



COVENTRY COMMUNITY UPDATE:

November 2020

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

MANAGER'S MONTHLY MEMO:

Seems like everyone wants to take sides over issues these days. There is even a controversy over whether the first Thanksgiving was in Virginia in 1619 or Plymouth in 1621. Why don't we agree that in the United States, it is about 400 years old. Please take time this month to set aside arguments on elections or minor issues and be thankful that due to our inconvenient actions, COVID has been less harmful in our region. Still, we must acknowledge that we have had two deaths and 84 positive tests in Coventry to date.

We thank you for stepping up and being generous donating food and supplies to assist your neighbors in need. We thank the first responders for handling Fire/EMS/Police calls with new hazards. I think the Town staff for taking their jobs seriously and finding ways to work safely when many of our neighboring town halls remain closed. Let's keep the spirit of Thanksgiving in our hearts as we continue through periods of change and inconvenience. Let's stay safe and work toward a positive future.

Our election workers are planning to make our election safe. Please note that the Second District (north end) polling place is moved to the High School gym (use the left side entrance by the auditorium) to have more room and better air handling. We ask all to wear masks at the polls. Please remember that political signs are private property and should be left alone. We ask all to make sure that they are not impairing sight lines. Go to the [Registrar of Voters](#) page of our website for additional instructions and to check if you are on the voting lists.

Projects update:

- The Northfield subdivision work is on the home stretch, with final paving being scheduled. It is likely that grass seed touch-up will need to occur in the spring. We will see how it grows over the next month or so.
- A Public Information meeting is scheduled at the Monday, November 23rd Planning & Zoning Commission meeting about the South Street improvement LOTCIP grant project for road improvements and appropriate sidewalks in the area of South Street (near Seagraves to the Nathan Hale Homestead). The meeting will be at 7:00 PM; and available remotely via Zoom.
- The community response to the Senior Housing Survey totaled 513. The results are being tabulated and a report will be released soon.

UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS:

(Note: Most Town facilities are open to the public but with limited persons allowed. Check the [Agenda Center](#) on the Town website for details about observing some meetings via the [Zoom](#) application. Town Council meetings can also be viewed live on Charter/Spectrum Channel 191 or via [YouTube](#). Comments for the Audience of Citizens portion of Town Council meetings can be emailed to audience@coventryct.org by 4:00 PM on the day of the meeting.

- Mon, 11/2: Town Council meeting, 7:30 PM
- Mon, 11/9: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7 PM
- Thurs, 11/12: WPCA: 6 PM
- Thurs, 11/12: [Board of Education](#), 7:30 PM

- Mon, 11/16: Town Council meeting, 7:30 PM
- Weds, 11/18: Inland Wetlands Agency, 7 PM
- Mon, 11/23: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7 PM

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

HOLIDAYS:

- Weds 11/11: **Veterans Day**. Town offices closed. Trash pick-up on [normal schedule](#).
- Thurs 11/26 & Fri 11/27: **Thanksgiving**. Town offices closed. Trash pick-up on [holiday schedule](#).

COMING EVENTS:

(Note: Many monthly and annual events are canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. See the [Parks & Recreation page](#) on the Town website for recreational options, or the [Booth & Dimock Library's website](#) for in-person hours and virtual offerings.)

Through 10/31: **Pumpkins with a Purpose**, First Congregational Church, 1131 Main Street. Weekdays 12-8, weekends 10-5. The church lawn will transform into a huge pumpkin patch with hundreds of different types of pumpkins and specialty gourds for sale. The church partners with a farm located on a Navajo reservation in New Mexico that employs local Native Americans. All proceeds support community and local church missions. Please wear masks and practice social distance when visiting. Information: 860-742-8487.

Mon 11/2 – Thurs 11/12: **Food and gift donations for the Thanksgiving and December holidays**. For many families and organizations, “adopting” a family for the holidays has become an annual tradition. During these hard times of COVID, the Human Services Department has had to make some changes to the program to ensure social distancing protocols are met. However, the need is greater than ever. If you would like to help, see these links: [Holiday Food Donations](#). [Adopt-a-Family Gift Donations](#).

Tues 11/3: **Election Day**, polls open 6 AM – 8 PM. District 1: George Hersey Robertson School, 227 Cross Street. District 2: Coventry High School gym, 78 Ripley Hill Road. Same day registration also at Coventry High School Media Center. Please observe COVID-19 protocols when voting in person, including social distancing and wearing a mask. Ballot drop box at rear entrance of town hall. [More information](#).

