



THE MANSFIELD MINUTE APRIL 2014

www.mansfieldct.org

Informational Meeting

UConn/Mansfield
Water Project Update

**March 31, 6PM
at the Community Center**

- *Grand Opening of the Nash Zimmer Transportation Center, April 14, 10AM.*
- *Town Hall will be closed on Friday, April 18.*
- *Mansfield Schools will be closed April 14-18.*
- *Don't miss the Friends of the Library Book Sale on April 5 & 6.*
- *The Town Fiscal Year 12-13 annual report is available online at www.MansfieldCT.gov Hard copies of the report are available at the Town Hall in the Town Clerk's Office, Community Center, Senior Center and Library.*
- *The Town Manager's Proposed Budget for 2014-2015 is available online and paper copies are available at the Library and the Senior Center.*
- *Mansfield home owners recycle 37% of their waste. Look for the new collection trucks—they pick up both trash and recyclables at the same time.*

Nash-Zimmer Transportation Center Opening Soon

Yes, you can get there from here...

Work is nearing completion on the new Nash-Zimmer Transportation Center located in the Storrs Center development. Buses have already started servicing the Center. Our **Grand Opening will be held April 14 at 10 AM**, when weather is warmer and the Center is fully operational. The Nash-Zimmer Transportation Center was envisioned as a central transportation node for the surrounding community. Its connection to UConn Transportation, Windham Region Transit District (WRTD), and Peter Pan buses allow both local and regional residents to easily cross between different modes of transportation. This gives residents of Mansfield, the University of Connecticut, and regional towns direct access to bus service into Hartford, Providence, New York, and Peter Pan connections in those cities.

When the Center is fully open, bike lockers and shower facilities will also be available at a small quarterly fee for bicycle commuters. The Nash-Zimmer Transportation Center also has public bike racks and a bike repair stand, complete with necessary tools, available for all *Continued on page 2...*

Coming Soon! Mansfield Emergency Notification System

The Town will be implementing an emergency notification system for residents later this spring.

The CodeRED emergency notification system will serve as the backbone of the Town's emergency planning and communications outreach to both citizens and Town personnel by sending telephone calls, text messages, emails and social media in an effort to effectively inform residents to protect life and property. We anticipate using the system to notify residents of important information during an active emergency as well as disaster recovery information. The Town also plans to give residents the option to opt-in to receive non-emergency information pertaining to local government operations.

The Town will have an initial database of residential and business telephone numbers, however you will be able to enroll additional contact information including cell phone numbers, text and email addresses and customize your notification preferences after the system has launched.

Residents are encouraged to visit www.MansfieldCT.gov in late April and click on the CodeRED logo to learn more.

Nash-Zimmer, cont. from pg. 1...

to use.

The Center is also equipped with public Wi-Fi and restrooms.

While waiting, riders will have access to a unique GPS and “next bus system” alerting them as to where their bus is and when it is expected to arrive. The Town has been working closely with UConn, Peter Pan and WRTD to ensure that all buses will be incorporated into this exciting new system.

The Nash-Zimmer Transportation Center is a unique style of transportation hub. Only a few like it exist in the world, with the closest being in Boston. The Center will help bring commuters, tourists and residents together in the creation of an efficient backbone for the region’s transit systems. The Town is excited to finally let the public take advantage of the convenience this Center provides.

Currently, passengers have access to UConn’s Purple and Silver Lines and WRTD’s Storrs-Willimantic bus. Peter Pan bus service is expected to begin when the Center opens to the public. Riders can take advantage of these stops in front of the Nash-Zimmer Transportation Center now, even though the building itself is not

yet open, providing convenient access to the shops and restaurants of the Storrs Center.

Along with serving as a main hub for transportation uses, the Nash-Zimmer Transportation Center will also serve as a center for research on alternative modes of transportation. The Town has partnered with the UConn’s Civil Engineering Center for Transportation and Livable Systems to provide operational services to the center while studying the multi-modal options of travelers. Travel patterns of users of the Nash-Zimmer Transportation Center will be surveyed and studied by a research fellow. The research fellow will gain feedback from Center users and use that information to improve the transportation services that will be offered at the Center.

