



THE MANSFIELD MINUTE MARCH 2014

www.mansfieldct.org

- *Council Budget Workshop - Budget Presented to Town Council, Monday, Mar. 24, 6 PM, Council Chambers, Beck Building.*
- *Council Budget Workshop, Thursday, Mar. 27, 6:30 PM, Council Chambers, Beck Building.*
- *Mansfield Schools will be closed March 31.*
- *March 4—Members of the Community Center can begin to register for spring aquatics and fitness programs.*
- *March 9—Mansfield Residents can begin to register for all spring programs and summer camps*
- *March 14—Non-residents can begin to register for all spring programs and summer camps.*
- *Looking ahead— don't miss the famous Friends of the Library Book Sale on the weekend of April 5 & 6.*
- ***Prepare For Disaster***
Free training in basic fire suppression, wound treatment, home & work safety, disaster psychology, search & rescue, & more. At the Community Center starting April 2.
OEM@MansfieldCT.org
860.429.3328

Mansfield Tomorrow

Preserving Our Rural Character, Planning For The Future

In January 2013, the Town kicked off an exciting new initiative: Mansfield Tomorrow. The goal of this project is to help us set a course for the coming decades, a framework through which we can manage future change and maintain our rural character while providing access to the jobs and homes that are the foundation of the town's long-term sustainability. Over the last year, many Mansfield residents have shared their vision for the future and helped to craft new strategies for supporting agriculture, growing businesses, strengthening neighborhoods and improving housing choice.

This community input has formed the foundation for a new comprehensive plan that builds on principles established in the 2006 [Plan of Conservation and Development](#) and the 2008 [strategic plan](#), *Mansfield 2020: A Unified Vision*. The Mansfield Tomorrow Plan will be published for public review and comment in Spring 2014, with public hearings anticipated in June. Until then, check out the vision statement that has been developed based on the goals and aspirations expressed by the many Mansfield residents that have taken part in Mansfield Tomorrow to date:



Our Vision...

In 2035, the Town will be a community of historic rural villages, flourishing farms, and protected open spaces, and the home of the University of Connecticut's flagship campus. Through a [smart growth](#) approach, Mansfield will accommodate growth in designated areas of compact development, avoiding sprawl and preserving rural character. The compact development areas include a vibrant town center and neighborhoods with diverse housing adjacent to campus, attractive mixed-use centers at Four Corners and in southern Mansfield, as well as room for innovation businesses in the mixed use areas, at Perkins Corner and the Depot Campus area. These areas will provide compact *Continued on page 2...*

Mansfield Tomorrow, cont. from pg. 1...

and walkable locations for growth. Outside of these designated areas, Mansfield will promote rural character and rural pursuits, including agriculture and natural open space.

We are committed to supporting diversity, sustainability, economic viability, an excellent public school system, and a high quality of life and sense of community for all residents. These commitments are reflected in our community institutions such as our library, schools, recreational programs, and town events. We value our natural resources and our cultural and historic heritage. Our goal is to pass them on to future generations. As the university's host community, our town has a mutually beneficial and respectful relationship with the university as an institution and as a campus and academic community rooted in Mansfield. As we look to the future, we are guided by community values and aspirations:

 Principles of **sustainability**, including green building, energy- and resource-efficiency, and smart growth guide development and Town policies, making Mansfield a leader in Connecticut.

 We are **resilient**, safeguarding our values while adapting to the future challenges of climate change.

 We are **good stewards** of our natural and cultural heritage, working to preserve a clean, green and healthy community with open space lands that support wildlife, recreation, clean air and water resources in connected networks. We value the homes and other buildings built by previous generations and adapted to contemporary uses in order to preserve our historic heritage.

 Our **economic viability** is based on technology- and research-based businesses, local retail and services, a growing agriculture and recreational business sector, and university-affiliated activities. We welcome businesses that are aligned with our smart growth development patterns and rural character, while helping to support Town services.

