



THE MANSFIELD MINUTE

NOVEMBER 2015

www.mansfieldct.gov

- *Town Hall will be closed on Wednesday, November 11 for Veterans Day.*
- *Town Hall will be closed November 26 & 27 in observance of Thanksgiving.*
- *Channel 191 is our local government access station. Local info and certain public meetings are broadcast there.*



**Annual Veterans Day
Tribute and Luncheon**
*Friday, November 13,
at the Community Center.
Social hour at 10 AM.
Ceremony at 11 AM.*

*Luncheon follows. Veterans of
all wars are invited.*

- *Use this [link](#) to see what the ballot will look like on Election Day.*

*You will be voting for the
following offices:*

- *Town Council*
- *Board of Education*
- *Board of Assessment Appeals*
- *Planning and Zoning
Commission*
- *Planning and Zoning
Commission Alternates*
- *Zoning Board of Appeals*
- *Regional Board of Education*

What is the Next Generation CT initiative?

NextGenCT is a 10-year, \$1.54 billion plan to enhance UCONN's capacity to serve as a global leader in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), as well as an economic development engine and workforce development driver for the State of Connecticut.

Scope of Next Gen Impact Study:

The Town of Mansfield and UCONN jointly hired Econsult Solutions (ESI) to conduct an [Economic Analysis Impact Report](#) to assess the projected fiscal and service impacts of NextGenCT. The analysis also includes a historic lookback at two previous state initiatives – UCONN 2000 and UCONN 21st century – and potential areas for increased collaboration and service sharing between the Town and the University.

UCONN 2000 and 21st Century:

On the expenditure side, the study projects that the service impacts of UCONN 2000 and 21st Century, for both municipal government and education services, total approximately \$2.5 million per year. This cost is offset by an estimated increase of \$5.2 million per year in new property tax and intergovernmental revenue. In addition, during this time period student enrollment increased from 11,800 to 20,400 (72%), employment at the Storrs campus grew from 3,450 to 4,150 (19%) and annual student spending increased from \$31 million to \$73 million (135%). *(cont. on page 2)*

November 3 is Election Day.

Polls are open 6 AM to 8 PM.



Mansfield residents vote in the following locations:

- District 1 – Mansfield Community Center, 10 South Eagleville Road
- District 2 – Mansfield Fire Dept. Station 107 Eagleville, 889 Stafford Road
- District 3 – Mansfield Library, Buchanan Auditorium, 54 Warrenville Road
- District 4 – Annie Vinton School, 306 Stafford Road.

This is a local election featuring municipal offices.

Election Day Registration will take place in the Council Chamber of the Audrey P Beck Building. For additional information please visit the Registrars of Voters page at mansfieldct.gov.

NextGenCT continued...

Economic and Fiscal Benefits:

The economic and fiscal benefits associated with [NextGenCT](#) are variable depending on how the Town of Mansfield chooses to capitalize on opportunities in private sector growth and development presented by UCONN’s continued development. The impact study suggests that these types of choices will decide how much of the market the Town chooses to capture and will directly correlate with the Town’s property tax base.

The study looks at two different scenarios for NextGenCT – one with an increased enrollment of 1,000 students and the other by 5,000 students. Student spending in Mansfield is projected to increase from \$10-\$23 million, and direct employment by 285 to 1,125 jobs. The study expects that population growth directly linked to NextGenCT will initiate new private development and place a higher demand on existing housing generating an estimated \$100,000- \$360,000 increase in property tax revenue per year.



Town Hall Hours:	
<i>Monday</i>	8:15-4:30
<i>Tuesday</i>	8:15-4:30
<i>Wednesday</i>	8:15-4:30
<i>Thursday</i>	8:15-6:30
<i>Friday</i>	8—12

Service and Infrastructure Impacts:

The impact study projects that the service impacts of NextGenCT, for municipal government, education services and capital improvement needs, will range between \$586,000 per year for the lower enrollment scenario and \$2.55 million per year for the higher enrollment scenario.

