Hello Coventry friends and neighbors. I send warm greetings to you from your Town Council!

The fall season has begun in earnest. It is always a busy time for Coventry townspeople as they gear up for the holidays. And, this year, it is also the time for local elections, that are scheduled for Tuesday, November 8th, 2011. Citizens will be voting for a new Town Council, Board of Education, Zoning Board of Appeals, Zoning Board of Appeals Alternates and Board of Assessment Appeals. Please note that voting for this election will take place as follows: District 1 at the G.H. Robertson Intermediate School and District 2 at Coventry Grammar School. Our Council encourages all registered citizens to get out and vote!

As indicated, the current Town Council will be completing its two-year term this fall and the newly elected Council will be sworn in at a special inaugural meeting on November 9th, 2011. Your current Council members will have devoted approximately 240 - 250 hours of service to Coventry over this two-year period. They have willingly done this because they are committed to the community and to public service, as are all our town volunteers.

At the beginning of this Council’s term, its members established a mission statement and goals and priorities in order to provide direction for themselves and for the Town Manager and his staff. This, then, became the framework for decision making and action, resulting in a number of accomplishments by both the Council and the Town staff. Following are but a few for our two year term:

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**Budget** - The Council spent long hours deliberating over the budgets for both fiscal years. Economic reality required that we mindfully trim services and delay or eliminate planned projects and programs. Our Town staff and teachers also responded by agreeing to salary freezes and other cost savings measures. The results were budgets that increased the mil rates by .58 or 2.2% in FY 2011 and .42 or 1.59% in FY 2012, while allowing us to maintain high levels of service from the town and its schools. Citizens responded by passing both budgets first time around in each of the two years.

**Municipal Facilities and Services** – The Council has been actively involved over the past two years with many important, community projects. All have been under consideration for a number of years and we are more than pleased to have either brought them to resolution or have moved them forward for final resolution. Included are (1) Construction of the new Public Works Garage and Salt Shed, with an expected completion date of November. (2) Replacement of school roofs which was completed this August in time for the start of the new school year. (3) Construction of the Miller-Richardson Landfill athletic fields on top of the closed landfill for possible use in the fall, 2012 or spring, 2013. (4)

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**COVENTRY WINS!** — John A. Elsesser, Town Manager

Coventry is on a winning streak. The Coventry Regional Farmers Market has been awarded a 24’ x 36’ open air barn from Yankee Barn Homes, American Farmland Trust and the Farmers Market Coalition, thanks to the hard work of the Market Operating Committee (Bridges Home Cooking) and the over 8,000 people who voted.

Our Recreation Department entered the Town in a Playful City USA competition and we are one of the first towns in Connecticut to be named a “Playful City USA”, joining 151 other communities. This recognition is due to actions taken to increase play opportunities for children. Being a “Playful City” makes the Town eligible for annual grants from the Let’s Play Partnership and the KaBoom Foundation. Grants range from $15,000 to $30,000.

Finally, we also wish to congratulate our Town Finance Department (Beth Bauer, Director of Finance; Donna Ferree, Town Accountant; and Marcia Biase, Assistant to Accountant) for receiving the Government Finance Office Association’s Award of Excellence in Comprehensive Annual Financial Reporting. This is the third consecutive year of receiving this award. The report for the year ending June 30, 2010 is available on the Town’s website.

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**HOLIDAY TOWN HALL CLOSINGS:**

Columbus Day 10/10
Veteran’s Day 11/11
Thanksgiving 11/24 & 25
Christmas 12/23 & 26
New Year’s 1/2
BUSINESS COMMUNITY:
We congratulate Dr. Michael Keenan for his new office at 1776 Boston Turnpike and affiliation with Hartford Medical Group. We welcome Coventry Snack Place on Rt. 44 (next to 7-11) which will be open nine months per year, and For Girls Like Me gift store at Allen’s Plaza lower level. On the Go gas station at the corner of Rt. 31 has received permits to reconstruct the site with a new larger convenience store and canopy over the gas pumps. Cassidy Hill Vineyard has been approved to host special events such as weddings, and Matt’s Paintball has received permits to re-inflate their dome facility to allow indoor matches. The Town Council has also allowed the Town to engage a firm, “Connected to Connecticut”, to entice additional business growth in town to work with our Economic Development Commission. Have ideas or suggestions? The Commission meets the fourth Thursday of each month at the Town Hall. Visitors are welcome.

Check out these new businesses in the Village: Coventry Arts & Antiques in the old Country Store or venture across the street to “Treasures” in the old Methodist Church.

COMINGS & GOINGS:
We welcome Carrie Zahner as Revenue Clerk in the Tax Office and wish Tim Webb, former Director of Public Works, well in his new job in Ellington. We expect that a new Public Works Director will be on the job by the end of September. Joan Oros has been replaced temporarily by Heidi Donnelly as Acting Senior Center Coordinator.

SIGN UP FOR ENERGY SAVINGS
Homeowners and small businesses can sign up to purchase power at a fixed rate of 7.99 cents per kWh through the Town’s agreement with Direct Energy. (over age 65 rate is 7.89 cents per kWh). This rate is good from the September 2011 - August 2012 billing cycles. Existing participants in the program will automatically receive this new price. New this year is an environmentally-friendly option for renewable wind power at 8.59 cents per kWh. This rate is only for electrical supply and other fees and taxes still apply. CL&P is still responsible to delivering the power and making all system repairs. This is an opt in program. To compare to other rates go to www.ctenergyinfo.com. Please call 1-866-803-4618, or go to www.directenergy.com to sign up. When prompted, give promo code coventryct. To get the senior rate you must call. Have your current electric bill available since August 2011.

PROJECTS UPDATE
The citizens are being well served by building committees overseeing major projects. The School Roof Committee has “got it done”, accomplishing replacing 3 school roofs on time and on budget. This was a major task to accomplish given the short summer season. The project did identify the need to replace instead of repair the chimney at Robertson School and that work will be specifically bid and most likely deferred until next summer.

