



# THE MANSFIELD MINUTE

JUNE 2013

[www.mansfieldct.org](http://www.mansfieldct.org)

- Summer fitness and aquatics classes begin June 17 at the Community Center.
- Last day of classes for Mansfield schools is June 25.
- Visit the Storrs Farmers Market Saturdays, 3-6 PM, on the lawn in front of Town Hall.
- Participate in [Mansfield Tomorrow](#).
- Dig into Reading at the Library's summer reading program June 21 6-7:30 PM with a Garden Gnome Party!
- Run, walk or stroll to support the Mansfield Community Playground! June 8, 8:30AM.
- Family Fun Night at the Community Center, Friday, June 7, 6-9 PM.

## 2014 Budget Passed with a Small Increase Mill Rate to be Determined

On Tuesday, May 14, 2013, the Town of Mansfield held its Annual Town Meeting for Budget Consideration. At the meeting, the Town Council presented its proposed budgets for Fiscal Year 2013/14: General Fund budget of \$45,488,844 (including the Region 19 contribution of \$10,005,514), a Capital Fund budget of \$2,285,290 and a Capital Nonrecurring Fund (CNR) budget of \$1,194,860.

The voters elected Ronald Schurin to serve as moderator. Mr. Schurin recognized Finance Committee Chair Bill Ryan, who reviewed the General Fund Budget including the general government expenditure trends and cost drivers. Mr. Ryan also discussed the highlights of the proposed Capital Fund and the Capital Non-recurring Fund budgets. In summary, Mr. Ryan noted the tax impact on the median single family residence would be an increase of about 1.03 mills or about a \$175 tax increase for the year, for a total percentage increase of 3.81%. The Council has decided not to set the mill rate until the state revenue picture becomes clearer.

Mr. Schurin also recognized Board of Education Chair Mark LaPlaca to review the Mansfield Board of Education budget. Mr. LaPlaca noted that the proposed budget would mark the fifth year in a row with no increase in the Board's budget. The Board of Education voted to support its original budget but members are concerned about the impact of the proposed education budget.

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John E. Jackman  
Tour de Mansfield

SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 2013

(RAIN DATE: SUNDAY, JUNE 23)

- 7:00 AM - Registration
- 8:00 AM - 40-Mile Ride Starts
- 9:00 AM - Bike Rodeo Starts
- 9:30 AM - 20-Mile Ride Starts
- 10:00 AM - 5-Mile Family Ride Starts
- 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM - Lunch

REGISTER ONLINE:

[www.mansfieldcc.com](http://www.mansfieldcc.com)

FOR MORE INFO:

860.429.3015

There was an amendment to the General Fund budget to add \$200,000 to the Mansfield Board of Education budget. The motion was seconded. There were several people who spoke in favor of this amendment; no one spoke against the amendment. Councilor Ryan clarified that this amendment would add two tenths of a mill to the projected mill rate. The amendment passed on a voice vote.

The vote on the resolutions to adopt the budget was conducted by paper ballot. The voters at Town Meeting adopted the proposed budget as amended, with 151 in favor and 37 opposed.



### A Major Award!

The Mansfield Downtown Partnership has been awarded the 2013 Award of Excellence: Economic and Business Development from the CT Main Street Center. The Partnership was recognized for its efforts in retaining and relocating Mansfield businesses affected by the development of Storrs Center. The Connecticut Main Street Awards

### Town Hall Hours:

Monday	8:15-4:30
Tuesday	8:15-4:30
Wednesday	8:15-4:30
Thursday	8:15-6:30
Friday	8—12

annually celebrate and communicate the most successful and innovative efforts in Main Street revitalization in CT. Submissions were judged on criteria which included innovation, replication, representation, partnerships utilized, and outcomes.

### Puppets on the move.



The [Ballard Institute and Museum of Puppetry](#), part of UCONN's world-

renowned puppet programs in the School of Fine Arts, will relocate to a more accessible exhibition and performance space that is part of the new branch of the UConn Co-op at Storrs Center. This move will provide for an expanded space for one large exhibition or two smaller simultaneous exhibitions. "This will offer the bookstore customer/museum patron a unique environment that they will want to experience again and again. We can't wait," says William Simpson, President and Chief Operating Officer of the UConn Co-op.

