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TOWN HALL HOLIDAYS:

Oct. 14       Columbus Day
Nov. 11       Veterans Day
Nov. 28 & 29  Thanksgiving Holiday
Dec. 24 & 25  Christmas Holiday
Jan. 1        New Year’s Day

MESSAGE FROM JOAN LEWIS,
Town Council Chairwoman

It is hard to believe that the two year term of the current Council is soon coming to an end. One of the most exciting things to happen during our term is the completion of the sidewalks which has resulted in the revitalized look of Main Street in the Village. Several new businesses have emerged there; most recently “Clancy’s HIIT and FIT” and “Pizza on Main”. Along with “Christmas in the Village”, we now have two new events “Spring Stroll” and “Arts on Main” which we hope will become annual affairs.

I believe much has been accomplished over the past two years with limited budget increases. This year the Town Council held the mil rate to a zero percent increase, despite a loss in State funding. By working with the Board of Education, we were able to hold the total spending increase to 1.30%. There was no increase in the Capital budget and Bonded Indebtedness actually decreased. I would like to take this opportunity to update you on some of the Council supported projects, grants and other matters important to the growth and stability of our community that have transpired.

Capital Projects: Most of the school code and energy upgrade projects as well as the Jones Crossing bridge replacement approved for bonding in May of 2018 in the amount of $3.7 million have been completed or are underway. Many of the road improvements included in the bond approved in May 2019 in the amount of $4,000,000 have occurred; however, the re-design of the Coventry Grammar School parking lot will occur in 2020. Work on the four way intersection at Swamp Road, Route 31 (Bread and Milk) and Route 44 will take place in 2020 as will the South Street improvements between Seagraves and Skinner Hill Road. Most of the costs for these two projects are funded under a State Local Transportation Capital Improvement Program (LOTCIP) grant. Once we know if a connection to Northfields is possible, a community involvement meeting for the Swamp Road project will be held sometime in the Fall.

Microgrid: I am pleased to announce that Coventry was recently awarded a competitive grant from the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) in the amount of $4,000,000. This project is expected to generate significant energy cost savings for our Town Hall campus and adjacent school buildings, as well as guaranteed power even during extended power outages using solar, batteries and natural gas-fueled electrical generation. The grant would cover the switchgear and private firms would cover the other capital and installation expenses. We would agree to buy electricity at below market rates. The microgrid team, Coventry Microgrid, LLC, was also awarded a solar project for Orchard Hills as part of the grid design, which will lower prices for the seniors and provide the same guaranteed steady source of power.

Additionally, making the project even more robust, the Board of Education’s vendor ENCON received two 249,000 kWh carport projects under a ZREC program at the middle school and high school. The Council and the Board have approved applying for a virtual net metering to transfer the electricity from the new carports to other school, town and library buildings outside of the microgrid project area, so as not to affect the size of the microgrid energy load. Additional presentations will be made to the Board and Council before they make their final decisions whether or not to move forward with the microgrid project (we have until September 28 to commit).

In the area of recreation, projects completed include the Laidlaw Park Soccer Field; irrigation of the major league baseball infield at Miller Richard, installation of a 9-
COUNCIL CHAIRWOMAN’S UPDATE

— Continued from pg. 1

hole disc golf course at Creaser Park, and drainage of two fields used for softball at the Capt. Nathan Hale Middle School. The Town Council is working with the Council appointed Coventry Softball Fields Committee to locate an area for a much needed Town softball field and plan for its development. More than 126 girls are involved in the softball program and would benefit from a field designed specifically for their use.

The current budget includes $130,000 for our Lake Management fund for the treatment of hydrilla in Coventry Lake as well as fanwort in Eagleville Lake. Hydrilla treatment began in July of last year and has continued through the fall of 2018 and summer of 2019. As soon as the Towns of Coventry and Mansfield receive the permit from DEEP, treatment of fanwort will begin at Eagleville Lake. We also expect a $25,000 grant from the State to help with this work. Additionally, thanks in part to testimony from our town manager and Coventry Town Council members, in June 2019 the State Legislature established a fund for invasive species management in waterways. We hope this fund will provide grant money to the Town to help offset the cost of these treatments in future years.

Booth & Dimock Library: The Council expects a report in October from the Library Renovation and Improvement Committee. They have been charged to look at renovations for necessary upgrades and refreshing electrical, technology infrastructure, energy updates, code compliance, adequate bathrooms, parking, operational efficiency and the need to address water intrusion in its facility. The Town has received notification of an $850,000 matching grant to offset costs.

One of the Council’s top priorities is the safety of our citizens, and I would like to update you on some of the happenings within our Police, Fire and Emergency Services Departments. For the first time in a long time, our Police Department is fully staffed. We are fortunate to have such a well-trained and professional department. Also, in support of Police Chief Mark Palmer’s recommendation, the Town Council voted to have Coventry join the state radio network and implement a new modern police radio system. We also approved funding to purchase new radio equipment. Not only do the updates help to support officer safety while on patrol and upgrade our communication capabilities, they have saved Coventry a great deal of money. We are now on line and the system is working well. Some of the radios that were replaced will be used by the Fire Services.

In coordination with the Police Department, the Board of Education has made significant security improvements at all our schools. Much of the funding for these upgrades came from State grants secured by the Board. Security upgrades at our schools will be looked at on a continual basis as deemed a priority by the Board and Council.

The Fire Transition Study Committee recently reported to the Town Council. The Committee approved a vision statement wherein within the next two years, our fire and emergency services will operate as one cohesive, efficient organization reporting to one fire chief. Currently, the Coventry Volunteer Fire Association, Station 8, and the North Coventry Volunteer Fire Department, Station 11, are two separate departments represented by the Board of Fire Officers and administered by the Fire Administrator. Our EMT’s and Fire Police are now organized under a combined department called the Town of Coventry Fire & EMS Department, Station 18. If both fire departments decide to transition to a single department, then they will also be under the combined department. The Committee has developed an organizational structure for the combined department and hopes to complete its work by December 2020 or sooner.

Over the past few years, the Council has made a dedicated effort to replace older fire and emergency equipment. This includes a new replacement ambulance, a tanker truck; and most recently, the replacement first response medical vehicle (Chevy Tahoe) for the north district. The former north end vehicle (a Suburban) has been redeployed to the south end, with plans to redesign it to match Department 18 vehicles. The red suburban at the south end will be redeployed to Public Works.

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**VETERANS:**
You have until September 30th 2019 to file your DD214 with the Town Clerk to be eligible for an exemption for the 2019 grand list. If you have already filed you do not need to re-file. You will receive your exemption automatically. There is also an additional veteran’s exemption available for those veterans who meet income guidelines. Applications may be submitted to the Assessor’s office until October 1st. Please call our office, 860-742-4067 if your income is less than $43,900 if married or less than $36,000 if single. We will be happy to give you more information and assist you in filling out the application.

**PERSONAL PROPERTY:**
All business owners and owners of unregistered motor vehicles are required to declare their personal property by November 1st of each year. The forms will be available on the Town’s website, www.coventryct.org and in the Assessor’s Office. Failure to file is subject to mandatory penalties.

**FARM AND FOREST CLASSIFICATIONS:**
The intent of these classifications is to encourage the preservation of farm land and forest land. Certain qualifications apply which can be reviewed on the applications that are available on the Town’s website, www.coventryct.org and in the Assessor’s Office. For deadlines and guidance please contact our office.