The Public Works facility is also on budget and ahead of schedule. Watch for an open house in November/December timeframe. The current facility is being studied for the potential for adaptive re-use and/or costs for demolition. We thank the voters for giving our Public Works crew a new home which will allow them to be more productive and cost effective due to its central location.

The Miller Richardson Park expansion is also on schedule. Using a combination of several grants, surplus fill material, outside contractors and Town design and Public Works crew, we have been able to create two fields and parking on top of the closed landfill. It will serve as the new home to Coventry Football and Cheerleading which will allow improvements to the existing baseball complex. We expect grass to be growing by the publication of this newsletter.

The WPCA is conducting a study of three sewer issues: 1) Connecting into the new Bolton/Vernon sewer line on Route 44; 2) Expanding to serve Upper Oak Grove and a section of Main between Daly and Cheney Lane including Cheney; and 3) Long-term plant capacity and expansion, improvement and alternatives for the current waste water treatment plant.

The Fire Substation on Merrow Road has experienced some unexpected structural problems due to settling and repairs are envisioned prior to the onset of frost. Minor enhancements to the Laidlaw Park entrance and accessibility are also planned for this fall as a first step of improving parking and fields.

COVENTRY RECEIVES CHECK FROM RISK AGENCY
The Connecticut Interlocal Risk Management Agency (CIRMA) recently presented the Town with a $23,308 check for its share of CIRMA’s Members’ Equity Distribution. The money will be deposited into the Town’s General Fund. CIRMA is a municipal insurer that is member-owned and governed to provide workers’ compensation and liability-auto-property coverage to its 343 member municipalities and public schools. Since 2002, CIRMA has completed a nine-year capitalization effort to build members’ equity up to $290 million in total assets.

From left to right: Bruce Clinger, VP for Claims, CIRMA; Elizabeth Woolf, Council Chairperson; John Elsesser, Town Manager and CIRMA’s Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors; Bruce Wolschlager, President & CEO, CIRMA; Elizabeth Bauer, Director of Finance; David Demchak, Senior Vice President, CIRMA.
FROM THE OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK

Vote on September 27 and October 18, 2011:
Cast your vote to take action on construction of a new North Coventry Fire Station and rehabilitation of the Pucker Bridge. All voting will be from 6:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. at the CVFA Fire Station. See the back page of this newsletter for more information.

ELECTION DAY IS NOVEMBER 8, 2011

This is a Municipal Election which means we will be electing officials for the following Town Offices:

TOWN COUNCIL, BOARD OF EDUCATION, ZONING BOARD OR APPEALS, ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS ALTERNATES, BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

*District 1 will be voting at George H. Robertson School
*District 2 will be voting at Coventry Grammar School.

Voting will be from 6:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. Identification is required at the Polls.

Get out and VOTE!
It’s that easy!

Tolland-Mansfield Probate Court
21 Tolland Green, Tolland CT 06084
860-871-3640

Due to circumstances beyond our control this information for the Probate Court will not be printed in the telephone book. Please make note for your records.

DID YOU KNOW THAT THE D.E.E.P. HAS A STORE?

They carry hundreds of maps, and publications about our state. This includes information about wildlife, fishing, boating, biking & hiking trails, wetlands & plant life. They also have a selection of gifts and sport licenses. They are located at 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT., or online at www.ctdepstore.com.

DID YOU FORGET TO LICENSE YOUR DOG?

*All dogs six months of age and older are required by the law to be licensed, and then renewed annually by June 30th.* The fees for September are $11 for spayed/neutered dogs and $22 for non-spayed or neutered. Pursuant to State Statutes an additional $1 per month penalty is assessed for each month after the June 30th deadline that your dog is not licensed. Remember you can mail your dog’s renewal along with updated documentation if applicable, as indicated on the back of the renewal postcard mailed to you in June. We also ask that you send a self-addressed stamped envelope with sufficient postage to ensure the delivery of your dog tags.

*New dog owners* must provide a current rabies certificate and for altered dogs, evidence of neutering or spaying. QUESTIONS? Please call the Town Clerk’s Office at 742-7966.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Volunteer and serve your community. If interested please contact Lisa D. Thomas Town Council Steering Committee (742-9908), or Joan Oros, Republican Town Committee (742-9077), Dorothy M. Grady Democratic Town Committee, (742-0449) or Susan Cyr, Town Clerk 742-7966. Go to our website at www.coventryct.org to fill out a “Statement of Interest to Serve on a Board & Commission” form. It’s easy; just go the Home Page, click on Boards & Commissions, and then click on Board & Commissions Descriptions & Statement of Interest Form. As of press time, the following boards & commissions have openings:

- Municipal Historian.
- Cemetery Comm.
- Coventryvision Comm
- Justice of the Peace (Democrat)
- Board of Assessment Appeals
- Parks & Recreation Comm. Alt.
- Personnel Appeals Bd
- WACAP Board of Directors
- Regional Federated Services for Older Americans
- Windham Regional Community Council Representative
- HUD Housing Rehab/Fair Housing Comm.

HUNTING & FISHING

*Deer Hunting Season – Bow starts 9/15  Shotgun/rifle starts 11/16
*Turkey Hunting Season – Bow starts 9/15  Firearms starts 10/1

*SPORTS LICENSES AND FALL PERMITS* are available at the Town Clerk’s office or online at www.ct.gov/dep/sportsmenlicensing. For hunting or trapping licenses you must provide proof that you held a resident hunting or trapping license within the last 5 years, or a certificate from a Connecticut Conservation Education/Firearms course. You can find Firearms Safety courses listed online at www.ct.gov/dep. Remember Deer/Turkey Kill Tags are now in the Connecticut Hunting and Trapping Guides. The 2011 guides are available in our office during regular business hours.

*With all the misplaced wildlife that is venturing into Connecticut you can help the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Wildlife Division track Mountain Lions/Bobcats/Black Bears/Fishers/Moose by contacting them at 860-675-8130 when you spot one. They will want the date, time, and exact location where the animal was observed. But remember, observe from afar, and never approach a wild animal (this information comes from CT Hunting Guide).*
COUNCIL CHAIR’S REPORT — Continued from Page 1

Construction of a new North Coventry Fire House at the existing Main St. location. (5) Reconstruction of the Pucker Street Bridge jointly with the Town of Columbia.