### Time for a Swim!

The summer season at Bicentennial Pond begins on Sat., June 22. Season passes can be purchased at the Community Center. A 4-person resident pass is \$20, a 6-person pass is \$25. Non-resident passes are also available. Public swimming hours are Mon.-Fri., Noon-7 PM and Sat & Sun., Noon-6 PM.

### Solar Open House Tours

June 9, 10 AM—2 PM

Visit homes with solar power and hear first hand what your neighbors have to say about their solar experience. Learn about the [Mansfield - Windham Solarize](#) program, making solar easy and affordable.

- Sheldon Household, 447 Woodland Rd, Mansfield
- Perkins Household, 920 Storrs Rd, Mansfield
- Milius Household, 148 Chaffeeville Rd, Mansfield
- Girshick household, 93 Ivan Hill St, Willimantic
- Gaza household, 319 Scotland Rd, Windham
- Devivo Household, 53 Oak Hill Dr, Willimantic.

### Fire Prevention and Safety

*Here are some tips for those summer barbecue parties!*

- Inspect cooking equipment—you know, your grill!—prior to use and keep at least 10 feet from combustibles and structures.
- Safety with bonfires. Keep the area clear and safe. Always supervise the fire, and make sure it is properly extinguished when you are done.
- Clear vegetation around your home.
- Use and dispose of smoking materials properly. Don't throw that butt into the tall grass!
- No illegal fireworks.
- For information on brush fires please see the [Town's Open Burning Ordinance](#).



# Mansfield New & Noteworthy

## Make sure your dog is licensed!

All dogs 6 months of age and older are required to be licensed by **June 30th** of every year. A Rabies Certificate is required for licensing. Neutering or Spaying Certificates must be presented if applicable.



A low cost rabies clinic sponsored by Northeastern CT Animal Rescue will be held on June 8th at the Eagleville Fire House on Rt. 32, 10AM to Noon.



## Summer Pool Safety

Any pool or structure intended for swimming or recreational bathing that can hold at least 24 inches of water is regulated by the Building Code.

***You must get a permit before you install anything!***

This includes storable pools (typically blue vinyl) of a temporary nature. You must have a safety barrier for this kind of pool, just the same as if it were a permanent above ground or in-ground pool. The barrier will often cost more than the storable pool. Feel free to speak with someone at the Building Department (429-3324) before buying a pool, so you will know about the code requirements and permit process.

Yes, it can be inconvenient, but let's be SAFE.



## Mansfield Tomorrow Community Open House

Drop in for the first public review session, and you can comment on the proposed Vision Statement, draft Agriculture, Economic Development and Housing Strategies, and concepts for the Planned Development Areas. Here's another chance to have your say— we hope to see you there! We are working to make Mansfield the best it can be.

**Tuesday June 18th, 2013**

**4:00 PM-9:00 PM**

**Mansfield Library, Buchanan Center Auditorium  
54 Warrenville Road, Mansfield, CT 06250**

## Hooray for the Playground!

The Jeffrey P. Ossen Family Foundation has awarded \$200,000 to benefit the [Community Playground](#). This support takes us closer to our goal of working together as a community to create a place for families with young children of all abilities to meet and build connections. Hooray!!! You're invited to come celebrate with us on June 8 from 10AM-1PM (in conjunction with the 5K Run for the Playground) at the Community Center. We'll have cake!



## A NEW CLUB FOR BABY BOOMERS

The Parks and Recreation Department is starting a Boomers Club. They've already planned some far out activities for the older crowd:



**Saturday, June 8, at 1 PM.**

**Take a dog-friendly hike on the Nipmuck Trail.**

Meet at the trail head on Puddin Lane. We will hike about 2 miles in to Wolf Rock and out again. We'll have dinner, if you like, at a local restaurant after the hike. Everyone is welcome. No need to pre-register.

