Join us for the 15th season as the market carries on the tradition of being one of the largest farmers' markets in Connecticut, featuring some of the best of Connecticut-grown, Connecticut-made products around at one of the most unspoiled countryside settings in the state. Sept. 9th program: Wedding & Event Planning Fair. Website.

Weds 9/12: **Monthly Lunch Program**, 12 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. With school starting back up, the monthly lunch program with Coventry Food Services will be back to every 2nd and 4th Wednesday at the Lodge. Today's menu: Chicken Marsala with noodles and a brownie. \$6. RSVP and payment due by Sept. 7. Info: 860-742-3525.

Fri 9/14: **Workshop: DIY Fall-Themed Sign**, 6:30-8:30 PM, Mill Brook Place, 1267 Main Street. Brenda Krajewski of Olde Time Primitive Signs will help you create your very own pieces of art, to hang in your own home or give as gifts. Choose between a "Hello Fall" sign or a "Trick or Treat" sign. \$55 per person includes all materials. Register online at <https://secure.rec1.com/CT/coventry-ct/catalog>.

Sat 9/15: **Trail Work Party**, 9-11 AM, Williams Preserve (meet at 200 Cooper Lane). Join the Protected Lands Stewardship Committee and get a first look at the Town's latest open space acquisition, and help with trail marking, surface improvements, front entrance and building foundation cleanup and targeted invasive plant management work. Some hand tools will be available. Other hand tools requested: hand pruner/shears, hand saw, pickaxe, shove, battery-operated line/brush trimmer. No power tools allowed at this time. Expect to work in wooded and open natural areas. Dress appropriately with sturdy footwear and bring work gloves. Water and light snacks will be available. No onsite restroom facilities. RSVP to Eric Thomas before the scheduled event at waterthames59@gmail.com.

Sun 9/16: **Coventry Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Join us for the 15th season as the market carries on the tradition of being one of the largest farmers' markets in Connecticut, featuring some of the best of Connecticut-grown, Connecticut-made products around at one of the most unspoiled countryside settings in the state. Sept. 16th program: CT Farmstead Cheeses & Farm-to-Chef Kickoff. [Website](#).

Sun 9/16: **Coventry Historical Society Annual Picnic**, 2:30 PM, Strong Porter House, 2382 South Street. Bring a side dish or dessert and hear a talk by Champ Zumbrun about the Maryland Rifleman who marched through Coventry in the summer of 1775, and spent the night at the Amos Richardson Tavern and Farm on their way to serve under George Washington at the siege of Boston and the Battle of Bunker Hill. A short business meeting will follow the talk. Free for Historical Society members, \$5 per person for non-members. Call 860-742-7277 to RSVP.

Mon 9/17: **Trail Work Party**, 9-11 AM, Williams Preserve (meet at 200 Cooper Lane). Join the Protected Lands Stewardship Committee and get a first look at the Town's latest open space acquisition, and help with trail marking, surface improvements, front entrance and building foundation cleanup and targeted invasive plant management work. Some hand tools will be available. Other hand tools requested: hand pruner/shears, hand saw, pickaxe, shove, battery-operated line/brush trimmer. No power tools allowed at this time. Expect to work in wooded and open natural areas. Dress appropriately with sturdy footwear and bring work gloves. Water and light snacks will be available. No onsite restroom facilities. RSVP to Eric Thomas before the scheduled event at waterthames59@gmail.com.

Tues 9/18: **Tanger Outlets Trip** – Join the Coventry Senior Center and spend the day shopping at the Tanger Outlets located at Foxwoods Casino. A coach bus will depart from the Center at 9:15 AM, returning at 3:30 PM. Cost: Free! Deadline for signup: Sept. 11th. More info: 860-742-3525.

Weds 9/19: **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](#).

Sat 9/22 **Walktober: Hale Homestead Landscape Tour – Reading an 18th Century Farm**, 11 AM – 12:30 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Join Nathan Hale Homestead staff for an easy stroll into history as you are guided through the Hale Family Farm. The last leg of the journey takes you through the Nathan Hale State Forest on the “road to Norwich,” an 18th-century dirt road that the Hale Family used to drive their livestock to market. Heavy rain cancels. More [info](#).

Sun 9/23: **Coventry Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Join us for the 15th season as the market carries on the tradition of being one of the largest farmers' markets in Connecticut, featuring some of the best of Connecticut-grown, Connecticut-

made products around at one of the most unspoiled countryside settings in the state. Sept. 23rd program: Know Your Roots. [Website](#).

