



## COVENTRY COMMUNITY UPDATE:

**October 2019**

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

### MANAGER'S MONTHLY MEMO:

As we bid farewell to summer, we look forward to an active autumn. For a full review of the activities of the Town, please read the newsletter which was delivered to your home as well as the Recreation brochure. Both are available online too. Remember the free Shred-it Day on Saturday, 9/28 at the Public Works garage between 9 AM – noon. Up to two free boxes of paper per household can be recycled.

A couple of capital project updates: chip sealing has wrapped up for the season with road shimming to be done in preparation for spring chip seal work. Paving for Jones Crossing Road is also scheduled and the project is on track for a late October opening. Crack sealing will also be scheduled for October. The underground oil tanks at Town Hall, all four schools and the Library have all been removed. Replacement above-ground oil tank installations at the Grammar School and GH Robertson School have been installed. Catch basin work will start in the Northfields subdivision in preparation for spring reconstruction. Watch for public involvement meetings in October for the Folly Lane Bridge replacement (October 23) and Swamp Road intersection realignment projects. Cumberland Farms has informed us that they are deferring construction until March to avoid winter delays.

A decision on whether to proceed with a major project to work with the private sector to install a microgrid to cover all Town and school properties in the Town Hall area, including Orchard Hills, will be made in October. It will allow these facilities to remain in use during power outages and purchase power at below-market rates from one source generation of solar and natural gas. A \$4,000,000 State grant has been awarded to support this unique project.

The election slates have been finalized and absentee ballots for the Tuesday, November 5, 2019 election will be available on Friday, October 4, 2019 in the Town Clerk's office (Town Hall closes at 1:30 PM on Fridays).

Please enjoy autumn and take time to participate in [Walktober events](#) in our region, or enjoy a round of mini-golf inside the Booth & Dimock Library on October 13<sup>th</sup>.

### UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS:

- Mon, 10/7: Town Council meeting, 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Thurs, 10/10: WPCA: 6 PM, DPW Conf. Room
- Thurs, 10/10: Board of Education, 7:30 PM, School Admin. Building
- Tues, 10/15: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Mon, 10/21: Town Council meeting, 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Weds, 10/23: Inland Wetlands Agency, 7:00 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Mon, 10/28: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Weds, 10/30: Board of Education, 7:30 PM, School Admin. Building

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

### HOLIDAYS:

**Mon 10/14: Columbus Day holiday.** Town offices, Senior Center and Library are closed. Trash pickup on [regular schedule](#).

## COMING EVENTS:

Sat 9/28: **Shred-it Day**, 9 AM – 12 PM, Public Works facility, 100 Olsen Farm Road. Free service – get rid of your documents securely. Coventry residents only. Limit: 2 bags or boxes per household. Information: 860-742-6588.

Sat 9/28 – Thurs 10/31: **Pumpkins with a Purpose**, weekdays 12-8 PM, Weekends 10 AM – 6 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 fun fall décor for sale. First Church partners with a farm located on a Navajo reservation in New Mexico that employs Native Americans. All proceeds support community and local church missions. Kids' Pumpkins activities on 10/17 from 12-2 PM. Information: 860-742-8487.

Weds 10/2: **Coffee with a Cop**, 8-10 AM and 3-5 PM, Coventry Dunkin Donuts, Main Street. Join some of Coventry's police officers for coffee and conversation. This is a great opportunity to ask questions or voice concerns.

Weds 10/2: **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. Text FOODSHARE to 85511 to receive the mobile schedule and cancellations directly on your phone. More [info](#).

Fri 10/4: **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.

Fri 10/4: **Quiet Corner Contra Dance**, 8-11 PM, Patriots Park Lodge, 172 Lake Street. Lesson at 7:45. All welcome, partner not necessary. Dance to a live band and caller. Soft-soled shoes. An alcohol and tobacco-free event. **This month only** – bring a dish and join us for a pot luck supper before the dance. Adults \$12, students \$6. Information: 860-742-9498.

Sun 10/6: **Walktober: Where is Hop River Village?** 3:00 PM, Hop River Road (park at Rail Trail). Hop River was an important mill village in its day. Now, you have to know where to look to even find the dams, rail bed and mill sites. Come help find the clues and learn about this slice of history. Walk the rails and learn about Hop River Village, once an important mill village. See two factory sites and the dam. This is a scenic fall walk on the Hop River Rail Trail. Sponsored by the Connecticut Eastern Railroad Museum. [www.Cteastrrmuseum.org](http://www.Cteastrrmuseum.org). Info: 860-617-3308.