**Thursday, June 20, 5:30 PM.**

**Kayaking on the Willimantic River.**

Meet at River Park on Plains Road at 5:30. We will paddle down to the Eagleville Dam and back to River Park. No need to pre-register for the paddling part. But, if you don't have your own kayak, you can rent one for \$5 at the Mansfield Community Center (reservation required).

Please contact [Bette Stern](#) if you're 55 or older and are interested in some adventure and physical activity with the Boomers Club. Peace.

## Neighborhood Assistance Program

The Mansfield Town Council will hold a public hearing at 7:30 PM at their regular meeting on June 10 to solicit comments regarding potential applications to the [Neighborhood Assistance Program](#).

Program ideas include water harvesting at the community center, energy efficiency assistance for low/moderate income homeowners, community playground construction, and the preservation of agricultural land.

# Summer time happenings in Mansfield!

The [Mansfield Historical Society](#) (429-6575) is open Saturday and Sunday afternoons from 1:30-4:30, from June 2 through the end of September. This year's exhibits include: The CT Soldiers' Orphans' Home; Mansfield During the 1950s; Fashion Accessories from the mid-1800s; and The Village of Gurleyville. *Don't miss June 2 opening day activities for kids!*

**The Parks and Recreation Dept.** (429-3015) has many classes, programs and activities for young children. Check the [Summer 2013](#) brochure sent to every household for information about summer camps, community gardens, pool (and other) parties, rentals of kayaks and backyard game equipment, *fee waivers for eligible Mansfield residents*, and so much more!



## Glen Ridge Community Open House

In the Community Room.  
11 Sycamore Drive, Storrs,  
Sunday, June 9, 2 to 4 PM  
Come visit our beautiful adult community and meet many of our members enjoying life with friends and neighbors.



Refreshments will be served. Please call 860-429-2202 with any questions.

Town of Mansfield, Connecticut Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building  
4 South Eagleville Road, Mansfield, CT 06268  
mansfieldct.gov 860.429.3336



## The Mansfield Public Library June Programs



*Dig Into Reading*  
**Garden Gnome Party**  
Friday June 21,  
6:00-7:30 PM  
Gnomes get up to all sorts of fun! Join us, no need to sign up.

**Learn with the Didgeridoo**  
Tuesday, June 25 at 7:00 PM  
recommended for ages

### 5 and up

*Let the entrancing sounds of the Australian didgeridoo take you back to ancient times. Funded by the CT Humanities Council.*



**On the Wild Side: Exploring the Flora and Fauna of The Last Green Valley.** A program for adults on June 27 at 7:00 PM.

**Make a drum with Educators from CRRA's Trash Museum**  
Friday, June 28, 2:00-3:00 PM  
*Make music with your own drum made from recycled materials. For all ages. Funded by the CT Humanities Council.*



The [Storrs Farmers Market](#) is open 3-6PM Saturdays from May 4-Nov. 23, in the Town Hall parking lot.



SUPPORT LOCAL FARMS!

## Run for the Mansfield Community Playground

Saturday, June 8



[Participate](#) in our first 5K Fun Run, Walk, or Stroll! Kids' races will start at 9 AM on the E.O. Smith High School track. The 5K will start and end at the Community Center, beginning at 10 AM.

## Mansfield Senior Center

### Senior Van Day Trips!

Interested? Sign up with the Senior Center receptionist.

**"How to Advocate for Medicare and Yourself: What You Need to Know!"** at the William J. Pitkin Community Center in Wethersfield on Thursday, June 13th. Van will leave at 8AM sharp. A free breakfast is provided.

**Visit lovely, beautiful, colorful Elizabeth Park** in West Hartford on Thursday, June 20th. All those wonderful roses! Lunch to follow at the delicious Vernon Diner! Van departs at 9AM.



### Thursday Night Extravaganza!

on June 6 (sign up by June 3). One slice of free pizza, salad, coffee or tea at 5:30 PM, followed by the band **Seldom Heard**.



### Conversation With Betty

Thursday, June 13th at 11:00 AM.  
This month's discussion is: "Aging: How I'm Dealing with It." Everyone welcome for this friendly, lively discussion. Please call Betty at 860-429-6324 if you have any questions.