The Transportation Center is named after Dennison Nash and Gary Zimmer, long time Mansfield residents who advocated for alternative modes of transportation in the community. Nash’s Windham Transit Alliance founded the fare free bus system that still provides free bus service in the North and South corridor between Mansfield and Windham.

When the Nash-Zimmer Transportation Center opens to the public, the operating schedule will be 7 AM to 7 PM on weekdays, 9 AM to 6 PM on Saturdays, and 10 AM to 5 PM on Sundays.

Hours may be adjusted depending on needs and budget demands. The operating costs of the Center will be paid for by revenues from Storrs Center. The design and construction of the Transportation Center was funded through a grant from the Federal Transit Administration’s Livability Program.

A Grand Opening for the Center is will take place on April 14 at 10AM. Readers can check the Center’s Twitter page for updates @NashZimmer. For information or if you are interested in learning more about the Center, check out www.MansfieldCT.gov/TransportationCenter.

For further information, please contact Ryan Visci, Mansfield’s Coordinator of Transportation, at VisciRM@MansfieldCT.org.

Freecycle

The Freecycle [Network](#) is a non-profit organization that organizes a worldwide network of "gifting" groups, aimed at diverting reusable goods from trash incinerators and landfills. If you have items that you no longer need or leftovers from a project, then Freecycle might be the way to find a home for them. If you are looking for an item, you might find it through Freecycle. There is a Storrs Freecycle group that can be joined at https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/freecycle_Storrs. The one criteria is that all exchanges are free of charge.

You can also browse the [swap-shop](#) at the transfer station.



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



The Betsy Hamill Memorial Campership Fund

While we are fortunate to live in a community with a wide variety of recreational offerings, many people have to make choices between paying for basic needs with limited funds and providing a summer experience for their children. Through generous community donations, the ***Betsy Hamill Memorial Campership Fund*** enables children in our town to participate fully in community life, regardless of their economic status, by offering scholarships to various camp opportunities.

The program is administered by staff of the Mansfield Youth Service Bureau. The Town absorbs all of the administrative expenses for this fund, so 100% of your contribution goes toward helping a Mansfield child have a great summer. This would not be possible without the donations of individuals, organizations, local businesses and the faith community. We appreciate their commitment to making Mansfield an exceptional place to live for all of our residents.

If you would like to be part of making a real difference in the life of a child, please consider donating to this wonderful program. All contributions are fully tax deductible and checks should be made payable to "Town of Mansfield/Betsy Hamill Campership Fund" and mailed to:

The Betsy Hamill Memorial Campership Fund
c/o The Mansfield Human Services Department
4 South Eagleville Road
Mansfield, CT 06268-2599

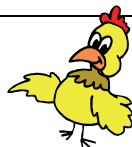
Senior Van Trips

Call 860-429-0262 to register.

Friday, April 4: ***Wright's Chicken Farm.*** Enjoy a nice lunch at your expense. Van leaves at 10AM, returns at 3PM. Sign up by 4/2/2014.

Wednesday, April 23: ***New England Air Museum.*** Spectacular collection of historic aircrafts. Admission to museum is \$11.00. We will stop for lunch at your expense. Van leaves at 9:30AM, returns at 4PM. Sign up by 4/21/2014.

Tuesday, April 29: ***Old Sturbridge Village.*** Lunch and Show, *Songs from the Heart.* Cost is \$45.50, includes the show and lunch (Pot Roast or Grilled Salmon). Van leaves at 10AM, returns at 4PM. Sign up by 4/17/2014.



An April Walk with Joshua's Trust

Everyone is welcome.



Wednesday, April 9, 2 PM.

Search for signs of Spring in the lovely Chapin Brook ecosystem, note the changes and regeneration of the woodland, and explore the evidence of early history, stone walls, posts, and dams. This loop walk will involve a short stretch of Brown's Road, enabling us to go down the Babcock Trail, cross over on the Bird Loop Trail in Schoolhouse Brook Park, and return up the Holt/Kinney Trail. There will be some wet spots and one short, steep hill. Park on Rt. 195 in the commuter parking area across from Rt. 89. We will carpool from there. For updated information contact gifishn@sbcglobal.net or call 860-450-0845. If the weather is bad, call 860-429-9023 for a cancellation announcement.