Weds 9/26: **Monthly Lunch Program**, 12 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. With school starting back up, the monthly lunch program with Coventry Food Services will be back to every 2nd and 4th Wednesday at the Lodge. Today's menu: Cup of chicken noodle soup; choice of sandwich (turkey/cheese, roast beef or tuna wrap), fruit cup. \$5.50. RSVP and payment due by Sept. 21. Info: 860-742-3525.

Thurs 9/27: **Williams Walk**, 5:30 – 7PM, park near 168 Cooper Lane in marked vehicle parking area. Join Coventry Town staff and protected land stewards in an inaugural trail walk through Coventry's latest land protection action. Hear the perspectives of land owner, town government, and regional land trust partners as we traverse through the 55-acre property from fields to woodlands, stream ravine to lake overlook along the Willimantic River Greenway. Please, no dogs on this walk. Moderate difficulty along this 1-mile loop (unpaved downhill wood trail, long uphill return). Free. Also offered on Sunday, September 30th 1-2:30 PM. Information & RSVP: Eric Thomas (860) 930-7515.

Fri 9/28 & Sat 9/29: **Haunted Corn Maze**, 7-9 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Start with a moderately scary walk through the corn maze brimming with spooks in the dark. This hair-raising, spine tingling event will either be a night to remember or a nightmare you may wish to forget. Last tour leaves at 9 PM. Not recommended for children under 8. \$10 per person, \$30 per family. Rain date 10/7. [More info](#).

Sat 9/29 – Weds 10/31: **Pumpkins with a Purpose**, weekdays 12-8 PM, weekends 10 AM – 8 PM, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. The church lawn will transform into a huge pumpkin patch with hundreds of different types of pumpkins, specialty gourds and fall décor for sale. The church partners with a farm located on a Navajo reservation in New Mexico that employs Native Americans. All proceeds support the community and local church missions. More information: 860-742-8487.

Sun 9/30: **Coventry Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Join us for the 15th season as the market carries on the tradition of being one of the largest farmers' markets in Connecticut, featuring some of the best of Connecticut-grown, Connecticut-made products around at one of the most unspoiled countryside settings in the state. Sept. 30th program: Festival of Fiber Arts. [Website](#).

Sun 9/30: **Walktober: Children's Walk - I Spy a Letterbox**, 1-2:30 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Following clues, we will walk in the Nathan Hale State Forest searching for hidden letterboxes. Finding a letterbox means a stamp in the discovered logbooks & our logbooks, too! There will be letterboxing kits for sale at \$5 if you'd like to start this fun activity today. This interactive walk is especially for families with young children. We will skip, meander & stamp about 1.5 miles over 1.5 hours. Heavy rain cancels. More [info](#).

Sun 9/30: **Williams Walk**, 1-2:30 PM, park near 168 Cooper Lane in marked vehicle parking area. Join Coventry Town staff and protected land stewards in an inaugural trail walk through Coventry's latest land protection action. Hear the perspectives of land owner, town government, and regional land trust partners as we traverse through the 55-acre property from fields to woodlands, stream ravine to lake overlook along the Willimantic River Greenway. Please, no dogs on this walk. Moderate difficulty along this 1-mile loop (unpaved downhill wood trail, long uphill return). Free. No rain date. Information & RSVP: Eric Thomas (860) 930-7515.

THE BOOTH & DIMOCK MEMORIAL LIBRARY is excited to welcome our new Library Director, Margaret Kahn! A lifelong resident of Northeastern Connecticut, Margaret graduated from Eastern Connecticut State University with a degree in History. While in college, she worked at the University Archives where she learned more about the profession and discovered her desire to be a librarian. She attended Simmons College where she earned her Masters of Library and Information Science with a concentration in Archival Management. Margaret was previously the Assistant Director at Babcock Library in Ashford, CT, and the Library Director at Guilford Smith Memorial Library in South Windham, CT. In her free time, she enjoys going on walks and runs, Irish dancing, playing the piano, and baking! Stop by and visit her soon. See the [Library event calendar](#) for details about September events.

NEW PROGRAMS AT THE SENIOR CENTER:

- **TECH Q&A:** In collaboration with the Booth & Dimock Library, the Center is happy to announce a once-a-month (Monday) sign up at the Senior Center to ask our librarian any questions you may have about technology. “Are you having difficulties downloading an app, uploading pictures, want to join in on the social media craze or maybe just having equipment issues?” List your questions and have our Reference Librarian assist and answer them for you. The time is TBD.
- **YOGA** with Instructor Bill Goodale – every Wednesday from 3-4 PM in the Lodge. This class is specially designed for individuals of all abilities. Each class is \$5, payable at the door – no need to sign up in advance!

Call 860-742-3525 for more information.

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 click [here](#). More information about the crumbling concrete issue can be found in the Spotlight column on the home page of the [Town website](#).

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