Proposals for the last two projects (Firehouse and Bridge) were approved at our August 15th Council meeting. The public hearing was held on August 30th and referenda scheduled for September 27th for the Firehouse and October 18th for the Bridge. The Council felt that each of these projects was critical enough to warrant stand alone votes. Separate explanatory brochures outlining the projects will be sent to homes prior to the scheduled referenda.

All of these projects were funded in part through State and Federal Grants. In the case of the reconstruction of Pucker Street Bridge, it is expected that 80% will be funded under the Federal Local Bridge Program and 7.5% from Columbia. We have received approval and need to press forward in order that we not lose the funding.

Open Space - Based upon feedback received from citizens during Community Conversations and various round tables which were held in preparation for the update to our Plan of Conservation & Development, it was clear that there was strong community support for acquisition of open space. In response, our Council included $30,000 in the Capital Improvement Budgets for the 2011 and 2012 fiscal years. We expect to conclude a land purchase from the Malon family before the end of the year.

Speaking on behalf of the Council, it has been an honor to have served you these past two years. We send our warmest, best wishes to you and your family for a happy, healthy holiday season!

From the Assessor’s Office

Public records for the Assessor’s Office can be viewed using the following links:

www.coventryct.org
www.wincog-gis.org/

Exemption applications and general information can be found on the Town’s website. Property field cards can be found on the WINCOG GIS system.

The Elderly and Disabled homeowner program begins February 1, 2011, and applications are being processed until May 15, 2011. Our office sent reminder letters to those people who had to re-file. A reminder that this program is income driven from the state and income guidelines are set by the state for both single and married individuals. Please contact our office if your income is less than $39,500 if married, or less than $32,300 if single, both must include Social Security benefits and your adjusted gross income from your 2010 Federal Income tax return.

Veterans must file their DD214 with the Town Clerk prior to October 1st to be eligible for exemption. If you have already filed, you do not need to re-file. You will receive your exemption automatically. If veterans meet income guidelines, you may be eligible for additional exemption. The program begins February 1st, and applications are processed until October 1, 2011. Please call if your income is less than $39,500 if married, or less than $32,300 if single, both must include Social Security benefits and your adjusted gross income from your 2010 Federal Income tax return. You will be asked to provide proof of all the income documentation regarding both of the above mentioned applications.

The Board of Assessment Appeals will be meeting in September of 2011. Applications can be filed with our office any time prior to their meeting. The board is required to here appeal’s concerning Motor Vehicle only. Applications are available in the Assessor’s Office or online at www.coventryct.org.
The most important message Coventry Volunteer Fire Association Inc. (CVFA) would like to convey to the citizens is to Dial 911 for emergency services. By calling 911 the Emergency Medical Dispatcher can direct your call to the appropriate service.

The firefighters of Connecticut are proud and brave. Sometimes this bravery comes at a great cost, the life of a firefighter. Through the “Fill the Boot for Firefighters” program on September 10, 2010, Coventry Volunteer Firefighters will be collecting money to help maintain, protect and preserve the Connecticut Firefighters Memorial located in Windsor Locks. 100% of the funds raised will go toward this endeavor. Residents can mail donations to CVFA, P.O. Box 1 CT Firefighters Memorial, Coventry, Connecticut 06238.

On November 6th, 2011 don’t forget “Charge your clock change your batteries”. If you need batteries Duracell donated some to assist low income residents.

Coventry Volunteer Fire is proactive in training our members, requiring each member to participate in Monthly Mandatory education in firefighting operations and emergency medicine.

October 9-15, 2011 is Fire Prevention Week. Residents should be aware of Fire Dangers year round. Fire Prevention week is a time for the family to practice their escape routes and meeting places if an emergency occurs. If you need assistance planning escape routes or meeting places contact us for assistance.

If you are interested in becoming a member of Coventry Volunteer Fire Association Inc., please contact any member of the CVFA or visit our web site at www.coventryfire.org for an application.

-Joseph Michael Carilli, Chief

CVFA: CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF SERVICE

CVFA would like to thank all the Town Officials who attended. The parade featured over 60 Fire Apparatus from 20 Fire Departments in the area, Congressman Courtney, Town Manager John Elsesser, Senator Guglielmo, Town Council Chair woman Elizabeth Woolf, 1st Company Governors Foot Guard were among the attendees.

The numerous Fire Apparatus, Ambulances and Life Star circled the Carnival area creating a museum for adults and children to climb on, touch and see. With the over 14 rides and entertainment over 500 people enjoyed the carnival, Life Star and the many different Fire Trucks.

The fun continued with the Firefighters Muster, two Coventry Teams, Mansfield and Hebron competed in firefighting events for fun and bragging rights. There were 80 Firefighters from the departments participating. The crowed watch grew to 150 during the events.

The day went by fast with the trophy presentations at 5:00 p.m. held in Veterans Auditorium. It turned out to be a great day. It was a prelude to September 2014 when CVFA will host the Connecticut Firefighters Convention. Thanks to all who assisted.

A MESSAGE FROM NORTH COVENTRY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Residents of Coventry now is the time to get prepared for the upcoming fall and winter season. Take the time to get your heating systems checked and serviced. Change the batteries in your smoke detectors; restock your emergency kits with fresh supplies. The weather patterns are changing so we all need to be prepared, just in case.

On September 27 there will be a big referendum vote for the new Station 11 on 3427 Main Street. Please help us to help you by supporting our new station. We welcome you to visit our present station and see ask questions. We are here 2nd and 4th Mondays at 7:00 PM or Wednesday nights at 7:00pm. Feel free to stop in and visit our present station.

-Noel T. Miller, Chief
LEAVES
Please make sure all drainage structures, swales and waterways are cleared of leaves to allow rain and snow melt to drain properly. Now is also a good time to clean any leaves out of your roof gutters to prevent damage from snow melt freezing. Leaves can be brought to the Transfer Station no charge. Leaves don’t have to be bagged but if they are, simply dump them when you come in and take the bags home with you. Also trailers can be used.