As UCONN develops, the Town will see an increase in demand for services and infrastructure. The changes that take place will depend on how much UCONN grows as well as how the Town responds to the increased needs of the University. With the adoption of its [Mansfield Tomorrow Plan](#), Mansfield is well-positioned to allow sustainable growth in keeping with the values of the community.

Mansfield estimates that it is nearing capacity for utilization of existing water and sewer infrastructure. Water and sewer infrastructure is a costly investment ranging from \$250-\$375 per linear foot when accounting for all associated costs. Traffic conditions during the growth period for NextGenCT are expected to be the same or worsen, and costs to the Town to maintain its roadways and manage local traffic conditions are likely to rise.

Partnership Opportunities:

The NextGenCT study recognizes that UCONN is essentially a small city of its own and that

Mansfield and UCONN have many redundant services such as parking enforcement and public safety. The report posits that by sharing services the Town and the University may realize potential cost savings. Similarly, the Town and University both maintain facilities and resources that could be shared to benefit both entities. Storrs Center is highlighted as a successful model for future Town/University collaboration.

Intergovernmental Impacts:

The NextGenCT study highlights Mansfield reliance on intergovernmental revenue from the state, primarily in the form of payment-in-lieu of taxes (PILOT) for tax-exempt state-owned property. The report does warn that overall grant disbursements are determined at the state level, making the actual level of funding difficult to predict, but suggests that UCONN’s growth in real property will likely increase the PILOT grant to Mansfield by \$600,000 to \$4.1 million per year.

Conclusion:

The ultimate size of the economic gains from the implementation of NextGenCT will depend in part on the Town, and how much it chooses to capitalize on the opportunities presented by UCONN’s development. Using both UConn 2000 and UConn 21st century as benchmarks, the impact study projects that the economic gains associated with NextGenCT will exceed service and infrastructure costs, and present Mansfield with a unique opportunity to leverage the state’s investment to the benefit of the Town.

Exemplary!

Mansfield Awarded For Its Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Efforts



The Town was recognized as an exemplary Connecticut Clean Energy Community yesterday during an [Energize CT](#) award ceremony.

Representatives from Eversource, United Illuminating, Green Bank and Connecticut Natural Gas presented Mansfield with a gold level plaque for its work to reduce residential and municipal energy use and increase its use of renewable energy.

Mansfield was one of five towns earning the highest level award by tracking the energy use of municipal buildings, using Bright Idea Grant money for energy saving projects, participating in the [Neighbor to Neighbor Energy Challenge](#) and [Solarize Mansfield](#) outreach campaigns for residents, achieving 27% residential program participation and achieving 15% participation in commercial/municipal energy-saving projects.

From January 2010 through July 2015, the Town saved 13,935,059 kilowatt hours of electricity and 46,575 ccf (hundred cubic feet) of natural gas. That is 7,106 tons of avoided carbon dioxide, which is equivalent to taking 1,239 cars off the road for one year or planting 1,762 acres of trees.

Join the Bike Commuter Club

Every time I see an adult on a bicycle, I no longer despair for the future of the human race. —H. G. Wells

Bicycle commuters, the Town wants to support your efforts to go green and keep in shape! The Nash-Zimmer Transportation Center in Downtown Storrs is home to the [Bike Commuter Club](#), providing secure indoor bike storage, private showers and lockers so you can commute with ease.

Club members can sign up seasonally (3 months) or for a full year. Benefits include your own indoor, lockable bike storage cage as well as private showers and lockers for your clothes and personal items. These amenities are accessible daily from 5AM to midnight. There are membership rates for both Mansfield residents and non-residents.

If you'd like more information or to arrange for a tour of the **Bike Commuter Club** facilities, contact Dee Goodrich, Transportation Coordinator, at 860-429-2740 or goodrichd@mansfieldct.org. Storrs Center Ambassadors can also answer questions at the Transportation Center Monday – Friday from 8AM to 5PM. The Transportation Center is located at 23 Royce Circle, on the south side of the town parking garage. Want to join? Click [here](#) for membership information.