Michael D’Amicol, Assessor and Rachel Vertefeuille, Assistant Assessor are here to assist you. Please stop in or call with any questions.

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**TAX COLLECTOR’S OFFICE**

**TAX OFFICE:** (860) 742-4066 The July 2019 installment of the Grand List 2018 tax bills and 2019 COVRRA fees are now delinquent and subject to 1.5% interest per month. The first installment of the Sewer Assessment bill, due in May 2019 is also now delinquent. Please call for correct amount due on any unpaid bill. The Sewer Use bills for 2019 were mailed at the end of August and are due in full in September. If your Sewer Use payment is not received here at the Tax Office or post office postmarked by October 1, 2019, please include a 4% late fee with your October 2019 payment. The Real Estate second installment bill due in January 2020 is not mailed. You should retain your two remaining copies from the original July 2019 billing; one to be presented upon payment in January 2020 and the other as your receipt. Supplemental Motor Vehicle bills, which is a different type of tax bill than the regular Motor Vehicle tax due in July, will be mailed at the end of December for January 2020 due date only to those taxpayers that registered a vehicle after October 1, 2018.

Credit card payments are now accepted in person at the Tax Office counter as well as online through the Town of Coventry’s website. Credit card payments will incur a 2.75% convenience fee. Please call the Tax Office for procedural details or check the town’s website at www.coventryct.org home page on the left side (blue square marked Online Bill Pay). There you will find a link to pay your taxes online by credit card or from your checking account.

Once again, the Webster Bank Lock Box in Hartford will be processing CURRENT TAX PAYMENTS ONLY during January 2020 for Real Estate 2nd half tax due and Supplemental Motor Vehicle tax due. Please include your current payment coupon with your check and mail to Town of Coventry, Dept. 336, P.O. Box 150417, Hartford, CT 06115-0417. All other payments (partial, late, sewer and delinquent COVRRA) should be mailed directly to the Coventry Tax at 1712 Main St., Coventry, CT 06238. Taxpayers owing delinquent motor vehicle taxes must pay by cash or money order for an immediate DMV clearance. Payments by personal check will result in a delay of ten (10) business days for the DMV clearance. Online payments will delay your DMV clearance for three (3) business days from the date your payment is processed.

Any Coventry taxpayer having difficulty paying their taxes on time is strongly encouraged to contact the Tax office to discuss payment arrangements.

**CALENDAR OF PAYMENTS:**

- **SEPTEMBER:** Sewer Use single annual payment due.
- **NOVEMBER:** Sewer Assessment 2nd installment due.
- **JANUARY:** Real Estate tax 2nd installment due. Supplemental Motor Vehicle tax due only if applicable.
- **MAY:** Sewer Assessment fee 1st installment due.
- **JULY:** Motor Vehicle, COVRRA and Personal Property single annual installment due. Real Estate 1st installment due.
We have been seeing a considerable increase in the number of foundation replacement permits this year now that the state of Connecticut has made money available to homeowners with crumbling foundation issues. To inquire about qualifying for reduced real estate taxes please call the Town of Coventry Assessor’s office at 860-742-4067. To seek testing reimbursement (which is required to file with the Assessor’s office as well as the state’s reimbursement program), contact Peter Huckins at 860-456-0782 or seek funding through the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG.org). The Community Development Block Grant program is responsible for assisting homeowners with this reimbursement, as well as low or no interest loans for home rehabilitation projects! Finally, there is a wealth of information that can be accessed through our town website (www.coventryct.org) and putting in a search for crumbling foundations.

Finally, fall is the time of year to pay some attention to the maintenance of your home. Woodstoves and chimneys should be checked and cleaned to assure a safe heating season. Call and schedule a cleaning of your furnace to prepare for the winter home heating season. Also, be sure to check smoke and CO detectors for proper operation. It’s wise to properly maintain any and all of these appliances in order to prevent falling victim to carbon monoxide poisoning or a lethal house fire. Some other maintenance projects that are good to focus on in the fall are cleaning out gutters (try using a silicone spatula to assist in cleaning them out. This won’t scrape up your gutters and still helps to remove unwanted debris), painting the outside of your home (even if it is just the trim work or a deck), and elongating down spouts to keep water from pooling near your foundation. Working on these projects will allow you to nestle in to your snug home for the winter season that is just around the corner.

**MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL CONCRETE FOUNDATION TESTING PROGRAM**

The Town of Coventry has been awarded funding for the purpose of providing core testing on concrete foundations throughout the Towns of Coventry, Ashford, Tolland, Willington, Columbia, Bolton and Union. The Concrete Foundation Testing Program is funded by a Community Development Block Grant from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development and administered through the CT Department of Housing.

Each eligible household will be offered a grant not to exceed $5,000 for up to four core samples. The Program is responsible for coordinating the testing between the homeowner and contractor. Once the testing is complete the Program will pay the contractor directly.

The Program is currently accepting applications from homeowners who meet the income guidelines of 80% or below median income. In order to determine your household’s income, certain income documentation must be submitted along with your completed application. In addition, the property to be tested must be in one of the seven towns listed above, built on or after 1983, and evidence of homeowner’s insurance must be provided. For your reference, the current income guidelines state that 80% of median income is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number in Family</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gross Annual Income</td>
<td>52,850</td>
<td>60,400</td>
<td>67,950</td>
<td>75,500</td>
<td>81,550</td>
<td>87,600</td>
<td>93,650</td>
<td>99,700</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Once a household is deemed eligible, the Program will notify the homeowner as to what their next step is.

The Program will not reimburse for core testing that has already been completed.

Funding will be returned to the State if it is not used and the Program will no longer be available.

If you have any questions or would like to request an application to the Program please contact the Program Coordinator, at 860-456-0782 or peterhuckins@charter.net. All information provided to the Program is kept confidential.
STATE OF CT DEEP - RECREATIONAL TRAILS GRANT PROPOSAL

In May, the Towns of Bolton and Coventry completed the work on an $110,632.99 grant from the State of CT DEEP to plan and design a potential multi-purpose, low impact trail on the properties that were obtained from the State of CT DOT for the RTE 6 Expressway as open space. The Towns worked with the consultant, The BSC Group, for nearly two years to prepare the feasibility study. The study is now available and can be viewed on the town’s website by visiting the Land Use Office page in the quick links section.

REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN

The Towns of Bolton, Coventry, Mansfield and Tolland recently initiated work to create a regional economic development action plan that provides guidance on steps the towns can take independently and collectively to find mutual success. The Towns have hired the CT Economic Resource Center as the consultant to assist with the creation of the action plan. The work is very timely as it can be incorporated into the revised Plan of Conservation and Development that is being prepared by a subcommittee of the Planning and Zoning Commission. Please contact Eric Trott at etrott@coventryct.org or 860-742-4062 for further information.

ARCHITECTURAL STUDY AT CAPRILANDS

The Town of Coventry has been awarded $20,000 by the State of CT Historic Preservation Office to conduct an architectural survey and assessment of the historic buildings at Caprilands.

DAVID HAYES SCULPTURES IN COVENTRY VILLAGE

The Town worked closely with the David Hayes family to bring four sculptures of David’s for an extended loan in Coventry Village. David was a world renowned sculptor who lived in town for many years, quietly creating amazing sculptures on his South Street property. He sadly passed away several years ago, but leaves an incredible legacy of art. The Town is honored to have the opportunity to showcase these sculptures at the following locations: pocket park at the corner of Main Street and Monument Hill Road, Mill Brook Place behind the Rusty Relic/Ackert Electric building, next to 1153 Main Street professional office building, and the Booth and Dimock Memorial Library. The sculptures were prominently featured in the Arts on Main Festival that was held on August 24 in the Village.

