



THE MANSFIELD MINUTE

FEBRUARY 2013

- *A.A.R.P. Tax Assistance at the Senior Center, call 860-429-0262 for more information.*
- *Town Hall will be closed on Monday, February 18, for Presidents Day.*
- *February is [American Heart Month](#).*



- *Call the Town Garage at 860.429.3676 between 7AM and 3 PM Mon-Fri to report a pothole, knocked-over guidepost, wash-out, etc. on town roads.*
- *Call Human Services at 860.429.3315 for information on the Homeowners'-Elderly/Disabled Tax Relief Program.*

BUDGET TIME: HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW TO STAY INFORMED.

Each year the town prepares an operating budget and capital improvement program. As we operate on a July 1—June 30 fiscal year, most of the key dates in the budget process occur in late winter and early spring.

In **February**, the Town Manager reviews budget requests, establishes priorities, and recommends budget allocations.

In **March**, the Town Manager presents a proposed budget to the Town Council.

In **April**, Town Council budget workshops, public information sessions, and public hearings are held. The Town Council adopts a budget.

In **May**, the budget is presented at the Annual Town Meeting, to be adopted by electors.

You have many opportunities to actively participate in the budget process by attending budget workshops, public information sessions and hearings, and voting at the annual town meeting. The **Citizen's Budget Guide** will be mailed to you by the beginning of April.

Mark your calendar with this list of upcoming meetings:

April 1: Council Budget Workshop

April 4: Public Information Session on Budget

April 8, 10, 15, 18: Council Budget Workshops

May 2: Public Information Session on Budget

May 14: Annual Town Meeting— where the proposed budget will be presented and voted upon.

Dates & times are subject to revision. Check www.mansfieldct.gov for updates & other meeting information.

STAY WARM, SAVE CASH

Why waste money and fuel when trying to stay warm this winter?

Mansfield has teamed up with the Neighbor to Neighbor Energy Challenge to make an energy assessment and upgrades like insulation easy and effective. For a \$100 co-pay you will get an energy assessment & in-home improvements.

Sign up at ctenergychallenge.com/hes.

SOLAR ENERGY GRANT

The town has been awarded a solar grant from the Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority (CEFIA). Mansfield residents will be able to purchase or lease a photovoltaic system for a significant discount. If you have been interested in solar energy, but haven't had the money to fund an installation, this is your opportunity!

Visit www.solarizect.com to sign up to receive more information as it becomes available.

MANSFIELD HAPPENINGS



February 2013

- Feb. 7 — 7 PM **TECHability: Microsoft Word Made Easy AT THE LIBRARY**
Learn the basics of Microsoft Word. Time permitting, we may even talk about some Word alternatives like Google Docs and LibreOffice.
- Feb. 8 — 7 PM **Father/Daughter Valentine's Dance AT UCONN's ROME BALLROOM**
Sponsored by the Mansfield Parks and Recreation Department.
- Feb. 8, 9, 10 **Watch a Play AT E.O. SMITH HIGH SCHOOL**
Our award-winning Drama Club will present the Broadway hit musical *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* on Friday, Feb. 8 at 7:30 PM; Saturday & Sunday at 1:30 PM. Tickets are \$12, \$10 for students & seniors.
- Feb. 10 — 3 PM **Playground Benefit Concert AT STORRS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**
The acclaimed a cappella ensemble *Take Note!* will be performing to support the creation of a community-built, accessible playground. Donations accepted at the door.



Don't let cold temperatures keep you inside! The Mansfield Downtown Partnership, the Parks and Recreation Department, and Storrs Center invite you to head downtown for **WINTER FUN WEEK** from February 1 through February 10.

We've got a full schedule with everything from arts to sports, from scholarly talks to wintery walks! Some are free, some require tickets, and all are FUN! Click [here](#) for a brochure of events.

- Feb. 12 — 4 PM **Valentine Crafts AT THE LIBRARY**
Make sparkly Valentines for the ones you love. Free, no registration required.
- Feb. 19 — 2 PM **Asian Tales AT THE LIBRARY**
Join story teller Mary Jo Maichak as we celebrate the lunar new year. Free, no registration required.
- Feb. 23 — 2 PM **Gluten-Free Diet Presentation AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER**
Martin Porebski will present information on Gluten Free Food and the fundamentals of a gluten free diet. Free, no registration required.

Looking Ahead:

Vendors and crafters needed for the Senior Center's Crafts & Collectibles Fair on Sat. March 23, 9AM-2PM. \$20 per vender/table. For information on table rental, call Estelle at 860-429-1685, or Beverly at 860-456-2570.



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