Joshua's Trust works with 14 towns in Northeastern CT on issues of conservation and open space preservation, currently protecting over 4000 plus acres. Information about Trust membership, volunteer opportunities, programs and preserves can be found at www.joshuaslandtrust.org.

Town Budget Meetings

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings will take place in Council Chambers, Beck Building.

Wednesday, Apr. 2, 6:30 PM

Special Council Meeting

Thursday, Apr. 3, 7 PM

Public Info Session on Manager's Proposed Budget

Tuesday, Apr. 8, 6:30 PM

Council Budget Workshop

Tuesday, Apr. 15, 6 PM

Council Budget Workshop

Tuesday, Apr. 15, 8:00 PM

Public Hearing on Budget

Tuesday, Apr. 22, 6:30 PM

Council Budget Workshop

Thursday, Apr. 24, 6:30 PM

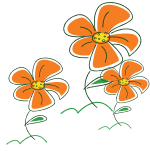
Council Budget Workshop

Monday, Apr. 28, 6 PM

Adoption of Budget & Recommended Appropriations

Wednesday, Apr. 30, 6:30 PM

Adoption of Budget & Recommended Appropriations
(if necessary)



April Events and Activities in Mansfield



Parks and Recreation

April Vacation Camp (grades K-8)

What do you do with the kids during vacation? Send them to camp! This popular program is held at the middle school from 7:30 AM-5:30 PM.

Activities include trips, games in the gym, drawing, Legos, and board games. If time permits, there may be an arts and crafts project. A detailed flyer will be available at the community center and distributed to the schools the 1st week of April.

Parents' Night Out

Friday, Apr. 11, 4-9 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

Saturday, Apr. 12, 9-1 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.

Family Fun Night

Friday, Apr. 25, 6:30-9:30 PM

Enjoy giant inflatables, ping pong, tot toys, puzzles, drop-in games, open gym, the fitness area is open for kids ages 12 & 13 with their parents, poolside basketball and more!

No pre-registration required.

Mansfield Public Library

Identity Theft: Protecting Your Financial Information

Wednesday, Apr. 9, 1:30 PM

We live in a fast-paced, technological world. What can you do to prevent your financial information from being stolen? Learn how to avoid identity theft and minimize your risk of becoming a victim.

Kid POP

Friday, Apr. 11, 6 – 7:30 PM

Explore the Power of Play with Jeff Smithson in this fun-filled program for the whole family. Jeff will take children and adults on an active, inquisitive journey of physicality and fun that will show them how to use the language of play to broaden their own spectrum of communication. No sign up is necessary.

School Vacation Fun

April 14-17, 1:30— 3 PM



Kids! Join us for springtime fun, including a special

Guinea Pig Day on April 16th!

Poetry Reading

Thursday, Apr. 24, 7 – 8PM

April is Poetry Month and we have planned a special evening to celebrate. Join us as members of Still River Writers share their work

Healthy Living Series

Saturday, April 26, 2 PM

Breaking the Chains of Stress, Anxiety, and Panic presented by Mary A. Hurley, Certified Holistic Health Coach & Personal Trainer. Free. No registration required.

Mansfield Senior Center

Positive Aging Series

Fridays Apr. 4, 11, 25 at 10AM.

One hour sessions will review information from the [Positive Aging](#) conference in Sarasota, Florida. Topics include:

Visionaries Have Wrinkles (4/11)-

Grow older boldly & wisely, reshaping the future of aging.

Senior Leadership Program (4/25)

- Become a catalyst for positive changes in your community.

Intergenerational Dinner



at EO Smith High

School on Tuesday, Apr. 8, 5 PM

Join the students for a *Night in Greece*. Menu by first year

UCONN dietetic students.

Register by April 1. \$8.00.

AARP Safe Driving Course

Wednesday, Apr. 23, 9AM-1PM

This 4 hour program may allow you to get a discount on your car insurance. For more information & to register call 860-429-0262.

Indoor Walking Program

Wednesdays at 9AM

Lace up your shoes and walk Indoors! Watching/ listening to a DVD will inspire you to walk up to 2 miles in 30 minutes. Free. No need to register, just walk in!



April hath put a spirit of youth in everything. — William Shakespeare

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