PLAN OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

A subcommittee of the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Director of Planning and Development are in the process of preparing an update to the Town’s Plan of Conservation and Development. The Plan serves as the primary resource to guide the Town for the next ten years in all aspects of municipal government. A community survey was conducted earlier in 2019 by National Citizen Survey to gain input from the citizens which will assist with the update to the Plan. The Community Livability Report is available on the Town’s website, which provides helpful insight on the results of the survey. Community visioning sessions will be conducted this Fall prior to the holiday season. The sessions will be an opportunity for the community to review and comment on various important sections of the Plan that relate to housing, economic development and the environment. Please visit the Town’s website for further details on when these sessions will be held or contact Eric Trott at etrott@coventryct.org or 860-742-4062 for further information.

BUSINESS NEWS

We welcome several new businesses to Coventry Village: Clancy’s HIIT and Fit, offering personal training and nutrition coaching at 1047 Main Street (above Coventry Laundromat); and Pizza on Main, offering pizza and Italian food at 1201 Main Street.

We are glad that Wicked Slice Pizza has reopened after a major fire last year. See their upgraded new space at 3466 Main Street at Vinton Village Plaza.

Cumberland Farms is getting the groundwork in place for a start of construction toward the end of September, with an opening planned sometime around the New Year.

The Economic Development Commission has toured the Charles Boggin Company on Bread & Milk Street and Teleflex on Main Street to get feedback on how the Town can help these two local businesses. Teleflex is hiring and is up to 81 employees, specializing in manufacturing surgical suture material. The Bogginis are flavor experts, manufacturing soda syrups for many bottlers and fountains. They are branching out into a new line of CBD products.

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[Image of sculpture installation]
**NEWS FROM THE BOOTH & DIMOCK MEMORIAL LIBRARY**

The Booth & Dimock Memorial Library will be very busy this fall! In September, we will be celebrating Library Card Sign Up Month with prizes, free lost card replacements, and fine-forgiveness! Make sure to stop by to register for a card if don’t already have one, or renew your existing card! On October 13th the library will be hosting Library Mini Golf, sponsored by Eversource. Come play 18 rounds of golf inside the library. Each ticket includes a round of golf, a slice of pizza from Wicked Slice, and a drink. There will also be a silent auction and other fun activities. Proceeds from this fundraiser will go towards improving the Library’s building. This fall we will be offering a variety of programs for children, teens, and adults, including storytimes, playgroups, craftnoons, book clubs, and more! Visit our website at [www.coventrypl.org](http://www.coventrypl.org) or follow us on Facebook @BDLibrary for details. Hope to see you soon!

**COMING EVENTS & NOTABLE ITEMS**

**Oct. 4—Quiet Corner Contra Dance:** Patriots Park Lodge, 172 Lake Street. Lessons at 7:45, dance at 8 P.M. Dance to caller & live music. Partner not necessary. Adults: $12, Students $6, under 12 free. First Friday of the month through June. Information: kondyi@charter.net or 860-742-9498.

**Oct 11—Famous Baked Fish Dinner:** 6 PM, First Congregational Church, 1171 Main Street. Second Friday of the month through June 6, $12. Sponsored by the First Congregational Church and American Legion Post 52. Information: 860-742-8487.

**Oct 10-11, 17-18, 24 & 25—Things that go Bump in the Night:** 7 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. $25; 90 CTL members. Reservations required at 860-742-6917.

**Oct 26—Halloween High Tea and Costume Fashion Show:** 4-7 PM, Mill Brook Place, 1267 Main Street. Individuals interested in modeling original Halloween costumes are being sought. Guests can sit at any of the eight specially-themed tables to enjoy the fashion show. Seasonal spooky music. Tickets $25 per person includes food and drink. Proceeds benefit the Coventry Arts Guild. For information, contact Deb at 860-966-8047.

**Nov 9—CT Veterans Day Patriot Race:** Opening ceremony, 9:45 AM, race start 10 AM. Patriots Park, 172 Lake Street. The event features a 4-mile certified race, a 3-mile walk, and a Junior Patriot Race for kids, along with other activities and military displays at Patriots Park in Coventry. The Young Marines organization will be in attendance and accepting new socks, t-shirts and toiletry items to donate to the homeless veteran shelters in Connecticut. For more information on being a participant, volunteer, donor, or sponsor: [www.ctveteransdayrace.com](http://www.ctveteransdayrace.com)

**Dec 7–43rd Annual PTO Craft Show:** 9 AM–3 PM, Coventry High School, 78 Ripley Hill Road. Over 50 crafters, luncheon, bake sale, music, take-a-chance table, holiday shopping. Admission $2, kids and students are free. Info: Catherine Alfano, 203-606-8999.

**Dec 8—Christmas in the Village:** 12–4 PM. Sponsored and coordinated by the Coventry Lions Club, the day includes a variety of holiday activities culminating with the arrival of Santa via the Coventry Fire Departments’ Holiday Torchlight Parade and the lighting of the Christmas Tree in Coventry Village. Many hands are needed to make this event happen. For information contact Cindy at 860-617-3588, Barbara at 860-803-7163 or Ruth at 860-918-5957.

**Dec 14—Wreaths Across America:** 12 noon, Coventry Cemetery. This year the Coventry Cemetery Commission will be accepting. Donations of $15 for a wreath for veterans in Coventry, Nathan Hale, Grant Hill, and St. Mary’s Cemeteries. Look for more information around town, on the town website and on the Cemetery Commission’s Facebook page.

**Order Daffodil bulbs for fall planting:** The Daffodil Beautification Project, sponsored by the Village Improvement Society, is now in its 26th year. This town-wide service project has resulted in approximately 374,395 daffodil bulbs being planted in Coventry! To order Dutch Master (all yellow) or Giant Mixture at $4.50 per dozen, call July at 860-214-9567.

Get monthly notices of upcoming events by subscribing to the Town’s e-blast. Visit the “Notify Me” section of the website at [www.coventryct.org](http://www.coventryct.org) and click the box next to “Coventry Community Update.”

**Comings & Goings and Staff Accomplishments**

Police Sergeant Jeff Spadjinske has been selected to attend the FBI National Academy after recently submitting an application. Seats in the National Academy are highly coveted and are selected based upon the applicant’s qualifications and needs of the agency. The FBI National Academy is a professional course of study for U.S. and international law enforcement managers, nominated by their agency because of demonstrated leadership qualities. The 10-week program includes coursework in intelligence theory, terrorism and terrorist mindsets, management science, law, behavioral science, law enforcement communication and forensic science. Selection is quite an honor and of great value to the department. Sgt. Spadjinske is the first member of the Coventry Police Department to be attending the Academy and will be enrolled from January 6—March 13, 2020. Congratulations and best of luck!

Congratulations also go out to Youth Services Coordinator Sneha Patidar on her recent wedding. She now goes by the name of Sneha Patidar L’Heureux, which is not a mouthful at all! We wish the happy couple all the best.

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**Library Mini-Golf**

OCTOBER 13, 2019
10 AM TO 4 PM
Tickets include 18 holes of golf, a drink, and a dessert.

