



## COVENTRY COMMUNITY UPDATE:

**October 2016**

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

### MANAGER'S MONTHLY MEMO:

October is a month of leaf watching (and raking), pumpkin flavors and wrapping up projects prior to winter. As the busy summer ended we have projects to update you on. We have awarded the bid to replace the lake gate, which controls the height of the water in Coventry Lake. Funded mostly by a State grant, work will start in early October and get far enough along to allow the lake to refill for spring. Final landscaping will have to wait until the spring growing season. The lake will be lowered as far as possible to facilitate this project, which will be the level it was about a decade ago for sewer line installation on Woodland Road. You may have already noticed that the lake level is lower than is typical for this time of year due to drought conditions and our preparation to lower the water so construction work can begin. Boaters are encouraged to use caution as certain areas may be shallower than you are used to. This fall would be a good time for lake property owners to evaluate and repair stone walls and other lakefront features.

Treatment for the invasive aquatic plant Hydrilla in August was deemed a successful first step at the Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> Lake Forum. Ongoing survey and treatment of this "very bad" lake weed is likely for several years. See this [link](#) for more information about the treatment plan.

While we're talking about water, please reduce water use due to the drought conditions. Here are some helpful [tips](#) to conserve water from the CT DEEP.

Eversource is requesting state regulatory permission to replace the tall wood high-tension power line poles (Line 900) between Stonehouse Road and North River Road. The new structures will be a similar shape but will be taller and manufactured of weathering steel instead of wood. If they get state permits Eversource hopes to complete the project before the end of the year. For more information and how to comment on the project, see this [link](#).

We also continue to work on the crumbling concrete foundation issue through the Capitol Region Council of Governments. Citizens interested in having their assessments reduced per state law due to foundation damage need to submit the required reports and forms to the Assessor's office by December 1, 2016. See this [link](#) for more information. An independent advocacy group is sponsoring a forum at Ellington High School on Saturday, October 1, 2016 at 10 AM with representatives from Canada who will share their experiences with this unique problem.

There is still time to join in the Solarize Coventry program and add solar to your house at a competitive rate and with various financing options. Upcoming events include a live installation project at the home of Dr. Jack Byne, 2993 South Street, on Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup> between 9 AM – 1 PM. A self-guided solar tour of recent installations is also planned on October 15<sup>th</sup> where you can talk first hand with solar owners about their experiences. See more details in the coming events section below.

### HOLIDAYS:

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

### UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS:

- Mon, 10/3: Town Council Meeting: 7:00 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Thurs, 10/6: WPCA Meeting, 6:45 PM, DPW Conf. Room

- Thurs, 10/13: Board of Education, 7:30 PM, School Admin. Building
- **Tues, 10/11:** Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:00 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Mon, 10/17: Town Council Meeting: 7:00 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Mon, 10/24: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:00 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Weds, 10/26: Inland Wetlands Agency, 7:30 PM, Town Hall Annex
- Thurs, 10/27: Board of Education, 7:30 PM, School Admin. Building

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

### COMING EVENTS:

- |            |                 |  |
|------------|-----------------|--|
| Sat        | 10/1            | <b>Annual Farm Day Harvest Festival</b> , 9 AM – 1 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Enjoy and support agriculture. Live local music, farm animals, corn maze, tour of the Homestead, local vendors, UConn’s Timber Team, tractor display, equipment demonstrations, blacksmith demonstrations, youth activities and more. Parking & admission are free. Food and more available for purchase. Questions contact Darby Pollansky, <a href="mailto:darbyp@gmail.com">darbyp@gmail.com</a> . Sponsored by the Coventry Agricultural Committee. |
| Sat<br>Mon | 10/1 –<br>10/31 | <b>Pumpkin Patch</b> , 10 AM – 6 PM, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. The church lawn will transform into a HUGE pumpkin patch with hundreds of pumpkins, gourds and fall décor for sale. All proceeds support the community and local church missions. <b>Kids’ activity and bake sale on 10/16</b> from 12 – 2 PM ( <i>not 10/2 as previously published</i> ). Info: 860-742-8487.   |
| Sat        | 10/1            | <b>Walktober - Any Last Words?</b> 1-2 PM, South Street Cemetery, .25 miles west of the intersection of South and Silver St. Discover the work and the burial places of the Loomis family of gravestone carvers, who made half of the stones in Coventry. Learn how gravestones were installed, and find out where poor folk were laid to rest. < 1 mile. Sponsored by the Coventry <a href="#">Cemetery Commission</a> .  |
| Sun        | 10/2            | <b>Coventry Farmers’ Market at Hale Homestead</b> , 11 AM – 2 PM, 2299 South Street. 65 full-time and 10 guest vendors. Live music, demonstrations. <b>Theme: Cheese Fest</b> . More <a href="#">info</a> on Facebook. <a href="#">Website</a> .   |
| Sun        | 10/2            | <b>Walktober – Stories in Stone</b> , 1 PM, Nathan Hale Cemetery, 113 Lake Street. Discover the art of Eastern CT gravestone carvers and listen to stories about citizens buried there. Bring your favorite epitaph to share with the group. Sponsored by the Nathan Hale Homestead and part of the Last Green Valley’s Walktober series. Info: 860-774-3300.  |
| Sun        | 10/2            | <b>Walktober – Reading an 18<sup>th</sup> Century Farm</b> , 1 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Walk the property of the Hale family looking for clues that tell us about life when Nathan Hale lived here. Sponsored by the Nathan Hale Homestead and part of the Last Green Valley’s Walktober series. Info: 860-774-3300.  |
| Tues       | 10/4            | <b>Tech Tuesdays</b> , 6 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. These hands-on workshops are intended to help you navigate the vast and growing world of technology. If you have a laptop, tablet or smartphone, feel free to bring them. <b>Topic: Overdrive</b> – learn how to connect and get e-books, e-audio and movies through your tablet.  |
| Weds       | 10/5            | <b>Mobile Foodshare</b> , 10-10:30 AM, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. An outdoor food distribution service for persons of low income. Please bring your own grocery bag. More <a href="#">info</a> .   |