SNOW VS. MAILBOX
Residents are reminded to inspect and secure their mailboxes prior to the winter season. Many mailboxes are knocked off the post due to the weight of the snow. The Public Works Department will NOT repair or replace any mailbox that is knock down or off due to the snow being discharged from the plow. Resident may construct a shield of plywood or a feed bag slid over two channel posts. This type of action will allow any snow discharge to hit the shield prior to the mailbox.

PLOW VS. MAILBOX
The Public Works will repair or replace a mailbox that is hit by the plow. The snow plow operators will call in the boxes that they know they have hit and a crew will be dispatched after the storm is over and Town wide clean up is complete. Plastic mailboxes will become brittle over time and crack or break upon impact from the snow being discharged from the plow.

NO PARKING
During winter storm events the Public Works will issue NO PARKING BANS. These are put out to the residents via radio and T.V. Parking on the roadways during the winter months and storms only slows down the snow removal process.

TOWN RIGHT OF WAY
When planting trees, shrubs, and bushes this fall please remember that they will grow. These plantings need to be placed far enough back from the road to insure that when fully grown they will not become a sight-line obstruction for your driveway, your neighbor’s, an intersection or traffic control devise. Please remember the Town does have a Right-of-Way extending from 5 to 25 feet beyond the road edge on all Town Roads. Trees should not be planted within this zone. This area must also be kept clear of fixed obstructions such as fences or stonewalls. Please call the Public Works Department to obtain this setback measurement for your particular road before doing landscaping or major plantings in this area.

THERE IS A NEW TREE WARDEN IN TOWN
ALL REQUESTS for tree removal/trimming within the Town Road Right of Way MUST be made IN WRITING to Doug Reese, Tree Warden. Include your name, address, phone #, tree location and a brief description of what you would like done.

E-mail dreese@coventryct.org
Or - Mail to Coventry DPW at 1712 Main Street
Or – fax 860 742-5467
Or - deliver to 46 Bradbury Lane (100 Olsen Farm Road after November 2011)
TRANSFER STATION: 325 Main Street

Every Thursday 3-6:30 & Saturday 9-3*
Disposal rate: $10.00 first 250 lbs. and $0.30 for each additional 5 lbs.
Proof of Residence is required – closed holiday weekends

*Meet our new Transfer Station Operator, John Remes, Jr. Having John work in the COVRRRA division will allow the station to be open every Thursday and Saturday all year long!

Materials acceptable:
- Land clearing debris; stumps & brush
- Construction and demolition debris
- appliances with CFC’s (Freon) $10 each, no weigh-in necessary
- Tires $5 each, on or off rim
- FREE OF CHARGE: Electronics
  Scrap Metal - metal tanks must be cut open & crushed
  Gas grill propane tanks for recycling
  Leaves for composting.

Materials NOT acceptable:
- Garbage
- Recycling
- Furniture
- Hazardous waste (oil, antifreeze)

Look on our website for links regarding curbside pick up schedules and “A / B” street listings for recycling.

Any COVRRRA questions can be directed to dwrubel@coventryct.org.

Additional Services available from All American Waste:
For major cleanup projects, COVRRRA received the following pricing for 30 day rental:
- 6 cubic yard dumpster $150 haul / $80 ton
- 15 cubic yard roll off dumpster $175 haul / $80 ton
- 30 cubic yard roll off dumpster $175 haul / $80 ton

WPCA: Sewer Connections: The sewer connection deadline for all property owners has past. To keep the Town in compliance with a Department of Environmental Consent Order we have no choice but to put these properties under an “Order to Connect [to Sewers]”. We have been working with the Town Attorney and legal proceedings will begin shortly. We strongly urge property owners to take advantage of competitive pricing from sewer contractors and begin the sewer connection process voluntarily. Fall is the best time for sewer construction as the groundwater table is low and connecting voluntarily will save you and the Town legal fees.

Illegal connections of sump pumps and other sources of clean water continue to be a major problem in our public sewer system. The increased amount of water going to the Wastewater Treatment Plant during rain events is pushing us past our capacity and the State is going to mandate that we upgrade our facilities, at a cost of MILLIONS OF DOLLARS to Coventry Tax Payers. Please see the Water Pollution Control Authority page on the Town website (www.coventryct.org) for guidance. The link to our page can be found under the Boards & Commissions sidebar.

If you own a property with a structure on it which you believe could be classified as “uninhabitable” please contact the WPCA (Water Pollution Control Authority) Technician/Operator at 860-742-4064 or mruel@coventryct.org. Limited financial assistance for sewer connections is available for low income households through HUD and USDA. Please contact the WPCA Technician/Operator for more details.

HAZARDOUS WASTE
This regional drop off facility is open from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. on the first and third Saturday of the month through November 5, 2011. It will reopen in April 2012. This regional facility, which closes for the winter, is located on Hancock Road in Willington and will accept one gallon or less of each liquid material and 100 pounds of dry material. As a Coventry resident you may bring residential quantities of hazardous waste to this facility. There is no charge but you must bring proof of residency. Commercial (small business operator) users must contact the administrator at (860) 289-2296 to find out if you qualify and make an appointment. There is a fee for commercial use. Call Public Works (860) 742-6588 for information or email dwrubel@coventryct.org.

SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL AND RECYCLING INFORMATION
Tipper Cart broken? Call All American Waste at (860) 289-7850 for information.

If materials are not picked up from the curbside, residents are asked to please call All American Waste first at (860) 289-7850 and give them a chance to correct the problem or provide information on why the item was left. Curbside pick up for bulk objects is conducted on the 2nd Monday of every month. Residents may put up to 3 bulk items each month. (bulk items are described as nonmetal and very large examples: mattress, bureau, couch). There is no curbside pick up for scrap metal, electronics, appliances or anti-freeze. All this type of material is acceptable at the Transfer Station. There is no charge but users must contact the administrator at (860) 742-2296 to find out if you qualify. There is a fee for commercial use. Call Public Works (860) 742-6588 and make an appointment. There is a fee for commercial use. Call Public Works (860) 742-6588 for information.