[Image of a golf course with text about the event.]
FIRE/EMS UPDATE:

The Town of Coventry Fire-EMS Department is working hard at providing the best fire and EMS response to the residents of our community. Since January, a seven-member panel has been developing an organizational recommendation for the Town Councils consideration on combining fire and EMS services offered town wide. The current operation consists of two fire departments providing fire protection (north and south) while the Town provides for EMS responses. The goal is to combine our efforts and streamline services for improved delivery to our customers (you).

The transition team has developed a mission statement, a vision statement, and organizational chart and position descriptions for the leadership roles within a new department. An analysis consisting of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats have been considered in developing the recommendations to the council. The transition team has been charged with two phases of work. One, to develop a strategic plan. Two, to develop an implementation plan.

The strategic plan should be completed this fall. Once finalized, the plan will be presented to the council for consideration. Upon adoption of the strategic plan, the team will re-convene and develop an implementation plan with the ultimate goal of becoming one, unified, town wide Fire-EMS Department.

While the future of the Fire-EMS services is being developed, the ongoing day to day operations of our three organizations (North Fire – South Fire – EMS) continue to meet monthly and address operational issues. During the past several months, some responsibilities have already been combined to improve efficiency and accountability.

The Town has appointed an Interim Deputy Chief of EMS. Chief DJ Figiela has accepted the responsibility of managing the day to day operation of the EMS Division of the Town of Coventry Fire-EMS Department. With his team of officers, he manages the scheduling of volunteer EMTs for ambulance coverage, reviews reports, submits activity reports, orders supplies, coordinates vehicle maintenance, addresses changes to Statewide protocols so that our members are well informed, and so much more. His commitment to the Town is unmatched.

North Coventry Deputy Chief Chuck Beecher has offered to manage fleet maintenance of our Fire-EMS vehicles. He works directly with the Department of Public Works and contracted vendors to keep our fleet of vehicles ready for immediate response. This responsibility cuts out the middleman, making repairs and maintenance much more efficient and reduces downtime. Chief Beecher’s efforts are extremely important to the safety of our personnel.

Coventry Fire Chief Ken Boutin and North Coventry Fire Chief Bud Meyers are working together in coordinating leadership training for the members of their respective departments. By offering this joint training, the leadership will be developing the future together. The Chief’s work well together and are providing their members with guidance and direction for a positive future. Both Chiefs are to be commended for their time and energies dedicated to the Fire-EMS services in our community.

Two members (one from each organization) have been assigned to Communications for the Town. They share information about physical assets and needs. They will be repurposing gently used equipment in an effort to keep costs down without sacrificing personnel safety.

We are looking to combine our efforts in public education and safety through programs offered in conjunction with the schools, community events and especially during Fire Prevention Week in October.

This is just the tip of the iceberg in what is sure to be a great organization. We are lucky to have a group of talented, passionate, dedicated, resourceful and caring group of people serving our communities needs for Fire and EMS protection.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN US?

If you’re interested in becoming a member of the Fire-EMS Department, you can start by contacting our Fire Administrator for an application and interview. This is a great opportunity to serve your community and to meet some fantastic people.

James McLoughlin, Fire-EMS Administrator
Town of Coventry Fire-EMS Department
1712 Main St
Coventry, CT 06238
860-742-4064
jmcloughlin@coventryct.org
https://www.coventryct.org/138/Fire-Departments

FALL NEWS FROM THE COVENTRY LAKE ADVISORY & MONITORING COMMITTEE

It is now September and Coventry Lake is not as busy as it was this summer. We hope everyone enjoyed boating, swimming, fishing, and relaxing, enjoying all the beautiful sunsets and sunsets as well as the wildlife in the lake basin.

This summer was the 2nd season of using a systemic herbicide, fluridone, to treat the invasive aquatic plant, hydilla. The first treatment was Thursday, July 18 with 2 more treatments, one on August 28th and one in September (if needed). The annual September State of the Lake Forum on Tuesday, September 17, 2019 includes updates on the hydilla treatment, health of the lake, and a presentation on eagles in the Last Green Valley. If you missed the program please look for the presentations on the Town’s website at Coventry CT - Lake Advisory section.

Remember as you are putting away your boats and other aquatic equipment to WASH DRAIN DRY. This simple procedure is the recommendation from CT DEEP to help stop the spread of aquatic plants. A simple white vinegar solution is a good agent to wash your equipment with. Dry the items in the sun and everything will be ready for summer season 2020.

Join us on Facebook at Coventry, CT – Coventry Lake Community – Lake Wangumbaug or address questions to CoventryLakeAdvisor@CoventryCT.org.
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 2018 guides are available in our office during regular business hours.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:
Volunteer and serve your community by serving on a board or committee. The town is served by many volunteer boards and commissions. If you are interested in serving on a board or commission, please review the current vacancies and complete the Statement of Interest form online on the Boards and Commission page of the Town website at www.coventryct.org. Completed forms may be submitted online or to the Office of the Town Clerk. The Council Steering Committee reviews these applications and makes recommendations for appointment to the whole council.

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

TOWN CLERK’S OFFICE
860-742-7966
Hours: M-W 8:30-4:30, Th 8:30-6:30, Fr 8:30-1:30

OUR SERVICES
Being one of the most visited offices in the Town Hall, the Clerk’s office provides the link between the residents, the local governing bodies and the boards, commissions, and committees of town government. Our main functions are the recording, indexing and copying of land record documents and maps; vital statistics (births, marriages, civil unions and deaths); official repository of notices, agendas and minutes of the various boards, committees and commissions; election related matters including but not limited to the issuance of absentee ballots; answering various questions from residents; notarizing of documents; issuing of dog, marriage, civil union, sporting licenses; and receiving for record military discharges, trade name certificates and liquor permits. We also house and safeguard all of the Town’s permanent public records.

DOGS
*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 renewal letter mailed to you in May. 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 860-742-7966.

ELECTION DAY IS NOVEMBER 5, 2019:
This November, we will be electing the following Municipal Offices: Town Council, Board of Education, Board of Assessment Appeals, Zoning Board of Appeals, and Zoning Board of Appeals Alternates. Please participate on November 5th and exercise your right to vote. Absentee Ballots will be available in the Town Clerk’s office beginning October 4, 2019 upon proper application.

Get out and VOTE! Voting will be from 6:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
District 1: GH Robertson School District 2: Coventry Grammar School

Applying for Permanent Absentee Ballots: Pursuant to Public Act 12-57, individuals with permanent disabilities may apply for permanent absentee balloting status. This enables the elector to receive an absentee ballot for each election, primary and referendum in the municipality.

To be eligible, an elector must file an absentee ballot application together with a doctor’s certificate stating that they have a permanent disability and are unable to appear in person at their polling place. An ED-3, “Application for Absentee Ballot” and ED-3R, "Application for Absentee Ballot for Referendum Authorized To Be Held With Less Than 3 Weeks’ Notice" will be necessary if the elector wishes to vote at Budget Referendums and Adjourned Special Town Meetings not held in conjunction with an election.

The ballot for referenda held with less than three weeks’ notice cannot be mailed by law. You must pick up in person or indicate a designee on your application to pick it up at the Town Clerk’s Office for you.

