



COVENTRY COMMUNITY UPDATE:

July 2019

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

MANAGER'S MONTHLY MEMO:

Start your summer with a blast at CoventryFest on Saturday, June 29th. Remember that the fireworks are paid for by donations, not taxes, so if you want them please donate. No dogs or alcohol please. Please note that there will be no parking at GH Robertson School for boat trailers this year, as it has caused a problem for the shuttle buses. As an alternative, boat trailers can be parked at Town Hall – leave your trailers there and take the free shuttle from the middle school. Drive slow and watch for directions from the volunteer fire fighters and police to make this a safe celebration of our country's birth.

Summer means road work and we are still scheduling vendors, but Jones Crossing Road is closed until late summer for a culvert replacement, and Daly Road is scheduled for chip seal the week of July 8th (if it stops raining). Lewis Hill and the oldest section of Eastview Drive are also being scheduled for major work this summer. Other chip seal work is also being planned. Sign up for Road Alerts on the [Alert Center of our website](#) for updates.

We are waiting for a schedule for the lake Hydrilla treatment, but it will be delayed until July due to a slow start in lake plant growth due to a cold rainy spring. A special e-blast article will be sent out in advance. July is Lake Awareness Month – learn more about Coventry's lakes on the Lake Advisory & Monitoring Committee's [webpage](#).

Tax and COVRRRA bills will be getting mailed soon (see below), but in the COVRRRA bill there is information on how the program works and the calendar this year, including a Shred It Day on September 28th. Due to changes in State law, mattresses will no longer be picked up curbside on bulk waste day, after the August pick-up. They will instead be accepted at the transfer station free of charge to allow them to be recycled, not buried.

We also want to share the results of the recent Town survey conducted in conjunction with our Plan of Conversation and Development update. Please click [here](#) to review the summary of the Livability Survey. In general people are happy to live here. Please take time to look at this report and remember that the real negativity and memes that are allowed to be posted on certain Facebook sites are often failed attempts at humor and from a small circle of people. If you have a question or comment on Town government, please contact staff directly or go to our website. My email address is Jelsesser@coventryct.org.

UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS:

- Mon, 7/1: Town Council meeting canceled. See additional [information](#) on Council meeting schedule changes during July 2019.
- Mon, 7/8: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Mon, 7/8: Town Council special meeting. 7:30 PM. Town Hall Conf. B.
- Thurs, 7/11: WPCA: 6 PM, DPW Conf. Room
- Mon, 7/15: Town Council meeting canceled
- Mon, 7/22: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7 PM, Town Hall Conf. B.
- Mon, 7/22: Town Council special meeting, 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Weds, 7/24: Inland Wetlands Agency, 7:00 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Thurs, 7/25: Board of Education, 7:30 PM, School Admin. Building

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

HOLIDAYS:

Thurs 7/4: Independence Day holiday. Town offices, Senior Center and Library are closed. Trash pickup on holiday schedule.

COMING EVENTS:

Sat 6/29: **CoventryFest**, 4-10 PM, Patriots Park, 124 Lake Street. Fun, food and fireworks over Coventry's Lake Wangumbaug. Rain date 6/30. [Schedule of Events](#).

Tues 7/2: **Baby Bookworms**, 10:15 AM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Story time each Tuesday of the month. [Library event calendar](#).

Tues 7/2: **Toddler Time**, 11:15 AM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Story time each Tuesday of the month. [Library event calendar](#).

Weds 7/3: **Play & Learn Playgroup**, 10:30 AM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Fun and educational playgroup for both parents and children ages 5 and under. Each Wednesday of the month. [Library event calendar](#).

Weds 7/3: **Out of This World Art**, 1 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Celebrate the summer reading theme "A Universe of Stories" with space-themed crafts each Wednesday of the month. [Library event calendar](#).

Sun 7/7: **Coventry Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. The 16th season of Connecticut's favorite market. Today's theme: CT Beer & BBQ. [Website](#).

Fri 7/5: **Bingo**, 6:30 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 5:30 PM. First and third Fridays of the month. Information: 860-541-1840.

Weds 7/10: **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. Text FOODSHARE to 85511 to receive the mobile schedule and cancellations directly on your phone. More [info](#).

Sat 7/13: **Vintage Baseball Game**, 11 AM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. The year is 1865 & the players have taken over the hay-bale-marked field at the Nathan Hale Homestead! Bring your lawn chairs & join us to witness a vintage baseball game where two Mid-Atlantic league teams will play by the means & rules of yesteryear. Authenticity is the name of this true gentlemen's game - cursing will result in a 25¢ fine & an apology to the spectators! \$10 per person. Cracker Jacks & other ball game concessions available for purchase. Registration recommended at 860.742.6917 or hale@ctlandmarks.org.

Sun 7/14: **Coventry Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. The 16th season of Connecticut's favorite market. Today's theme: Vegan, vegetarian & gluten-free. [Website](#).

Weds 7/17: **Adult Crafternoons – String Ankle Bracelets**, 5 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. [Library event calendar](#).

Weds 7/17: **Trivia Night**, 2:30 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. [Library event calendar](#).

