



THE MANSFIELD MINUTE

FEBRUARY 2016

www.mansfieldct.gov

- *Town Hall will be closed on February 15 for President's Day.*
- *Mansfield Bicycle/ Pedestrian master planning kick-off meeting takes place at 7 PM, on February 4, at Town Hall.*
- *The town offers an easy and secure way to pay real estate, personal property, vehicle excise taxes, sewer and prior year grand list tax payments, and school lunch bills. Go to www.mansfieldct.gov/content/1938/4328/*



Signs For Sale!

The town is replacing street signs and the old ones are being sold to help those in need.

The green signs with white lettering will be sold for a minimum donation of \$20.

The white signs with black lettering will be sold for a minimum donation of \$40.

All proceeds will be placed in a Special Needs fund in support of residents of all ages.

Interested? Call Karen in the Human Services Department at 860-429-3315.

Main Street Homes at Storrs Center to Welcome Its First Residents in March



Main Street Homes at Storrs Center will welcome its first residents early this year, beginning in March and continuing throughout 2016 until all homeowners have settled into their new homes. Main Street Homes is the new residential neighborhood located in Storrs Center and offers the only residences that are available for purchase. The neighborhood is within walking distance of the restaurants, shops, services, lively entertainment, and the many enrichment offerings of Storrs Center, and is close to Town of Mansfield and UConn amenities.

The location of for-sale housing in Storrs Center has always been a priority for the Mansfield Downtown Partnership Board of Directors, and the LeylandAlliance team. The Great Recession did not allow for for-sale housing to be included in the original buildings but with the improvement in the housing market, the timing was right to start the planning process in 2013.

It's an exciting time for everyone – incoming residents, the Mansfield Downtown Partnership, the LeylandAlliance development team, and the sales associates from Weichert Realtors – and one of the last pieces of the walkable downtown to be completed. Residents will move into a mix of 32 townhomes and 10 single-floor condominium homes that are located in the Leyland Building. All residences are expected to be completed this year. Currently the first of eight buildings is receiving its finishing touches and final preparations are being made for the inaugural residents who will move



into the Storrs I and II residences in Buildings 1 and 2 during March and April.

Main Street Homes is close to walking trails, the Nash-Zimmer Transportation Center, and offers pocket parks and a resident clubhouse for entertaining and events. The New England architecture was designed by some of the nation's most respected classical architects. All Main Street Homes residences marry modern floor plans with classic design and quality materials, such as low maintenance HardiePlank clap-

board siding, architectural roofing shingles, traditional molding and trim details, and composite decking. The homes are designed to be energy efficient with superior insulation, high efficiency forced air heating and air conditioning, and tankless hot water heaters, among other features. Every residence includes a one- or two-car garage.

To date, 28 of the 42 townhomes and flats are sold, leaving only 14 residences available for purchase. Prices start at \$299,000. For more information, contact Richard Marouski or Peter Millman at 860-429-9700 or visit www.storrscenter.com.

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



Volunteers needed for composting project.

Got lots of food scraps?

The Mansfield food scrap compost pilot is well underway with 40 households contributing their food scraps. Since the pilot began in August 2015, over 2,267 pounds of residential food scraps have been composted. Leaves and wood chips are used to cover the daily food additions.

Recently, some of Southeast Elementary School's partially composted lunchtime food scraps were added to the pile. Like all of the finished leaf compost, when this pile is transformed into a stable crumbly finished "soil", town residents may take it for free.

We can still use more participants.

Participating households collect their food scraps and bring them to the transfer station as frequently as they wish. The transfer station is open on Tuesdays and Saturdays 8:30 AM to 4 PM, and Thursdays Noon to 4 PM. Repurposed paint buckets and guidance on what is accepted are provided to participants. If you would like to contribute your household's food scraps, contact Virginia Walton, Recycling Coordinator at 860-429-3333 or email waltonvd@mansfieldct.org.

How do I recycle plastic grocery bags?

Big Y and Price Chopper accept CLEAN plastic bags. The transfer station no longer takes them (animals have been getting into them there). Try to keep a few reusable canvas bags in your car and use them when you shop.

It's Electric! Charge Up at the Library.



We've got a new electric vehicle charging station in the library parking lot (by the Buchanan Auditorium). It's on the wall of the brick garage, and is available to the public at *no cost*. This charging station was installed through a modest grant from Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

The Town purchased an all-electric Ford Focus in 2015, which is used by library staff for outreach programs and delivery services (and Marigold, the library guinea pig, likes to go for spin sometimes).