Any COVRRRA questions can be directed to dwrubel@coventryct.org.

TRASH/RECYCLING HOLIDAYS
Waste/recycling pickup will only be altered for the following holiday: No pickup on Thursday, November 24, 2011 for Thanksgiving. (Christmas and New Year do not create altered schedule.)
THINGS TO DO IN COVENTRY THIS FALL

Sept. 23, 24 & 30, Oct. 1 - Haunted Corn Maze: Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. 7-9 PM. The maze complete with gravestones, ghosts, goblins and ghouls. Bring your flashlights and listen for things that rustle in the dark. Not recommended for very young children. The maze minus the ghouls is $5 / $15 for families (2 adults and any number of children) during regular museum hours; the Haunted Maze is $8 / $25 for families.

Oct. 2 - The Brick School Halloween Party: 1019 Merrow Road next to Laidlaw Park. 1-4 PM. Primarily for ages 10 years and younger with games, crafts, stories, prizes, face painting and food. Reservations will assure supplies are reserved for your children. Cost is $3/child. For more info or reservations call Ginney Dilk at 860-742-9656.


Oct. 28 - Things That Go Bump in the Night: Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Ghost stories that have been told over the past century. Staff will share experiences of unexplained happenings at the Nathan Hale Homestead. Enjoy hearth-prepared doughnuts and keep your eyes wide open. Two tours: at 6 PM and 8 PM. Admission $25 per person, $20 each for CTL members. Pre-registration required; call (860) 742-6917 to register.

Nov. 5 - Food For Golf: Skungamaug Golf Course, 104 Folly Lane. Donate non-perishable food items in lieu of greens fees. All items donated to the Human Services Food Bank. Info and tee times: 860-742-9348.


Dec. 3 - Coventry Historical Society’s Holiday House Tour: 10 AM - 4 PM. Tickets go on sale 11/1 and may be ordered by phone at 860-465-9437 or by email at patusch@earthlink.net until 11/28, or picked up at First Congregational Church on Main Street from 9:30 to 1PM the day of the tour. Tickets by mail $15; day of tour $20. Snow date 12/4.

Dec. 4 - An Old Fashioned Christmas in Coventry Village: Watch for details.

Dec. 7 - Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony: Town Hall 1712 Main Street, 6:30 PM. See Recreation insert for more information.

COMMUNITY SERVICE
Are you looking for an opportunity to give something back to your community? The citizens of Coventry have a longstanding tradition of community service and assistance to those among us in need. The Coventry Lions Club is a community service oriented organization that is committed to serving in a variety of ways. Some of our projects include:

- painting of Town Hall
- installation of flag poles at Town Hall
- bell-ringing for Salvation Army
- maintaining the Lions Den room for children at Booth & Dimmock Library
- annual scholarship for graduating seniors
- eye evaluations at town Health Fair
- building Patriots Park band shell
- renovation of community center
- support eye research foundations
- collect eyeglasses for needy
- support Coventry fuel assistance program

If you would like to consider joining our organization or just attend one of our monthly meetings please call Dick Giggey at 742-9344. Don’t pass up this opportunity to help make Coventry the best community it can be for all its residents. New male and female members are welcome.

PTO 35th ANNUAL CRAFT FAIR

Dec. 3 - Coventry High School, 78 Ripley Hill Road, 9 AM to 3 PM. More than 60 crafters, bake sale and take-a-chance table. Lunch served by the FCCLA Class of Coventry High School. Strolling minstrels. Admission $2 for adults, children free. All proceeds from the Craft Show are shared equally among Coventry’s four schools. For information contact Laurie LaBrec at 860-742-0353.

COVENTRY TURNS 300!
Coventry will be celebrating its 300th anniversary throughout next year with many events for the whole family. Check the town website at www.coventryct.org and click on “300th Anniversary” for news and information.
WORKFORCE HOUSING STUDY GRANT

Planning Staff has completed the $50,000 State of CT Office of Policy and Management Technical Assistance Grant that involves the preparation of a Town housing study and the creation of zoning regulations and design standards that intend to encourage the development of workforce style housing in the Coventry Village and Depot Road areas. Final drafts of all documents will be forwarded to the State of CT Office of Policy and Management for approval and then ultimate adoption by the Planning and Zoning Commission, which could occur this winter. Questions regarding this project can be directed to Eric M. Trott at 860-742-4062 or etrott@coventryct.org.

COVENTRY LAKE AQUATIC INVASIVES GRANT AND LAKE COMMITTEE

The Land Use Office continues to implement a grant from the CT Federation of Lakes for $2,100.00 in order to conduct a Coventry Lake Invasive Aquatic Plant and Fertilizer Education Project. Plans are being finalized to design, print and distribute educational materials and establish informational signage at access points around the lake. A ‘State of the Lake’ was held in July that provided reports on the status of Coventry Lake and work that is being done to protect our important natural resource. Earlier this summer, the Town Council adopted a resolution to create a Coventry Lake Monitoring and Education Committee that will be a subcommittee of the Conservation Commission. The Town Council Steering committee is currently considering possible members. Statement of interest forms are available on the Town website or Town Clerk’s Office. Questions regarding this project can be directed to Eric M. Trott at 860-742-4062 or etrott@coventryct.org.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

Between March and July of this year, a number of key stakeholders worked diligently to prepare a Town of Coventry Safe Routes to School Plan which facilitated the preparation and submittal of a Safe Routes to School Grant request to the State of CT Department of Transportation. The grant seeks funds to construct sidewalks on Main Street that will connect the High School/Middle School complex with the sidewalks that currently end at Paden Road. The program involves the initiation of various programs and physical improvements that encourage student walkability and bikability to school. The plan provides a clear agenda for action items and efforts that apply to the Coventry Grammar School, GH Robertson Intermediate School and Capt. Nathan Hale Middle School. The Safe Routes to School Committee is going to be scheduling meetings in September and beyond to organize efforts to bring the plan to fruition and welcomes new members and volunteers. Please contact Eric M. Trott, at 860-742-4062 or etrott@coventryct.org for further details.