Sun 10/6: **Coventry Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. The 16<sup>th</sup> season of Connecticut's favorite market. Today's theme: Potter's Market & Farm to Shaker. [Website](#).

Weds 10/9: **Veterans' Coffee Hour**, 9:30 AM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Join us for coffee and conversation to promote information sharing, camaraderie and benefits/entitlements education for veterans. The coffee hour will be led by Paul Spedaliere, National Vice Commander of the American Legion. RSVPs appreciated at 860-742-3525.

Weds 10/9: **Flu Clinic**, 9:30-11:30 AM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Provided by Price Chopper Pharmacy. Proof of insurance required. RSVP required at 860-742-3525.

Thurs 10/10, Fri 10/11: **Things That go Bump in the Night**, 7-9:30 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. The evening features a special candlelight tour, room-by-room, all

the way up to the dark & spooky attic. Hear the traditional, long standing Homestead ghost stories & the Hale staff's spooky Homestead tales, as featured on the Syfy channel's Ghost Hunters. Reservations required at 860-742-6917 or [hale@ctlandmarks.org](mailto:hale@ctlandmarks.org). \$25; \$20 CTL Members. Additional dates: 10/17 & 10/18, 10/24 & 10/25.

Fri 10/11: **7<sup>th</sup> Annual Scarecrow Contest**: Open to all families, schools & businesses in Coventry. Register to create your very own scarecrow to put on display at the Town Green by Dunkin' Donuts. No fee to enter a scarecrow and 1st place winners from each category will win a prize! This is a great opportunity to get creative with family and friends, work on teamwork in the classroom or advertise your business! Vote for your favorite on the Parks & Recreation website. Register by 10/10, set-up 10/11-10/14. [Details and registration](#).

Fri 10/11: **Baked Fish Dinner**, 6 PM, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. Hosted by First Church and American Legion Post 52. Cost \$12. Information: 860-742-8487.

Sun 10/13: **Library Mini-Golf**, 10 AM – 4 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Presented by Eversource, this is a fun family event where participants play mini-golf **inside** the library. The event is a fundraiser dedicated to library renovation and improvement. Refreshments, food, prize drawings and more. Adults \$5, children \$3. Details and sponsorship applications available on the library [website](#).

Sun 10/13: **Coventry Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. The 16<sup>th</sup> season of Connecticut's favorite market. Today's theme: National Farmers' Day. [Website](#).

Tues 10/15: **Visioning Session, Plan of Conservation & Development**, 7 PM, Town Hall Annex, 1712 Main Street. The Planning and Zoning Commission will host community visioning sessions on pertinent sections of the Plan of Conservation and Development revision. This will include housing, economic development and environment and open space. An additional session will take place on Monday 10/28. Please contact Eric Trott, Director of Planning and Development for more information at 860-742-4062 or [etrott@coventryct.org](mailto:etrott@coventryct.org).

Weds 10/16: **AARP Safe Driving Course**, 9 AM – 1 PM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. An opportunity for older drivers to update your driving knowledge and skills. No written or road tests! You may qualify for a discount on your auto insurance. \$15 with AARP membership card, \$20 non-members. Pre-registration and payment required. Call the Center at 860-742-3525.

Weds 10/16: **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. Text FOODSHARE to 85511 to receive the mobile schedule and cancellations directly on your phone. More [info](#).

Sat 10/19: **Roast Turkey Breast Dinner**, Second Congregational Church Community House, 1746 Boston Turnpike. Serving 4:30-6:30 PM. Adults \$13; seniors \$12; children ages 6-8 \$6; under 6 free. Reservations: 860-742-1616. Takeout available.

Sat 10/19, **Pasta Supper/Basket Raffle**, 5:30 PM, St. Mary Church, 1600 Main Street. Adults \$10, children \$5, under 4 years free. Proceeds benefit school in Les Palmes, Haiti. For tickets call Lou at 860-872-4189.

Sun 10/20: **Coventry Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. The 16<sup>th</sup> season of Connecticut's favorite market. Today's theme: Holiday Shopping Market. [Website](#).

Weds 10/23: **What's New with MEDICARE for 2020**, 10 AM, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Join us for a free informational session by our certified CHOICES counselor. RSVP appreciated at 860-742-3525.