- Sat 10/8 **Solarize Coventry live installation**, 9 AM - 1 PM, Bynes house, 2993 South Street (across from Wrights Mill Road). Drop by and have a look at a live installation of residential solar panels as part of the [Solarize Coventry](#) initiative. Representatives from the program will be on hand to answer questions.
- Sun 10/9 **Coventry Farmers' Market at Hale Homestead**, 11 AM – 2 PM, 2299 South Street. 65 full-time and 10 guest vendors. Live music, demonstrations. Reps from [Solarize Coventry](#) will be present with information about the program. **Market Theme: Farm to Shaker**. More [info](#) on Facebook. [Website](#).
- Sun 10/9 **Walktober – The Mills of South Coventry Village**, 1-3 PM, Strong Porter Museum, 2382 South Street. So much remains from the 19<sup>th</sup> century when water-powered mills provided hundreds of jobs and produced a remarkable variety of products, some of which would help transform the nation. Take a walk past mill sites, mill owners' and workers' homes, churches, general store and hotel built when the village thrived. < 1 mile. Sponsored by Coventry Historical Society. Info: 860-712-4278.
- Tues 10/11 **Minecraft Palooza**, 2 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Join us in the Children's Room to defeat the creepers, dig for ore, build a fortress! Create a real life 3D Minecraft world and do other Minecraft activities. This is a party you do not want to miss! Library [event calendar](#).
- Weds 10/12 **5<sup>th</sup> Annual Coventry Scarecrow Contest**, Town Green by Dunkin' Donuts & CVS Pharmacy. Create a scarecrow of your own and put it on display, or vote on your favorites! Categories are Family, Non-Profit/Community Groups, and Businesses. There is no fee to enter. Register and get more details [here](#). Set-up: Friday-Sunday, 10/7-10/9. Voting 10/12 – 11/13 at [www.coventryrec.com](http://www.coventryrec.com).
- Weds 10/12 **Fall Crafts**, 1 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Bring some seasonal cheer into your home with projects guaranteed to make your table warm and cozy including a set up two-four napkin rings. Part of Crafternoons for Grownups series. Library [event calendar](#).
- Fri 10/14 **Messy Munchkins**, Fridays 10:30 AM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. A multi-sensory playgroup that encourages participation from both caregiver and child. \*Some activities may get messy so please dress accordingly.\* Ages 4 & under. Library [event calendar](#).
- Fri 10/14 **Afterschool Magic**, 3 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Do you love *Magic: The Gathering*? Have you ever wanted to learn how to play? Bring your deck or use one of ours! Presented by the Teen Zone for those in grades 6-12. Library [event calendar](#).
- Sat 10/15 **Solarize Coventry House Tour**. Visit three homes with solar panels installed as part of the first phase of the [Solarize Coventry](#) initiative, and talk with homeowners about their experiences. 10 – 11 AM - Sadler home, 932 North River Road. 11 AM – noon, Schultness home, 331 Riley Mountain Road. Noon – 1 PM, Williams home, 22 John Paul Lane.
- Sat 10/15 &  
Sun 10/16 **Hike for Homeless Heroes**. Event kickoff Saturday 11 AM. Camp Johnson, Rails to Trails, Bolton. To benefit South Park Inn, a shelter for Connecticut's homeless veterans. Free food and camping for those interested. Check donations can also be dropped off at Coventry Police Station, make checks payable to South Park Inn. South Park Inn is a registered 501c-3 organization and donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

For info contact Robert Dexter, 860-281-4213 or email [hikeforhomelessheroes@aol.com](mailto:hikeforhomelessheroes@aol.com).