ZONING REGULATION AMENDMENTS

The Planning and Zoning Commission will be holding public hearings during the fall of 2011 on a variety of amendments to the Zoning Regulations that are intended to provide enhanced flexibility and clarity. The Commission recently completed substantial revisions to the zoning and subdivision texts this summer and is preparing final language on the next round of changes. Some of the changes involve flood plain criteria, placement of accessory structures and filling and grading activities. Please contact Eric M. Trott, at 860-742-4062 or etrott@coventryct.org for further details.

ADOPT A ROAD PROGRAM

The Coventry Conservation Commission and Land Use Office continue to sponsor this program for the community. The program entails ‘adopting’ a portion or all of a Town road and pick up the roadside trash that accumulates. Folks can do as much as they like and at their own pace. Free standard garbage bags are available in the Land Use Office and can be disposed of at the Public Works Garage at no charge. Please contact Eric M. Trott at 860-742-4062 or etrott@coventryct.org for details and application forms.
NEWS FROM THE SENIOR CENTER

The Senior Center has various activities throughout the month. Please check the Town website, www.coventryct.org, for the current monthly calendar and details on all events. Stop by and look around; bring a “bag” lunch and eat on the deck or inside; use the exercise equipment, or just enjoy our wonderful facility. You are always welcome. Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Tuesday’s 9 a.m. to noon.

SEPTMBER

New Monday Schedule: 10 a.m. “Let’s Talk” moves to Mondays - in the Lounge.

Noon Lunch & a Movie - (a bag lunch, and maybe sometimes a grinders or pizza-our treat) either way it will always be good conversation and fun. Sept. 12 & 25; Oct. 10, 17, & 24; Nov. 7, 14, & 28 and Dec. 5, 12 & 19. September will feature some of your Broadway favorites; October, we’ll tickle your spine with sci-fi; in November we’ll warm your fall days with romance, and December we’ll find some old holiday classics, just for some fun.

Wednesday mornings - 10 a.m. A new “Wii” Bowling League is starting in the Lounge, we hope to play other Senior Centers at some point later on when we get some practice, so please sign up and come join the fun!

The Visiting Nurse and Health Services of CT, Inc. will be doing a monthly series on Mondays (with the exception of December which is a Wednesday) this fall on a wide variety of topics they will all be at 1 p.m. at the Senior Center.

September 19th - “Tackling Life’s Transitions”, changes can be difficult for all of us, they seen to get harder as we get older. The speaker will be Karen Chekas.

OCTOBER

October 3rd - “The Art of Listening”; “When is it Gossip” The speaker will be Joanne Cohen, MSW, Geriatric Care Manager. We hear this is a very good program.

The regular VNHS Wellness Programs will bring a nurse in for Blood Pressure and Diabetic Testing three times each month the second and fourth Thursday and the third Wednesday.

We hope to have an AARP “55 Alive” Safe Drivers class this fall, watch for more info as it becomes available.

The New-Old Secret Chef Program: The monthly program will be going back to its roots with a brief cooking demonstration and a sampling of the goodies by a guest chef. The new time will be advertised on the monthly signup sheets, please watch for it.

Additionally, there are the regular weekly programs:

- Mondays: Cribbage, “Let’s Talk” VNHS Special Topics
- Tuesdays: Exercise
- Wednesdays: Wii Bowling, Veterans’ Advocate (by appointment), Wellness BP/Diabetic Testing (see calendar)
- Thursdays:BILLIARDS, Exercise, Ask the Nurse, Setback
- Fridays: Quilting, Billiards, Kaluki & Setback

Wii games and exercise, movies, puzzles, books, computers, sewing machines, dominos, and other games are always available during Center hours.

The First Annual “Senior Great Pumpkin Scavenger Hunt” - This will be a joint venture between Coventry Human Services and the Parks and Recreation Department. All seniors are invited to participate, Saturday, October 8, 2011 registration begins at 9:00 a.m. at the Senior Center and will end at 12 p.m. at the Pumpkin Fest at Patriot’s Park. Seniors who bring a grandchild (or grand-niece or nephew) can get a free child’s admission into the Pumpkin Fest for that child upon completion of the Scavenger hunt. Information and rules will be available at the Senior Center, the Town Hall or online.

Thursday, October 20th (date tentative) is the 1st Annual Senior Center Pie Bakeoff! Pumpkin, Apple, Berry and Wildcard Categories- enter one or all. For fun, prizes and best of all some yummy pie!!!

Monday, October 31st will be the annual Halloween Luncheon, costumes optional. Pizza and grinders will be provided as well as some special “treats”.

NOVEMBER

On Wednesday, November 9th we will hold our Annual Veterans’ Day tribute. There will be a brief ceremony at 11:30 a.m. followed by a light luncheon. If you are Coventry Vet please join us for us as we take a moment to give you the thanks you deserve for your service. Watch for more as the date gets closer or call the center for more details at 860-742-3525.

November 21st - “Holiday Sadness” Changes in our lives, loss, loneliness, depression, can make the holidays a difficult time for some of us. Karen Chekas will discuss how to approach the upcoming holiday season in a positive way.

DECEMBER

December 7th – “Fall Prevention” presented by Linda Bissell.
Coventry’s new Senior Mini-bus was delivered during the first week of August. It will be ready for service early in September after our volunteer drivers have received training. This new wheelchair accessible vehicle will be used to provide transportation for Coventry’s elderly and persons with disabilities. It was purchased with funds from the Federal Fiscal Year 2010 Section 5310 Program and the Town of Coventry. Forty-four (44) groups throughout Connecticut applied for funding. The new bus can seat twelve passengers and also has room for two wheelchairs.