Weds 10/23: **Public Information Meeting, Folly Lane Bridge Replacement LOCIP project**, 7:00 PM, Town Hall Annex, 1712 Main Street. Residents, business owners, commuters, and other interested individuals are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to learn about and discuss this proposed project. The meeting will be held at the regularly-scheduled Inland Wetlands Agency meeting. More information: Todd Penney, Town Engineer, 860-742-4078.

Sat 10/26, **Presentation: Prophet of Place - George Dudley Seymour**, 7 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead Barn, 2299 South Street. George Dudley Seymour was a progressive-era visionary and advocate for urban parks, city planning and historic resources, and a pioneer place-maker, collector and preservationist. Come learn about the man who gave us the Nathan Hale State Forest, and restored the Nathan Hale Homestead and Strong Porter House. Presented by William Hosley and sponsored by the Coventry Historical Society and Connecticut Landmarks. Free admission. Information: 860-742-6917 or [hale@ctlandmarks.org](mailto:hale@ctlandmarks.org).

Sun 10/27: **Coventry Farmers' Market**, 11 AM – 2 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. The 16<sup>th</sup> season of Connecticut's favorite market. **Last outdoor market of the 2019 season**. Today's theme: Harvest Somethin' Pumpkin. [Website](#).

Weds 10/30: **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. Text FOODSHARE to 85511 to receive the mobile schedule and cancellations directly on your phone. More [info](#).

#### **OCTOBER GROUP TRIPS – A COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE COVENTRY PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT AND THE COVENTRY SENIOR CENTER:**

- Sun 10/13: **Beautiful Brooklyn**. Includes the Brooklyn Museum of Art, the Brooklyn Botanical Gardens, and a meal at Junior's Restaurant. Depart from Senior Center at 7 AM, return 8:45 PM. \$115 person.
- Sat 10/26: **Roger Williams Spooky Zoo**. Outdoor autumn activities for the whole family, including trick-or-treat, animal encounters, elephant pumpkin stomp, crafts and more. Depart from Tolland Commuter Lot, exit 68 off I-84, at 8:30 AM. Return 5:30 PM. \$46 per person; \$41 ages 12 and under.

**More details and registration for all trips at this [link](#).**

#### **OTHER SENIOR CENTER EVENTS DURING OCTOBER:**

- Thurs 10/10-10/31, **Zumba Gold**, 5:15-6:15 PM, Patriots Park Lodge, 172 Lake Street. Instructor: Sheila Carroll, Zumba Licensed and ACE Certified. \$20 per 5-class punch card/\$5 per drop-in class. **Free demo class on 10/3!**
- Mon 10/21, **Book Club**, 1-2 PM. October's Book: *A Gentleman in Moscow*.
- Thurs 10/24 & Fri 10/25, **Get Creative with Instructor Nina Yilmaz**. All levels welcome, no experience required. Materials and supplies provided. Bring a smock or old shirt and a creative open mind! \$5. Thursdays: 4:30-6 PM, Fridays: 9:30-11 AM.
- Mon 10/7, **Halloween Card Making**, 10 AM. Hosted by Jan Weston, Ms. Connecticut Senior America 2019 and a resident of Coventry. All levels welcome and sessions are FREE!

**Call 860-742-3525 for more information about Senior Center events.**

**DONATIONS SOUGHT FOR WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA:** The Coventry Cemetery Commission is accepting donations for wreaths for veterans to be laid at the Wreaths Across America ceremony at Coventry Cemetery on December 14<sup>th</sup> at noon. Donations of \$15, check made out to Wreaths Across America, can be sent to the Town of Coventry, Finance Department, 1712 Main Street, Coventry, CT 06238. Name of veteran and cemetery (Coventry, Nathan Hale, Grant Hill, St. Mary's) must be noted. All wreaths will be distributed at the ceremony and you will be responsible for placement at other cemeteries. More information: Claudine Vieten, 860-742-6750. To make an online non-specific donation, enter the Coventry Cemetery Commission code: CTCCCC at the organization's website: [www.wreathscrossamerica.org](http://www.wreathscrossamerica.org). Deadline for donations is Nov. 30.

**CHRISTMAS TREE DONATIONS SOUGHT:** The Lions Club of Coventry is looking for 4-foot or smaller artificial Christmas trees for its Christmas in the Village extravaganza on December 8<sup>th</sup>. To donate a tree please call Gary at 860-742-6128 for pick-up.

**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.

*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.*