File the completed documentation with the town clerk. Once received, absentee ballots will be sent out to the elector throughout the year for each event for which they would be eligible to vote.
LOTCP GRANTS
Folly Lane Bridge Replacement: Cardinal Engineering delivered Preliminary Design in July and review comments were generated by Capitol Region Council of Governments in August. Permitting process will start this fall and be completed early 2020. A Public Involvement meeting will be held in September following the preliminary design review submission to gather feedback from the public before the project moves forward.

Swamp Road @ Boston Turnpike Intersection Improvements: The Town has hired CDM-Smith out of East Hartford to do the design, permit processing and construction documents over the summer. The base mapping was completed in early August. Our 2nd Public Involvement meeting is expected in September. The Town is moving with the total acquisition of one house.

South Street Roadway and Pedestrian Improvements: There has been no change from the Spring newsletter. The Town is still awaiting CDOT’s Commitment to Fund authorization. The Town will react quickly once authorization is obtained. This project will be executed similarly to the two other LOTCIP projects.

CONNECTICUT CONNECTIVITY GRANT
Main Street Sidewalk Extension to Lisicke Beach: Survey base mapping was completed in the early stages of the summer. Preliminary design has only just started. A public involvement meeting will happen this fall after the preliminary design is completed for public input. Construction will happen in 2020.

STATE LOCAL BRIDGE PROGRAM GRANT
Jones Crossing Road Bridge Replacement: As of the end of August the replacement box culverts were installed. The finish work restoring the road will happen over the fall months and the road is expected to reopen to traffic by mid-October.

COVENTRY’S JONES CROSSING ROAD BOND
Jones Crossing Road Improvements: The Jones Crossing Road approach to the bridge were completed in advance of the bridge project. The road improvements for Mountain Ridge Drive project were completed in 2016 and will improve Jones Crossing Road to a consistent 26-foot width thru to Tolland Turnpike. Improvements will be made to the original section of Jones Crossing Road that continues to its termination at the Willimantic River.

Bye Bye Mattress is a mattress recycling program operating in California, Connecticut and Rhode Island. The program was established by law and is operated by Mattress Recycling Council, a nonprofit that uses a recycling fee collected on each mattress and box spring sold, making recycling easier in our communities.

- The fee collected per unit in Connecticut, as approved by the state, is $9. This fee applies to every mattress and box spring sold.
- Residents can drop-off their old mattress at no-cost at the Coventry Transfer Station on Main Street. They will no longer be picked up in the monthly bulk waste pickup.

The water main replacement project is in full swing over the summer by Connecticut Water Company (CWC). At the time of this report the following roads in the Northfield Development were completed and/or started:
- Forge Road – 80% Completed
- Ash Brook Drive – Not Started
- Oakwood Drive – Completed
- Fieldstone Lane – Completed
- Shady Lane – Not Started
- Northfield Road - Completed
- Brookside Lane – Not Started
- Brewster Street – Not Started
- Swamp Road – Underway

The work will continue into the fall. Traffic delays due to alternating one-way traffic during construction and the contractor’s execution of the work can be expected. You can also expect temporary gravel travel surfaces, followed by temporary pavement surfaces, and minor disruption to water service.

The 2019 bond referendum passed so the Town will be putting together construction contracts to redo the storm drainage collection basins so the roads can be reclaimed and paved in spring/summer of 2020.

TREE WARDEN: Planting, pruning or removal of trees within the Town Right of Ways (ROW) at roadside requires approval of the Tree Warden. State Statute requires a written request for permission to remove or plant trees in the ROW area. Unapproved work in the ROW is subject to fines and damages. The Tree Warden’s email address is mkiefer@coventryct.org. Do not use email to contact the Tree Warden for emergencies – call Public Works at (860) 742-6588 or the Police Department at (860) 742-7331.

A SHRED EVENT for residents is scheduled for September 28, 2019, 9 AM—noon at Coventry Public Works, 100 Olsen Farm Road.
DPW SUMMER ROAD PROJECTS

Cold in Place Recycling with 1.5 inch Hot Overlay - Capital Bond:
1.) Lewis Hill Road including (0.2 mi.) of Eastview Drive = 1.15 miles
**Total cost for Cold in Place Recycling (1.15 mi. X $260,900/mi.) = $300,000**

Roads to be Rubber Chip Sealed – Town Aid

Improved Roads:
1.) Daly Road (20% Rubber Chip Seal $4/sq. yd. X 23,750 sq. yd.) = **$105,000**

Roads to be Chip Sealed – Summer Roads Capital:
1.) Broadway, North Farms Road, Joshua Lane and Barbara Drive
2.) Satari, Zeya and Noor Drive
3.) Rabbit Trail (W. P.), Gable Road (A. C.)
4.) Sean Circle and Oak Leaf Drive
5.) Antrim Road and Lancaster Road
6.) Bishop Lane

Town forces will prep, make drainage repairs to prepare for the State Bid Chip Seal ($1.75/sq. yd. X 1000,000 sq. yd. = $175,000)

**Chip Seal to be completed during the 2019 (7 mi.) ......................... = $175,000**

Bituminous Shimming – Summer Roads Capital:
1.) Brigham Tavern Road
2.) Merrow Road
3.) Ridgebrook Drive
4.) Nathan Hale Road
5.) Nathan Hale Drive, Upton Drive and South Street Extension
6.) John Hand Drive, Knollwood Drive and Birchwood Drive
7.) Oak Leaf Drive

Portions of the above roads will be full width (both lanes) shimmmed 1.5 inches compacted in preparation for a Chip Seal final course. Town forces will prepare roads, make drainage repairs and cut keyways for all full width shimming to be done by State Bid Contractor. A total of 2000 ton of Class 2 bituminous asphalt will be put in place by State Contract @ $95/ton.

**Total Bituminous Shimming = $190,000**

Bituminous Cold Overlay with Double chip Seal – Capital Bond:

Violet Trail, Meadow Trail, Spring Trail, Laurel Trail, Birch Trail, Maple Trail, Forest Hills Drive, Dimock Road, Catalina Drive, Orcutt Road.

Roads will be graded and minor drainage improvements completed by Town DPW.

3 inch Cold Bituminous Asphalt Overlay (3,500 ton X $65.00/ton) = **$227,500**

**Total cost for Waterfront Manor Cold Overlay (1.75 mi.) .................... = $227,500**

Crack Seal – Summer Roads Capital:

Selected roads to be determined for Crack Sealing.
**20 miles of Crack Seal......................= $100,000**

**Total DPW Summer Road Projects = $1,097,500**

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

Contact Us:
Mike Ruef, WWTP Operator, 860-742-4064, email mruef@coventryct.org
www.coventryct.org: the link to the WPCA page can be found by clicking on Your Government > Boards & Commissions > Water Pollution Control Authority

Projects Update:
- Western Route 44 Sewer Planning Area: The WPCA has been working closely with the Town of Bolton to expand the sewer planning area for discharge into Bolton’s sewer system. CT DEEP’s initial stance for this planning area study was that pre-approval for the proposed sewer extension was not required. The State DEEP and Office of Policy and Management (OPM) recently changed their position to require a more thorough review of the planning area. The Town has submitted a “Scoping Notice” which CT DEEP will post on the Council on Environmental Quality-Environmental Monitor website in mid-August. Following the public comment period DEEP will decide if a public hearing and/or more in depth Environmental Impact Evaluation are necessary. Having sewers available could increase development potential which would generate tax revenue for the Town. The tradeoff is that installing sewers is a large upfront investment so we are proposing private funding by developers.
- Treatment Plant tank rehab: Biannual inspections of the underground tanks at the Plant have shown deterioration of the concrete walls and steel mixing mechanisms due to the corrosive nature of wastewater. There is no indication of “crumbling concrete”. We are having the concrete and steel tested by corrosion specialists in mid-September to determine if repairs or complete re-build are the best option.