The goal of the Coventry Senior Van Program is to meet the transportation needs of the elderly and disabled residents of Coventry in order for them to live as independently as possible. Priority is given to people who need rides for doctor and medical appointments. Transportation for shopping and personal errands, social and recreational activities, educational programs and employment is also provided. The program provides FREE handicap-accessible van service for travel within the Coventry, Tolland, Vernon, and Manchester areas and supplements the Windham Region Transit District Dial-A-Ride Program.

The Van Program is staffed by a dedicated group of volunteer drivers who donate one morning a month in support of the program. No special licensing is necessary and all drivers are trained before participating. Schedules are flexible. Additional drivers are needed to continue to meet on-going transportation needs. Please consider donating one morning a month for this vital program.

For more information, to schedule a ride or to volunteer, please call the Senior Transportation Coordinator at 860-742-3525.

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**Free Rides!**

**Coventry Senior Van Program**

Coventry Seniors! Take advantage of our free handicap-van transportation! Coventry, Manchester, Vernon and Tolland

**Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays**

Medical Appointments  
Shopping/Personal Errands  
Senior Center

**Wednesdays**

Senior Club Meetings Only

**Sundays**

Coventry Area Only

Please call the Senior Transportation Coordinator at the Senior Center at 860-742-3525 to schedule rides at least 48 business hours in advance of your ride.

For transportation to the Willimantic area, please contact Dial-A-Ride at 860-456-1462.
WORRIED ABOUT WINTER HEATING COSTS?
Call Human Services for more information about this year’s Connecticut Energy Assistance Programs. The Connecticut Energy Assistance Program is a federal and state funded program. Applications can be done at the Access Agency in Willimantic starting September 1, 2011. Coventry Human Services will also be taking applications for Coventry residents starting September 15, 2011 on Tuesdays and Thursdays by appointment only. Deliveries will be authorized to begin in mid-November.

Human Services will also be taking applications for Operation Fuel; an emergency energy assistance program for households that are in financial crisis. Financial crisis is defined as the inability of a family to pay for an outstanding gas or electric bill. -- household is faced with the decision to choose between paying for their energy needs, buying food, paying the rent or mortgage, or paying medical bills as a result of unemployment, limited or fixed income, illness, death, or other emergencies. Some examples of need can include but are not limited to the following:

- Client health is threatened (i.e. needs utility to refrigerate medications or baby formula)
- Client needs utility to keep medical equipment operational
- Client needs grant to prevent shut off or restate service.

One time emergency deliveries may be made in cases of financial crisis through the Coventry Clergy Fuel Bank that is funded in part through the WISH Fund. Intakes are taken and approved by the Human Services office. As with all energy assistance programs receiving energy help is not an entitlement and proper identification and documentation is required.

Residents can contribute to the WISH fund in lieu of sending holiday cards locally and there names are placed in a community greeting in the Broadcaster and on the Town of Coventry website. (The Broadcaster publishes our greeting at no charge) Watch for more information on the WISH fund in November on Channel 13, the newspapers, and the town website. One hundred percent of the dollars raised goes towards heating costs for Coventry residents. Contributions should be made out to the Coventry Clergy Fuel Bank and sent to Coventry Human Services, 1712 Main Street, Coventry, CT 06238. Contributors should indicate how their names should be listed.

HOLIDAYS 2011
The Holiday Season is quickly approaching and there are many families and individuals that will benefit from your generosity. We will need turkeys, ham, or chickens, and the trimmings. Also toys, gifts for teens and socks and slippers for all ages will be needed. Gift cards to grocery stores, gas cards, mall gift cards, and of course contributions to our holiday special needs program are truly welcome. Contributions may be mailed to The Holiday Committee, c/o Coventry Human Services, 1712 Main Street, Coventry, CT 06238 or dropped off at the Human Services office. Please contact Human Services at 742-5324 to indicate how you can help this season or for more information. Please call ahead with turkey, ham or chicken donations to allow us to make room for your donation. If you are a family or individual in need of some help at the holidays please call us, 860 742-5324.

FOOD BANK
If you are in financial crisis and are in need of food please call Human Services to make an appointment. We are always accepting donations for the food bank. The need can vary by the month, please call us to see what we need to stock our shelves. Items that we can always use are peanut butter and jelly, spaghetti sauce, macaroni and cheese, soup, tuna, and various hygiene and cleaning supplies.
We are looking for students in grades 10-12 interested in being a mentor to a Robertson School student, through the “Positive Connections Mentoring Program.” Interested students should contact their guidance counselor. Interviews will be held in the month of September, the program will start mid-October and run through June 2012. Students need to be in good academic standing and have an interest in working with younger kids. For questions about any Youth Services programs or issues related to youth, please call Crystal Morawitz, Youth Services Coordinator at 742-5324.

**COMMEMORATIVE BOOK AVAILABLE**

The Roots of Coventry, first printed in 1987 for of Coventry’s 275th anniversary, will be reprinted in honor of the town’s 300th anniversary. The 206 page book traces the Root family from Coventry’s first settlement through the 1850s and provides a glimpse of life through the years. Chapters include topics on the First Congregational Church, Coventry during the Revolutionary War period, Connecticut’s Constitution and important men and women in Coventry. It is a wonderful genealogical resource for early Coventry families and a treasure trove of town history. The 9”x12” paperback should be preordered, using the order form available at the Coventry Visitors Center or the Booth & Dimock Library. Cost is $25, with an additional $5 if you wish to receive it by mail. All orders must be received by Oct 15, 2011, and will be available for pick-up at the Visitor’s Center during “Christmas in the Village” event. In order to keep costs low, very few books will be available for sale if not preordered. For additional information, contact Ginney Dilk at gdilk@aol.com or 860-742-9656.

**COVENTRY SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION**

The CSF Dollars For Scholars program has completed another successful year. At the high school awards ceremony in June, over $38,000 in scholarship money was distributed to 69 Coventry seniors from Coventry HS, East Catholic, EO Smith, and Windham Tech. In addition, $3900 of book awards was given to Coventry students entering their senior year of college. The Foundation distributed over $45,000 this school year. The annual phone-a-thon held in March, 2011 netted approximately $25,000. The Coventry Scholarship Foundation Trust would like to thank all the citizens of Coventry who helped make this another very successful year. This includes all of the volunteers, contributors, community organizations, school staff and Foundation board members whose joint efforts have helped this program grow each year. This is truly a community effort. We are looking forward to March 2012 and another successful phone-a-thon.