We Did It! Building the Jeffrey P. Ossen Family Foundation Community Playground



Thanks to all who participated in building our wonderful new playground! We had a beautiful fall weekend for our volunteer build. On Friday, Oct. 9, we had a groundbreaking ceremony with our state legislators, a representative of the Ossen Foundation, and lots of town staff and committee members. It was great to thank our sponsors and take a minute to celebrate the fact that, after all of this time raising money, we were finally about to build the playground!



November Events and Activities in Mansfield



Parks and Recreation

Fall Family Fun Night

Friday, Nov. 6, 5:30 –8:30 PM
Saturday, Nov. 28, 4:30-7:30 PM
No fee for members,
non-members pay the daily fee.

Road Trip!

Macy's
Thanksgiving Day Parade
Thursday, Nov. 26
Registration deadline is
November 14.

Enjoy the morning with family and friends by watching the Parade in person! Enjoy the floats and bands as they pass by right in front of your eyes. You will be home in time to enjoy Thanksgiving dinner with your family. \$50 for Mansfield residents. Call for more info.

E.O. Smith High School

MIDSUMMER/JERSEY

Nov 6 & 7, 7:30 PM
Nov. 8, 2 PM

High School Auditorium
The Drama Club presents a hilarious rendition of MIDSUMMER/JERSEY, a re-creation of Shakespeare's Midsummer Night's Dream against a modern-day New Jersey boardwalk.



Get Tickets!
\$7 for students and seniors, and \$9 general admission.

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

Mansfield Public Library

An Evening with Authors Heather Webb and Cindy Wolfe Boynton

Thursday, Nov. 5, 6:30 PM
Heather Webb is the author of *Rodin's Lover*. Cindy Wolfe Boynton is the award winning author of *Remarkable Women of Hartford* and *Connecticut's Witch Trails: The First Panic in the New World*.

Mr. Magic's Superhero Magic Show

Tuesday, Nov. 10, 6:30 PM

Mr. Magic returns with his spectacular Superhero Magic Show, sure to delight and amaze kids of all ages. Come enjoy a fun, funny and truly magical performance. No school the next day, so bring the whole family!



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Author Talk:

Growing a New Tail

by Lisa C. Taylor

Saturday, Nov. 14, 3 PM

The author will discuss her stories that compel both character and reader to reassess, reinvent, and look differently on the moments that can change the course of a life.

Tellabration

Friday, Nov. 20, 6:30 PM

Storyteller Liz Gruber will share some of her favorite stories from around the world, including a story using the Kamishibai tradition from Japan. Bring the family for an exciting evening of story telling.

Mansfield Senior Center

Closed November 4 & 5

Smiling Seniors

Friday, Nov. 6, 2 PM
Join UConn Health Students as they educate us on Oral Health by playing *Wheel of Fortune*. Includes free Goodie Bags.

Thanksgiving Luncheon

Wednesday, Nov. 18, 12 PM
Delicious turkey meal!

At 1 PM, listen to Beth Usher, a local inspirational speaker. Lunch cost is \$7. Purchase your ticket by Nov. 9. Call 860-429-0262.

FoodShare Distribution

Thursday, Nov. 12, 11:30–12:15
If you have a need for food, stop by.

Senior Center Mini Bazaar

Wednesday, Nov. 18, 19, 11-3 PM
For more info call 860-429-0262.

2016 Trips and Travel Fair

Thursday, Nov. 19 1-3 PM
Learn all about our 2016 Trips and enjoy the door prizes as well as light refreshments. For more info call 860-429-0262 ext 6.

Meals on Wheels

Volunteers Needed

Help deliver meals to homebound seniors in Mansfield. Mid-morning deliveries, Mon–Fri. Please call Sharon at 860-487-9876 if you would like to volunteer for one or two days a week.