Please Read Before You Flush:
- **Kitty Litter:** Town staff were notified that some folks on social media had suggested flushing kitty litter down the drain now that grocery stores in CT will tax or stop using plastic bags. Clumping kitty litter will definitely clog the pipes in your house, septic system, and Town sewer system, leading to sewage backups. “Flushable” litter might not immediately clog your pipes but cat feces often contain high amounts of the parasite Toxoplasma Gondii which is not killed in the wastewater treatment process and infects many marine mammals. Small plastic garbage bags (3-5 gallons) can still be purchased and are ideal for litter and other small garbage cans. There are also many biodegradable and compostable litter bags made from corn that are available at pet stores and online retailers.
- **Medications:** The US EPA and FDA have different opinions on how to best dispose of old medications. EPA says don’t flush any medications and the FDA says some are ok to flush but both groups agree that drug take back programs are the best option when available. Fortunately for us the Coventry Police Dept. sponsors a free drug take back program. The program is completely anonymous, you don’t have to talk to anyone, and there are no forms to fill out. Just drop them in the box in the Police Dept. lobby (no needles or liquids). Liquids should be mixed with dirt or coffee grinds, placed in a sealed container, and thrown in the trash.

Financial Assistance for Sewer Connections:

Low interest/deferred loans for sewer connections are available for households within the sewer service area that meet federal income guidelines. Contact Mike Ruef for details.
Transfer Station: 325 Main St.
Open April through November: Thursday noon – 6 pm & Saturday 9 am – 3 pm
Closed holidays. Proof of residency required.
Winter Hours Begin December 5, 2019: Thursday 10 am – 4 pm & Saturday 9 am – 3 pm

Materials acceptable with cost:
- Construction and demolition debris.
- Free of cardboard, metal and garbage.
- Land clearing debris; stumps & brush.
- Appliances with refrigerator $10 each, no weigh-in necessary.
- Tires – automobile size – on or off rim $5 each.
- Metal materials (tanks must be cut open and crushed)

Materials NOT acceptable:
- Garbage
- Grass clippings
- Furniture
- Hazardous waste

Commercial users must remember that the transfer station is not intended for commercial users although small repair/remodeling contractors doing work for Coventry residents may be allowed limited use to dispose of materials incidental to their work within the limits of the Town of Coventry. Proof of residency and building permits, as applicable, will be checked as part of normal facility operations to insure the facility waste stream remains residential in nature.

Recycled at Coventry Public Works facility:
- Car batteries, motor oil, transmission oil, #2 fuel oil, brake fluid, kerosene, gas cylinders, diesel fuel, anti-freeze

Textile Recycling is available in Coventry at the following three locations: the transfer station when it is open, next to the Annex behind the Town Hall anytime and Public Works on Olsen Farm Road anytime. Textiles can be donated in any condition as long as they’re clean and dry. Must be contained in bags.

Donate – Recycle – Don’t throw away

COVENTRY RESIDENTS MAY RECYCLE THEIR PAINT at the Regional Household Chemical Waste Drop-Off Facility at the Willington, CT 06279 Phone: (860) 684-3163
Open from 9 am to 2 pm on the first and third Saturday of the month from May 4, 2019 through November 2, 2019. Open September 7, 2019.

Prepare the materials by:
- Packing carefully in original containers only, seal and label
- Do not mix materials
- Drive carefully to prevent tipping
- No smoking while handling and transporting materials
- Residential limits of 10 gallons liquid and 100 pounds dry materials

As a Coventry resident you may bring residential quantities of hazardous waste to the facility at no cost but bring proof of residency. If you operate a small business in a Mid-NEROC town, then contact the MidNEROC Administrator at (860) 289-2296 to find out if you qualify as a “conditionally exempt small quantity generator” and to make an appointment. There is a fee for this service.

Chemical Waste is a problem! When hazardous wastes are poured down the sink or toilet, dumped “out back”, poured into a street drain or put out into the trash, they eventually make their way into our water supply. If you have doubt whether or not a material is hazardous you could call Public Works at (860) 742-6588.

Other FAQs:
- Medication: Do not flush down the toilet or drain. Many prescriptions may be disposed of at the Coventry Police Department (860) 742-7331.
- Asbestos: Double bag and seal this material. One cubic foot can be disposed with trash. For large quantities, contact an asbestos removal company.
- Explosives, fireworks, ammunition: Contact your state police barracks.
- Water reactive materials: For peroxides and metallic sodium, contact a licensed environmental contractor.
- Biologically active materials: Contact a licensed medical & infectious waste contractor.

For major cleanup projects, the current CVORRA contract for curbside pickup with All American Waste also includes pricing for 6 cubic yard dumpster for 30 days rental at $150 haul/$90 ton, 15 cubic yard dumpster for 30 days rental at $175 haul/$90 ton, and 30 cubic yard dumpster for 30 days rental at $175 haul/$90 ton. Additional rental after 30 days will be billed at $5 per day. Residents contract directly with All American Waste at (860) 289-7850. Be sure you specify you are a Coventry resident to get this contract rate.

Trash Holiday Schedule: All American Waste will observe the following legal holidays thereby altering curbside pickup accordingly:
- Thursday, November 28th – Thanksgiving Day
- Wednesday, December 25th – Christmas Day
- Wednesday, January 1st – New Year’s Day
FOOD BANK
If you are in financial crisis and in need of food, please call to schedule an intake and make an appointment to utilize the Food Bank.

Food Bank Regularly Scheduled Hours: Friday’s 8:30-11:30 am
*Emergency Appointments are scheduled on an “as-need” basis

We are always accepting donations and the need can vary by the month/season so check out our Facebook page or give us a call periodically for our needs and wants! We are always in need of cereal, juice, spaghetti sauces, peanut butter and jelly. We also need paper goods such as paper towels and toilet paper as well as personal hygiene items such as tooth paste, deodorant, soap, shampoo and conditioner.

****Please remember......check expiration dates as we cannot distribute expired items.

SALVATION ARMY
BELL RINGERS NEEDED
The Coventry Human Services Office and the Salvation Army are looking for “Bell Ringing” volunteers.

- 90% of the donations to the “kettle” remains in town for residents in need of assistance for utilities, housing, food, prescriptions, camp scholarships and the “Gearing up To Learn” program.

- Does your child need community service for school? This is a great opportunity!

- Call to volunteer as a Salvation Army “bell ringer” and make this a holiday tradition. Sign up will open in November.

- Just a few hours of your time is all it takes to help someone in need this year.

- Registration is done online. Contact the office for details on how to register.

HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT
860-742-5324

CONNECTICUT ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Energy Assistance program is designed to offset winter heating costs for low-income (below 60% of state median income) households.

What do I do if I want to apply for help? To apply for assistance, applicants must schedule an appointment and provide copies of required documents for all household members (ALL documentation needs to be brought to the appointment, if not the appointment will need to be rescheduled)- Please contact office for specific details. We strongly encourage applicants to make an appointment with ACCESS Agency or Coventry Human Services early as space is limited. Coventry Human Services will be scheduling appointments on Tuesday’s and Thursday’s beginning September 10th. Appointments will be rescheduled if proper documentation is not provided at the initial intake.