 Our public education system, recreational opportunities, and community events offer unparalleled **quality of life** to residents.

 We promote **transportation alternatives** to the car through our networks of walking routes on sidewalks and trails, and bicycle routes, both on-street lanes and multi-use trails, and through innovative trip-sharing opportunities.

 We support **diversity** through a variety of attractive and affordable housing choices for people throughout

the life cycle, from single young adults and couples to families, empty-nesters and retirees.

 Town residents who need **supportive** services to meet social, economic, and emotional needs find that Mansfield is a resource.

 Our **sense of community** on the neighborhood and town level is enriched by a variety of village, school, and joint town-university activities.

 We pursue **high standards of quality** in design and development.

 We work with our **neighbor communities and regional partners** to foster communication and collaboration.

 We promote **communication, transparency, and community participation** in town decision making.

Combining enjoyment of rural character and the benefits of a university community, Mansfield in 2035 will be a place of environmental stewardship, active farming, advanced learning, innovative businesses, walkable villages, rural settlements, and natural beauty.

Stay Tuned...

We will be having a community event in May to present the draft Mansfield Tomorrow Plan and get community feedback. For more information or to sign up for email updates, please visit www.mansfieldtomorrow.com.



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

Truck It Away...to the Transfer Station *No truck? No problem!*

Wouldn't it be nice to have a pick-up truck when you need to haul something big to the transfer station? Well, now you do!

The Town, together with UCONN, has contracted with [Hertz 24/7®](#) to offer an hourly car share program both on- and off-campus. If you are a Hertz 24/7 customer, you can use the Toyota Tacoma pick-up truck or a plug-in electric Chevrolet Volt. They are located in the Town's parking garage at 33 Royce Circle in Storrs Center.

You must have a valid driver's license and create a profile online or on the mobile app. It's free to enroll. The per hour rate for using a Hertz 24/7 vehicle is between \$8 and \$9, which includes fuel (or charging for the Volt), insurance and 24 hour roadside assistance.

Once you enroll in Hertz 24/7, you will get a smart chip enabled membership card or key fob within three business days. This will provide round-the-clock keyless entry to any car in the Hertz 24/7 fleet. An in-car screen pad and Bluetooth system connects drivers to a Customer Care Center representative should you have questions while on the road or need to extend your rental. The in-car technology also enables Hertz 24/7 to communicate with the vehicle, so that representatives can unlock, engage and locate vehicles at any time. These technologically advanced cars are also equipped with Hertz NeverLost® in-car navigation systems and EZ Pass toll transponders.

To enroll in Hertz 24/7, visit www.hertz247.com or download the iPhone app. Then you can haul that big old thing out of the back yard...or try out the Volt just for fun!

Need Help With Your Tax Forms?

People from AARP will be at the Senior Center to help you on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9-11 and 1-3. A.A.R.P. Tax-Aide, a free program, provides income tax preparation assistance for low and middle income taxpayers of all ages, with special attention to those 60 and older.

Call the Senior Center at 860-429-0262, ext. 0, to schedule an appointment with a certified Tax-Aide counselor. Walk-ins are welcome.

Calling All Artists



The Mansfield Downtown Partnership will be hosting a new series of events this summer and fall.

The **Square Fair** will take place on the fourth Friday of each month from May through September in Dog Lane in Storrs Center. The events will take place from 5—9 PM.

The **Square Fair** will feature local artists and makers selling their creations. Come downtown after work, meet your friends for dinner, and then stroll through the booths to find unique pieces of art!

Artists are invited to apply for a booth at one or more event. To request an application, please contact the Partnership via [email](#) or call 860.429.2740. The application is available on the Partnership's website in the [Events](#) section.

The Senior Center is hopping...

There will be a **Financial Awareness Seminar** presented by Webster Bank on Tuesday, March 11, at 11AM. Learn how to be more financially aware. This program is geared to people 55 years and up. Come and learn these important financial tips.