- Sun 10/16 **Coventry Farmers' Market at Hale Homestead**, 11 AM – 2 PM, 2299 South Street. 65 full-time and 10 guest vendors. Live music, demonstrations. **Theme: Fire & Ice.** More [info](#) on Facebook. [Website](#).
- Sun 10/16 **Walktober – I Spy a Letterbox**, 1 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. Following clues we will walk in the Nathan Hale Forest searching for hidden letterboxes, and stamp in the logbooks. Sponsored by the Nathan Hale Homestead and part of the Last Green Valley's Walktober series. Info: 860-774-3300.
- Tues 10/18 **Walktober – Where is Hop River?** 2-4 PM, Hop River Road (park at Rail Trail). 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 Trail to enjoy with your leader, Ray Axelrod. 2 miles. Sponsored by Ct Eastern Railroad Museum. [www.cteastrrmuseum.org](http://www.cteastrrmuseum.org). Info: 860-617-3308.
- Weds 10/19 **Mobile Foodshare**, 10-10:30 AM, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. An outdoor food distribution service for persons of low income. Please bring your own grocery bag. More [info](#).
- Thurs 10/20 **Homeschool group**, 10:15 AM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. A monthly homeschool meeting where we will collaborate, learn, experiment, and create! Each month we will be working on a different topic or skill. All homeschoolers ages 7-17 are invited to attend. Library [event calendar](#).
- Thurs 10/20 **Anime**, 6:00 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Calling all otaku! Check out the newest in anime and catch up on some cult classics. Themed snacks provided. Presented by the Teen Zone for those in grades 6-12. Library [event calendar](#).
- Thurs 10/20 **Walking Dead Trivia Night**, 7 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Before our favorite survivors face off against this year's crop of villains, bad guys and of course walkers, join your fellow fans for a fun night of trivia and predictions for the coming season. Library [event calendar](#).
- Sat 10/22 **Graveyard Tour**, 2-4 PM. Tour Coventry's historic cemetery with folks from Seaside Shadows. Reservations required at 860-742-6917 or email [hale@ctlandmarks.org](mailto:hale@ctlandmarks.org).
- Sun 10/23 **Coventry Farmers' Market at Hale Homestead**, 11 AM – 2 PM, 2299 South Street. 65 full-time and 10 guest vendors. Live music, demonstrations. **Theme: Holiday Maker's Market.** More [info](#) on Facebook. [Website](#).
- Tues 10/25 **Solo Travel Bootcamp**, 6:30 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. Have you solo traveled or would you like to consider it? Get into the "ready mode" for your next adventure! Solo adventures expand personal perspective, boost happiness and contribute to health and vitality! Led by Travel Coach and Blogger Nina Lesiga, the Bootcamp will cover the traveler's sweet spot, maneuvering obstacles and enablers for exceptional trips. Library [event calendar](#).
- Fri 10/28 **Halloween Escape Room**, 6 PM, Booth & Dimock Memorial Library, 1134 Main Street. You have one hour to escape the Library by solving puzzles and completing scavenger hunts. Can you do it? Registration required. Presented by the Teen Zone for those in grades 6-12. Library [event calendar](#).
- Fri 10/28 &

- Sat 10/29 **Things That go Bump in the Night**, 7-9 PM, Nathan Hale Homestead, 2299 South Street. A special candlelight tour, room by room including the dark and dreary attic. Hear Homestead ghost stories and staff's spooky stories as featured on TV's Ghost Hunters. \$25/\$20 CTL members. Includes refreshments. Reservations required, 860-742-6917 or [hale@ctlandmarks.org](mailto:hale@ctlandmarks.org).
- Sun 10/30 **Coventry Farmers' Market at Hale Homestead**, 11 AM – 2 PM, 2299 South Street. 65 full-time and 10 guest vendors. Live music, demonstrations. **Theme: Pumpkin Fest & last market of 2016**. More [info](#) on Facebook. [Website](#).
- Mon 10/31 **Halloween Party**, noon, Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. Sampler of homemade soups. Costumes, masks or hats encouraged. Call 860-742-3525 to register.

**MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT:** If you are on a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan (Part D) or on a Medicare Advantage Plan, now is the time to evaluate if you wish to change or continue your plan for 2017. Medicare Open Enrollment is October 15 – December 7. There will be a limited number of appointments available at Coventry Senior Center, 172 Lake Street. The purpose of these appointments is to provide unbiased information so that you can make an informed decision about the best plan to fit your health needs. Call 860-742-3525 to register.

**TAX PREPARATION HELP WANTED:** We are looking for two or three volunteers to help at the Coventry Senior Center with the AARP Foundation tax service. We provide free tax preparation services on Friday mornings from February 3 – April 14. We prepare fairly simple tax returns, no complicated self-employed schedules or complicated partnership interests. The volunteers have to have a very basic knowledge of taxes and understand that two plus two is supposed to equal four. AARP provides training in both taxes and the computer software. Last year Coventry Senior Center provided assistance in the preparation of over 50 Federal and State tax returns. If you are willing to help out, please contact Paul Watson, 860-742-0709 or email [Paul.L.Watson@charter.net](mailto:Paul.L.Watson@charter.net).

**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.**