*Program follows CT Poverty Guidelines, please call the office to see if you qualify.

HOLIDAY “ADOPT A FAMILY” PROGRAM

If you are a family or individual in need of some help at the holidays, please call the office to schedule an intake.

HOLIDAY DONATIONS

The holidays are quickly approaching and there are many families and individuals who will benefit from your generosity at Thanksgiving and the Holiday Season.

- Donate food, canned goods, or fresh fruit and vegetables
- Donate toys, coats, mittens/hats and gift cards.
- Call for information on how you can “Adopt a Family” for the holiday.

Monetary donations can be made in lieu of food or gift item. Please mail your contribution to Coventry Human Services c/o the Town Hall, 1712 Main Street.

CLERGY FUEL FUND

Residents who wish to make a contribution to the “Clergy Fuel Fund” can mail their contribution to Coventry Human Services c/o “Clergy Fuel Fund”.

100% of the money raised is used to assist Coventry families in need of “emergency” fuel assistance once all other resources (ACCESS Energy Program and Operation Fuel) have been exhausted. We require proof of 1 out-of-pocket fuel payment.

Your contribution can make a difference this winter!

POSITIVE CONNECTION MENTORING PROGRAM: MENTORS NEEDED -

If you are a mature, responsible, well-rounded sophomore, junior and senior student who enjoys working with students, you may be interested in serving as a mentor. Beginning in November, this program meets every Thursday, during the school year from 2:30-4:30 at Robertson School. For more information or to apply, contact Youth Services.

YOUTH JOB BANK-
For Adults: Could you use some help with fall clean up? Need a babysitter; lawn mower, or other odd-jobs around the house done? Hire a student from the Youth Job Bank! Youth Job Bank students range in age from 12-18 years old and can assist with yard work services, clean homes, provide animal care, babysit and more!

For Youth: Any student in grades 7-12 interested in becoming a member of and getting job through the job bank should contact Youth Services or sign up on our Facebook page.

COMMUNITY SERVICE –
Human/Youth Services often has a variety of community service opportunities for students (holiday programs, bell ringing, etc.) in addition to numerous suggestions of other projects/agencies where students may obtain community service hours.

HOME ALONE SAFETY COURSE:
We have partnered with the Coventry Parks and Recreation to offer 2 more Home Alone Safety Courses on September 20th and October 4th. Stay tuned for more information regarding registration!

For more information on any of the programs listed above, please contact Youth Services Coordinator, Sneha L’Heureux at slheureux@coventryct.org or 860-742-5324.
The purpose of the Center is to provide adults 55+/year and older a welcoming, inclusive and supportive environment to participate in recreational, educational and wellness programming and to engage in our community. The Center is committed to these core principles, focusing on the integration of best practices in program development and continued community collaboration. We are here to meet the needs of our active adult citizens in Coventry. There is no membership and many of our events are low to no cost! Come enjoy a cup of coffee, read the newspaper, participate in folk singing or games in our beautiful lounge or exercise in our fitness room overlooking Lake Wangumbaug. Join one of our weekly fitness classes or sign up for one of our monthly luncheon programs! Check out our monthly Calendar of Events and Highlights on the Town’s website at www.Coventryct.org or “Friend” us on our Facebook page.

Monthly Health and Wellness Programming
- Join us for a meal with friends and neighbors with our Out to Lunch Bunch for a meal at a local restaurant the 1st Wednesday of each month.
- Get in those steps during our weekly group fitness class! Classes meet on Tuesday and Thursdays from 9:30-10:30am and is led by certified instructor, Mary Hurley. A mix of seated strength training and light cardio, this class is great for all levels! Fee: $3.00
- Yoga – Wednesdays at 3pm. Class led by local yoga teacher, Lindsey Sienkiewicz. All levels welcome! Yoga is widely regarded in the fitness world as the best in rest and relaxation. Fee: $6.00 per class, Punch Card or $8 drop-in fee.
- Have a health question? A wellness nurse from ECHN Visiting Nurse & Health Services of Connecticut is available monthly for FREE blood pressure or blood sugar checks, and to answer medical questions.
- Podiatry Foot Care from Colchester Foot Specialists is available quarterly by appointment. Dr. Anthony Morgan will be at the Center on 10/3 and 12/12/19.
- Hearing Appointments – Appointments available for hearing tests, hearing aid checks, cleanings and repairs and wax inspections with Audiology Concierge. The final clinic of the year is scheduled for October 16th. Call to schedule.
- Treat yourself! Schedule a pedicure or professional haircut during monthly ‘spa’ days with Hope or Amy the 2nd Monday each month. Fee: $15 payable at time of appointment.
- Massage and Reflexology appointments are now available twice a month with Tami or Michelle. Call to schedule your appointment, $22 for 30 min. appointment, payable at time of appointment the 2nd Thursday and 4th Monday each month.

Entertainment/Leisure/ Social Activities
Our groups are self-lead by a participant facilitator
Veterans Day Tribute – Wednesday, November 6th hosted by the Coventry Senior Center and American Legion Post 52 to honor and recognize our Coventry Veterans. Ceremony at noon followed by fellowship and lunch at the Senior Center.

NEW Veteran’s Coffee Hour – Please join us on October 4th at 9:30 at the Center for coffee and conversation to promote info sharing, camaraderie and benefits education and entitlements for Veterans. The coffee hour will be led by Paul Spedaliere, National Vice Commander, The American Legion. RSVP is appreciated.

Book Club – The group meets the 3rd Monday of each month from 1pm-2pm. Call the Center to see which book we’re reading and join us on:
- October 21 – A Gentlemen in Moscow by Amor Towles
- November 18 – H is for Hawk by Helen Macdonald
- December 16 – Still Life (Chief Inspector Armand Gamache #1) by Louise Penny

Folk Song Group – Meets each Tuesday, 10:30am-11:30am, singing folk songs popularized in the 1960s.

Crafternoon – 4th Wednesday of every month beginning at 10:00am. Cost: Free or nominal fee based on the craft. All levels welcome. RSVP is required.

Technology
Tech Monday – with Kayla
Have a question about your smartphone, tablet, iPad? Let Kayla, Reference Librarian from Booth & Dimock Library assist you with your questions here at the Center, 15 minute one-on-one appointments beginning at 10am the 3rd Monday of each month. Call to schedule.

CHOICES HEALTH INSURANCE COUNSELING
Medicare Open Enrollment is October 15-December 7 – and you have CHICES!
The annual Medicare Open Enrollment period is October 15 – December 7th. During this time any Medicare enrollee can change Medicare plans including Medicare Part D Drug Plans. For many individuals this is the only opportunity during the year to make coverage changes. The Coventry Senior Center is host to a certified CHICES counselor. CHICES is a FREE counseling program that helps Connecticut residents understand their Medicare coverage and other healthcare options. A CHICES counselor can help review Medicare documents, and insure that you are enrolled in plan that meets your healthcare needs, including Medicare Supplemental Plans, Medicare Advantage Plans and Medicare Part D Drug Plans. Additionally, counselors can also help enroll individuals into the Medicare Savings Program, which can assist in the payments of Medicare benefits.

If you would like to review your health insurance options, please call us to make a confidential appointment with a certified CHICES Counselor.

Please join us at the Center on Wednesday, October 23rd at 10am for an informational session on “What’s New with Medicare for 2020” presented by our certified CHICES Counselor. RSVP is appreciated.