Thurs 7/18: **CT Author Trail**, 6 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Mystery author Mark Dressler will discuss his book *Dead and Gone* as part of the Connecticut Author's Trail. [Library event calendar](#).

Weds 7/20: **Weird Science**, 1 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Conduct fun science experiments at the Library! [Library event calendar](#).

Sun 7/21: **Coventry Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. The 16th season of Connecticut's favorite market. Today's theme: Trends & Ideas in food. [Website](#).

Sun 7/21: **The Tools That Built Coventry**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Strong Porter Museum, 2382 South Street. Come see a special display and demonstration of colonial-era tools and equipment. The blacksmith shop, carpenter shop and barn will be open, and the hearse and wagon will be on display. Coventry Historical Society [website](#).

Tues 7/23: **Astronomy for Adults**, 6 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Learn how to chart the stars with a tool called the planisphere. [Library event calendar](#).

Weds 7/24: **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. Text FOODSHARE to 85511 to receive the mobile schedule and cancellations directly on your phone. More [info](#).

Weds 7/24: **Senior Lunch Program**, 12 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Veggie quiche, chicken noodle soup and dessert. \$6. RSVP up by 7/18. Info: 860-742-3525.

Through Fri 7/26: **Women's Military History Display**, during regular operating hours, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Enjoy a display of memorabilia belonging to local women who served in the military. Display located in the Nathan Hale Visitor Center during our regular operating hours. Regular admission applies, free for Veterans & active-duty military personnel & their families. Information: <https://www.ctlandmarks.org/hale-events>.

Sun 7/28: **Coventry Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. The 16th season of Connecticut's favorite market. Today's theme: Going Green – Energy for Home & Body. [Website](#).

Tues 7/30: **Family Game Night**, 6:30 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. [Library event calendar](#).

TAX OFFICE REMINDER ~ tax bills for Real Estate (non-escrow), Personal Property, Motor Vehicle and COVRRRA (trash) will be mailed out the end of June. The bills are due July 1 and will be available to view online. If payment is not made within one month of the due date, the installment due will become delinquent and will immediately be subject to 3% interest. Avoid long lines and pay online www.coventryct.org. If you are mailing in your payment, please mail it early or bring it into the post office and have a US Postal employee hand postmark your envelope.

MORE PROGRAMS DURING JULY AT THE SENIOR CENTER – call 860-742-3525 for information:

- **The Pickle Ball Court** is now open and reserved for the summer months, every Tuesday and Thursday morning from 9:30-11 AM. Stop in to the Senior Center Office to pick up the net and rackets.
- **Parking passes are NOT required** for access to the Senior Center. Seniors shall receive a free hanging parking pass for access to Patriots Park & Lisicke Beach parking at no charge for weekdays (M-F) only.

RELIEF FOR HOMEOWNERS EXPERIENCING CRUMBLING CONCRETE

FOUNDATIONS: Funds are available for reimbursement of testing expenses for households that may be affected by crumbling concrete foundations. More information about the crumbling concrete issue, including a link to financial assistance for repairs, can be found in the [Spotlight](#) column on the home page of the Town website.

BEACHES OPEN FOR THE SEASON, 9 AM – 7 PM. Weekday hours commence 6/24. Resident beach parking stickers available through the Parks & Recreation Department. [Info](#).

REVALUATION TEAM TO BEGIN RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL REVIEW IN

COVENTRY: The Revaluation project is set to begin the Residential and Commercial review phase in mid-July of 2019. Representatives Vision Government Solutions Inc. will be reviewing property data cards to confirm the information we have collected is correct. This includes, but is not limited to the general construction of the dwelling, the story height, the current physical condition, and all other exterior information to include outbuildings. This process will be done by trained qualified staff from inside their vehicle. In some instances, a reviewer may have to verify information physically by exiting their vehicle. It is also possible that they will be updating pictures at this time also. All Vision representatives will have identification and their vehicles will also be registered with the police department. Homeowners are encouraged to ask for this identification prior to admitting anyone into their homes. If a homeowner has a question as to the identity of a data collector or reviewer, they may call the police at (860)742-7331, or the assessor's office at (860)742-4067 for further confirmation.

Interior inspections will still continue to take place, but only if you have indicated that on the data mailer which was sent out in April of 2019, there is an active permit or work being done to your property or there is a discrepancy noticed during the review process. They take only 5 to 10 minutes and include a quick tour of the house including basement and attic space. The data collector will count the number of total rooms and make notations on heating systems, interior construction and extra features of the home. To ensure that a home has been inspected, the homeowner must sign the data collection form to verify that the inspection took place. An interior inspection will not be conducted unless a person 18 years or older is available to sign the form.

Field Staff generally work between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Circumstances in which a tax payer cannot be available during those times will be handled on a case by case basis. Three attempts will be made to inspect each property. The last attempt will be made after 5 p.m. weekdays or on a Saturday. If the homeowner is unavailable at this last visit, a letter with instructions on how to schedule an appointment will be sent later in the year.

Homeowners are reminded that specific questions regarding their current assessment should be directed to the Assessor's office. Vision Government Solutions Inc. data collectors are not town employees and therefore are not prepared to answer questions concerning current values or town laws.

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