Learn the **Ins and Outs of Homecare** on Tuesday, March 4, at 11AM. A presenter from Interim Health Care will be providing the most up to date information about getting assistance in your home.

The UCONN Urban Service Track will present **Immunization Education** on Wednesday, March 26 at 12:45PM. This will be an interactive program based on a popular game show. Come and join in the fun while learning about immunizations.

All programs listed above are free, and no registration is required. Join us!

Senior Van Trips

Call 860-429-0262 to register for these popular trips.

Tuesday, March 1: Ride to the Bristol Senior Center for lunch and dancing. Price \$4.50. Van leaves at 11AM, returns at 4PM. Sign up by 3/7/2014.

Tuesday, March 26: We are going to the New Britain Museum of American Art for the American Typewriter exhibit.

\$10.00 admission. Van leaves at 10:30AM, returns at 4PM. Sign up by 3/24/2014.





March Events and Activities in Mansfield

Parks and Recreation

March 1st/2nd – Watch your mail for your copy of the Spring Brochure. Inside you'll find many activities, trips, and programs for all ages. There is also a lot of information about various camps sponsored by the Parks and Recreation Dept.

Parents' Night Out

Saturday, Mar. 15, 3:30-7:30 PM
Drop off your children for an early evening of supervised fun for the kids and time out for parents including games, crafts, age-appropriate movies, pizza and more. Early registration is encouraged. \$20 per child (max \$40 per family).

Free Day at the Community Center

Friday, Mar. 21, 6:30-9:30 PM
Whether you're new to the community center or have been here often, if you're a Mansfield Resident you can visit for FREE. Proof of residency may be required.

Recreation Rescue

Monday, March 31
This one day camp includes creative games, activities and a trip. Detailed flyers will be distributed through the schools in early March. For children in grades K-8.



Mansfield Public Library

Real to Reel

Mondays, Mar. 10, 17 & 24
1-4 PM

Come and enjoy this intriguing series of award winning films. The series theme is LOVE ... as in a many splendored thing. Each session includes insights on media, handouts, group discussion, brief lectures and a closing reflection of music and collage. Sponsored by the UConn League. Free, no registration required.

Roger Tincknell: Children's Songs & Singing Games

Saturday, Mar. 15, 10 AM
Roger Tincknell brings his collection of musical instruments for a festive program of songs and singing games from around the world. Kids get a chance to play percussion instruments and everyone is encouraged to sing and dance along during this lively program. All ages are welcome.

Parent POP

Saturday, Mar. 22, 10AM – 12PM
Calling all Parents!

Join Jeff Smithson for a fun-filled morning devoted to the Power of Play. [Jeff](#) will show parents how to use movement and body language to tap into their innate creativity, improve their self-expression and enhance family communication.

Don't miss this fun and creative opportunity. PLEASE SIGN UP IN ADVANCE by emailing Kathleen Krider (kriderk@mansfieldct.org). Child care available.

Mansfield Senior Center

Herrmman Blood Pressure Clinic
Wednesday, Mar. 5

11:30 AM

For people 55+ years of age on a first come first serve basis. Free, no registration is required.

Reiki

Thursday, Mar. 6, 9AM - Noon
Bette Giordano leads a one hour session for \$30. Call for an appointment, 860-429-0262 ext 4.

Low Vision Support Group

Monday, Mar. 10, 11AM.
This is a facilitated support group for people who are impacted by vision loss. Pre-registration is encouraged but not required. Call 860-429-0262 ext. 4 for more information.

Caregivers Support Group

Thursday, Mar. 20, 6:30PM
This is a facilitated support group for people who are impacted by the responsibilities of caring for someone. Pre-registration is encouraged but not required. Call 860-429-0262 ext. 4 for more information.

Wii Bowling

Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 10AM and Thursday afternoons at 2:30PM. A fun group and an easy way to exercise!



More Senior Center programs and van trip information inside!

Town of Mansfield, Connecticut
Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
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mansfieldct.gov 860.429.3336