AARP SAFE DRIVING COURSE
Wednesday, October 16th from 9am-1pm
172 Lake Street, Patriots Park

Offered by AARP Driver Safety, the nation’s 1st and largest refresher course designed specifically for older drivers. If you, your friends or family members may benefit from the course, we encourage you to take the opportunity 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 cards, $20 non-members. Pre-registration and payment is required.
COVENTRY BOARD OF EDUCATION: Jennifer Beausoleil, Chairman; Eugene Marchand, Vice-Chairman; William Oros, Secretary; Frank Infante; Mary Kortmann; Sean Gallagher; and Kelly Sobol.

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS: The Board of Education generally meets on the second and last Thursday of each month. The remaining regularly scheduled meetings for 2019 are as follows: September 26, October 10, October 30 (Wednesday), November 14, and December 12. Unless noted on the agenda, all meetings are held in the Administration Building Conference Room beginning at 7:30 p.m. and can be viewed on Channel 194. To watch previously recorded Board of Education meetings, please visit www.coventryct.viebit.com to access the Town of Coventry's Video On Demand Library.


WORKING PAPERS: All children under the age of 18, who have secured employment, are required to have “working papers.” To acquire these papers, the student must have a form of identification and verification in writing from their employer stating they have secured employment and bring them to the office at Coventry High School. You do not need to be a student at Coventry High School, only a resident of Coventry, to get working papers from the high school office. Should there be no one available at the high school, you may bring your information to the Superintendent’s Office. If there are any questions regarding working papers, please call the Coventry High School Main Office at 860-742-7346.

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER! As part of our ongoing efforts to connect to families and the community, you can follow Coventry Public Schools on Twitter. To follow us search for “@SchoolsCoventry.” Or, you can also connect to our account directly from our website at www.coventrypublicschools.org. Look for the Twitter symbol on the lower left hand side of the webpage. Be the first to know of school closing due to weather, an early release from school, or a delayed opening!

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES: Coventry schools want you! Come and be a part of our school community! Whatever your interest, if you would like to volunteer in the schools, please contact one of the four principals.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES: There are flexible hour and/or day schedules with a wide variety of experiences available. Teachers and paraprofessionals please contact Kelly Educational Staffing at 860-439-0081, and School Nurse substitutes please visit our website at www.coventrypublicschools.org for additional information. Cafeteria substitutes call Beth Pratt, Food Services Director, at 860-742-4535. Bus drivers/substitutes call Dave Dexter, Manager, at M & J Bus Company at 860-742-0344 for more information.

OPEN DOOR MEETINGS: Come meet with Superintendent of Schools, David J. Petrone, Ed.D. His ongoing practice is to meet with as many parents and members of our Coventry community as possible. Open communication is a key component for true collaboration. All of these informal gatherings will be held in the Administration Building Conference Room at 1700 Main Street. All parents and community members are invited to keep informed about education in our town by attending any of his Open Door meetings in the new school year. The dates for first semester of the 2019-2020 school year are:

- Wednesday, September 25 at 4:30 p.m.
- Monday, October 21 at 11:00 a.m.
- Tuesday, December 17 at 2:30 p.m.
2019-2020 Coventry Public Schools Calendar

Student Days = 182 / Staff Days = 187

August 2019
23 Staff Development
27 Staff Development
28 Students - Full Day

September
2 No School, Labor Day
4 CGS Open House
11 GHR Open House
18 CHS Open House
25 CNH Open House
25 HEEG Open House

October
14 No School, Columbus Day
15 No School, Staff Development
23-24-25 All Schools Early Release - Conferences

November
5 No School, Staff Development
27 All Schools Early Release
28-29 Thanksgiving Holiday

December
5 All Schools Early Release
Staff Development
23-31 No School December Break

January 2020
1 No School, New Year's
14-15-16-17 CHS Exam Schedule
20 No School, MLK Day
29 All Schools Early Release/ Staff Development

February
17 & 18 No School, Presidents' Day and Winter Break

March
13 All Schools Early Release
Staff Development
25-26-27 HEEG, CGS & GHR Early Release - Conferences

April
10-17 No School, Good Friday and April Break

May
25 No School, Memorial Day

June *
5 & 8-10 CHS Exam Schedule
10 All Schools Early Release - or last day of school
13 Graduation (tentative)

Grades PK - 5
Trimester Marking Periods & Report Card Distribution
Period 1 ends Nov 27 / Report Cards out on Dec 6
Period 2 ends March 10 / Report Cards out on March 17
Period 3 ends June 4 / Report Cards out on June 10

Grades 6 - 12
Quarter Marking Periods & Report Card Distribution
Period 1 ends Nov 1 / Report Cards out on Nov 8
Period 2 ends Jan 17 / Report Cards out on Jan 24
Period 3 ends March 27 / Report Cards out on April 3
Period 4 Grades 6-8 ends June 4 / Report Cards out on June 10
Period 4 Grades 9-12 ends June 10 / Report Cards out on June 22

* ALL June dates are tentative, based upon the number of days to be made up.

School Phone Numbers
Hale Early Education Center (preK).... 742-4550
Coventry Grammar School K-2 (CGS).... 742-7313
G. H. Robertson School 3-5 (GHR).... 742-7341
Capt. Nathan Hale School 6-8 (CNH).... 742-7334
Coventry High School 9-12 (CHS)..... 742-7346
Administration Building..................... 742-7317

BOE Approved: January 31, 2019

www.coventrypublicschools.org
Town Manager’s Report
John A. Elsesser (JElsser@coventryct.org)

We have been working hard on the many projects detailed in this newsletter. Here is some additional information on several additional projects:

- Working with Eversource, the Town, Board of Education and Library have entered into an agreement to replace lighting with LEDs and implement other energy-savings measures for all four fire houses, Booth & Dimock Library, the wastewater treatment plant, Coventry High School, and Capt. Nathan Hale Middle School. Applications are being submitted for the Grammar School and Robertson School. In all we will obtain over $400,000 in incentives from Eversource and the balance will be covered by zero-percent loans covered by the energy savings. Typically after three years of paying the same amount we pay today we start getting the dollar savings, but in the meantime use a lot less energy and have new and better lighting.

- Several smaller projects have been completed, including extending the sidewalk up Ripley Hill Road to the high school driveway, installing field drainage at the middle school softball fields, and adding a small vestibule to Mill Brook Place for energy savings and to protect the public from snow sliding off the roof. The parking lot at Miller Richardson Field was expanded and work has started to install an irrigation system for the major league field.

- Several bridge projects are underway. We have a grant for 100% of the replacement cost for Folly Lane Bridge and a different grant for 80% of Hop River Road Bridge (scheduled for 2020 and 2022 respectively).

- This fall we will start on catch basin repairs in the Northfield subdivision in anticipation of road reconstruction next summer.

- We are also submitting another application for Sustainable CT, hoping to obtain the Silver Certification level. We have also submitted a major renovation grant for $1.5 million for Orchard Hills and await an announcement for this very competitive grant. A small grant application was also submitted for a greenhouse next door to the Community Gardens at Camp Creaser.

- Special thanks to Adriana Mazza for constructing several bridges and benches for our open spaces as part of a Girl Scout Gold award.

Above, top: Drainage work at the middle school softball fields will help resolve wet conditions there. Bottom: Adriana Mazza constructed several bridges and benches for our open spaces as part of a Girl Scout Gold award.