Weds 11/4-Tues 12/1: **Letters to Santa**. Let Santa know just how good you have been this year. We will accept your letters for delivery just in time for the “Big Day.” To limit in-person contact due to COVID-19, we ask that you email your letters to rec@coventryct.org, or mail them to: Santa Claus, c/o Coventry Recreation, 1712 Main Street, Coventry, CT 06238. Be sure to include your name and return address if you want Santa to write you back!

Sat 11/7 **Veterans Day Patriot Race**, 10:00 AM, Patriots Park, 124 Lake Street. Enjoy the USTAF/RRCA-certified 4-mile Patriot Race in historic Coventry. Run the 4-mile certified course, a 3-mile walker’s course, or 3-mile ruck-sack to support CT veterans. The live event will be chip-timed, which will help maintain necessary social distancing. This has been designated as a COVID-19 event. Please wear masks while waiting to run. Proceeds benefit local Veteran service organizations. [Registration and other information](#).

Weds 11/11: **Mobile Foodshare**, 10-10:30 AM, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. An outdoor food distribution service for persons of low income. Text FOODSHARE to 85511 to receive the mobile schedule and cancellations directly on your phone. More [info](#).

Sun 11/15: **Coventry Winter Farmers' Market opening day**, 10 AM – 1 PM, Community Center at Patriots Park, 124 Lake Street. November 15, 2020 – March 14, 2021. Roasts, steaks, turkey, chicken, pies, produce, baked goods, cheeses, sweet and savory choices and more. [Website](#).

Sat 11/21: **Drive-thru/take-out dinner**, Second Congregational Church of Coventry Community House, 1746 Boston Turnpike. Menu: pot roast, mashed potatoes, carrots, gravy and dessert. \$13 adults, \$6 children. Reservations at 860-742-1616 or email secondchurch@sbcglobal.net and indicate pick-up time of 5 PM, 5:30 PM, or 6 PM. Correct amount of cash, or check, is required.

Sun 11/22: **Coventry Winter Farmers' Market**, 10 AM – 1 PM, Community Center at Patriots Park, 124 Lake Street. November 15, 2020 – March 14, 2021. Roasts, steaks, turkey, chicken, pies, produce, baked goods, cheeses, sweet and savory choices and more. [Website](#).

Weds 11/25: **Mobile Foodshare**, 10-10:30 AM, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. An outdoor food distribution service for persons of low income. Text FOODSHARE to 85511 to receive the mobile schedule and cancellations directly on your phone. More [info](#).

Sat, 11/28: **Make your own holiday wreath**, 10 AM – 12 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Make a gorgeous holiday wreath to decorate your front door! Pick up your supplies, and view an on-demand video where Connecticut Landmarks' staff will take you through a step-by-step tutorial from the comfort of your own home to make your evergreen wreath. The supply kit includes greens, a 12" wire wreath ring, wire, festive red bow, link to on-demand tutorial, and written instructions. In addition to the provided materials, a pair of gardening gloves and clippers are recommended. If you wish to forage for pinecones, holly, and other natural materials from your yard or garden (or purchase additional decorations), you can learn how to add them to your completed wreath. Once assembled, wreath dimensions will be approximately 24" in diameter. A live Zoom session will be available by appointment for additional troubleshooting. \$45 per wreath kit, \$35 for CTL Members. [Registration is required](#) by Sunday, November 15th. To purchase a CTL membership, or receive the membership discount code, call 860.247.8996 x 23.

Sun 11/29: **Coventry Winter Farmers' Market**, 10 AM – 1 PM, Community Center at Patriots Park, 124 Lake Street. November 15, 2020 – March 14, 2021. Roasts, steaks, turkey, chicken, pies, produce, baked goods, cheeses, sweet and savory choices and more. [Website](#).

NEWS FROM THE BOOTH & DIMOCK MEMORIAL LIBRARY: Effective November 3, the Booth & Dimock Memorial Library is open for browsing and curbside pick-up on Tuesdays & Fridays 10 AM-3 PM, and Wednesdays & Thursdays 2-7 PM. Curbside pick-up and computer appointments only on Saturdays 10 AM-1 PM. Check [website](#) for updates.

Please note the following changes to our hours for the month of November:

- Closed Weds. 11/11 in observance of Veterans Day.
- Open 10-3 on Nov. 25 and closed Nov. 26, 27 & 28 for Thanksgiving.

Make sure to tune in weekly for our Curriculum Booster virtual programs, including Adventures in Nonfiction every other Monday, Mathmagical Mondays (on the other Mondays!) and Science Thursdays. Our latest Curriculum Booster, Adventures in Nonfiction, is a social enrichment program that includes book reviews and brief synopses intended to spark interest and discoveries in nonfiction topics!

All of our virtual programs can be found on our [Facebook page](#).

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 by the 15th of the previous month.