**HOUSING REHABILITATION LOAN PROGRAM**

The Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program is designed for low to moderate-income homeowners, as well as landlords with low to moderate-income tenants. Funds are used for safety and public health code violations first, but may also be used by homeowners for common repair projects, including, but not limited to: septic system repairs; roofing & siding; structural deficiencies; replacement windows; plumbing; electrical; and heating systems. Residents must be income eligible (see below), be up to date on Town taxes, & have current homeowner’s insurance to apply. The housing rehabilitation funds are a loan to homeowners that must be eventually paid back. Loan repayments are used to continue the Program. Low-income eligible applicants will receive a loan that is 100% deferred until the property changes ownership. Moderate-income eligible applicants will receive a loan that is 2/3 deferred and 1/3 zero percent interest paid over ten years in monthly installments.

For more information or applications, contact Peter at Community Consulting at 456-0782.

**INCOME GUIDELINES (gross income, at or below)**

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<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
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*The Town of Coventry is an Equal Opportunity Provider.*
Coventry Board of Education Appoints Interim Superintendent

On July 14, 2011 the Board of Education appointed Paul Smotas, Ph.D. as Interim Superintendent of Schools. Dr. Smotas will begin on August 15 as Interim Superintendent while the Board of Education continues its search for a permanent replacement for Dr. Donna Bernard, who leaves Coventry after nine years.

Dr. Smotas received his doctorate from the University of Connecticut in 1996. He also has a Master’s in Engineering from the University of New Haven.

Paul Smotas comes to Coventry with over 35 years in education. He served as a teacher, coach and administrator in Southington for 19 years before going on to administrative positions in Vernon, Branford and East Lyme. He spent ten years in East Lyme as Assistant Superintendent and Superintendent. After retiring in 2009, he was appointed Interim Superintendent in Stonington for five months.

Dr. Smotas has also taught as an Adjunct Professor at the University of New Haven, Western Connecticut State University, UCONN and Sacred Heart University. He currently resides in Carolina Shores, North Carolina.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
Teacher, Para-Educator, and School Nurse Substitutes: Call the Business Office at 742-7317 x3.
Cafeteria Substitutes: Call Beth Pratt at 742-4535.
Bus Drivers/Substitutes: Call Stephenie Greenleaf at M & J Bus Co. at 742-0344.
2011-2012 Coventry Public Schools Calendar

Early Release Days for Students:
- ALL Schools:
  - November 23
  - December 23
  - June 14 (or last day of school)

Early Release - Parent Conferences:
- ALL Schools
  - Nov. 18, 21, 22

Early Release Exams - CHS:
- Jan. 17 - 20 and June 11 - 14

- Staff Development Days
- Holidays or Vacations
- Graduation
- June 16
- with no snow days
- (Alternative date:)

No School Symbols

Open Houses
- CHS - September 7
- GHR - September 14
- CNH - September 21
- CGS - September 27

Marking Periods & Report Cards
- Period 1 Ends Nov. 1 / Report Cards out on Nov. 14
- Period 2 Ends Jan. 20 / Report Cards out on Jan. 30
- Period 3 Ends April 2 / Report Cards out on April 10
- Grades K-8 Period 4 Ends June 7 / Report Cards out on June 14
- Grades 9-12 Period 4 Ends June 14 / Report Cards mailed home June 25

School Phone Numbers:
- CGS Primary K-2 ....... 742-7313
- GHR Intermediate 3-5 ....... 742-7341
- Capt. Nathan Hale 6-8 ....... 742-7334
- Coventry High School ....... 742-7346
- Administration Bldg ........ 742-

There will be NO School on the following days:

- Labor Day
  - September 5
- Columbus Day
  - October 10
- Veterans Day
  - November 11
- Thanksgiving Holiday
  - November 24 - 25
- Holiday Recess
  - Dec. 26 - Jan. 2
- Martin Luther King Day
  - January 16
- Presidents Day
  - February 20 - 21
- Winter Recess
  - February 20 - 24
- Good Friday
  - April 6
- Spring Recess
  - April 16 - 20
- Memorial Day
  - (observed)
  - May 28

Staff Development Days (No School)
- August 25, 26
- November 8, January 27
- March 23

The first day of school for students is August 29. The last day for students will be June 14 and graduation will be June 16, provided no snow days need to be made up. The alternative graduation date will be June 23, 2012. *ALL June dates are tentative, based upon the number of snow days.

www.coventrypublicschools.org

BOE Approved: January 13, 2011
NOTICE OF ADJOURNED TOWN MEETINGS AND REFERENDUMS

The electors and citizens qualified to vote in Town Meetings of the Town of Coventry are hereby warned and notified that pursuant to Section 9-1 and 9-3 of the Town Charter, Adjourned Town Meetings and Referendums on two questions on two separate dates will be held.

**Question 1: Tuesday, September 27, 2011**

“Shall the resolution making an appropriation of $2,075,000 for the planning, design, acquisition and construction a new North Coventry Fire Department Station 11 and authorizing $1,675,000 bonds of the Town to meet said appropriation, be approved?

YES____ NO ____

**Question 2: Tuesday, October 18, 2011**

“Shall the resolution making an appropriation of $2,400,000 for the design of the rehabilitation/replacement of the Pucker Street Bridge over the Hop River, Bridge No. 04621 and authorizing $400,000 bonds of the Town to meet said appropriation, be approved?

YES ____ NO ____

Both votes will be between the hours of 6:00 AM and 8:00 PM. All voting for both District 1 and District 2 and voters entitled to vote by reason of Section 7-6 of the Connecticut General Statutes will be at Coventry Volunteer Fire Station, 1755 Main Street, Coventry.

For information on either project please see www.coventryct.org or review the informational flyer prepared by the Town.