The charging station keeps the Focus "fueled up" and ready to go. The library's solar panels help offset the additional electricity that is needed to charge the Ford Focus, bringing it close to a zero emissions mode of transportation.

There are several charging stations in Mansfield – one located by the Community Center (\$1.00/hour charge), four located in the downtown Storrs parking garage (\$1.00/hour charge), a couple at [Price Chopper](#) (free) and a few located around the University (free).



Do you have questions about the town's budget?

Go to [Open Mansfield](#) and get answers!

Not sure how to use Open Mansfield?

Come to the library for training:

Thursday, Feb. 4, 6:30 PM

Can't make it to a class?

Call the library, and our friendly librarians will make an appointment with you to go over how to use the site.

More classes will be scheduled soon!

PLAYGROUND PICKETS FOR PURCHASE

We're selling more pickets to surround the Jeffrey P. Ossen Family Foundation Community Playground. Help support the maintenance and improvement of the playground by purchasing a picket!

For only \$35, the name of your choice will be engraved on a picket in the fence at the playground, which will be enjoyed by families for years to come. Put your business name on a picket, or buy one for each member of your family! They make great gifts!

Order forms can be found at online at www.mansfieldcommunityplayground.org and at the Community Center. The pickets will be ordered and installed when there are a enough orders to justify the cost to ship the pickets.

The Jeffrey P. Ossen Family Foundation Community Playground is located behind the Community Center at 10 South Eagleville Road, and has already become a popular spot for families to bring their children.

If you have questions about component sponsorship, pickets, or other playground matters, contact Maggie Ferron, ferronmb@mansfieldct.org or 860 429-3338.

SUPERCALIFRAGILISTICEXPIALIDOCIOUS!

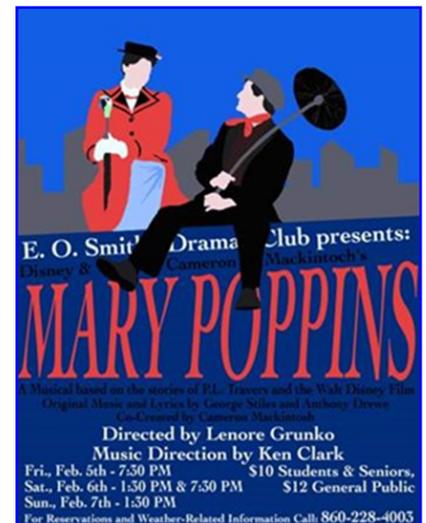
Don't miss the E.O. Smith High School Drama Club's practically perfect production of

Mary Poppins

An enchanting show for people of all ages, and yes, there will be flying!

Friday, Feb. 5, 7:30 PM, Saturday, Feb. 6, 1:30 & 7:30 PM, Sunday, Feb. 7, 1:30 PM

Directed by Lenore Grunko with music direction by Ken Clark, all shows will be in the high school's auditorium, 1235 Storrs Road, 06268. Tickets are \$12 general admission; \$10 for students and seniors. For reservations and weather-related info, call 860-228-4003.





February Events and Activities in Mansfield



Parks and Recreation

Annual Valentine's Dance

Friday, Feb. 5, 7—9 PM

UConn Rome Ballroom

Open to any Parent or Guardian and daughter.

Pre-registration is encouraged. Daughters are free!



Winter Family Fun Nights

Friday, Feb. 12, 5:30-8:30 PM

Giant inflatables in the gym & pool, ping pong, tot toys, puzzles, games, open gym & poolside basket ball! No fee for members, daily fee for non-members.

Free Mansfield Days

Friday, Feb. 12, 5:30-8:30 PM

Mansfield residents visit for free with proof of residency.

Family Friday Paint Nights

Friday, Feb. 26, 6:30-8:30 PM

Acrylic paint so dress for a mess!



Each participant paints a 16" x 20" canvas. Supplies and step-by-step instruction provided. Fee.

Storrs Winter Farmers Market

Open twice a month from December through April. The Market is held from 3 to 5 PM at the library.

2016 Winter dates:

February 13 and 27

March 12 and 26

April 9 and 23

For more info:

storrsfarmersmarket.org



Town of Mansfield, Connecticut

Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building

4 South Eagleville Road, Mansfield, CT 06268

mansfieldct.gov

860.429.3336

Mansfield Public Library

Phoenix Performing Arts Chinese Dance

Saturday, Feb. 6, 10:30–11:30 AM
Celebrate the Lunar New Year with a performance of classical and traditional Chinese dances. Dance members strive to present a diverse program of dance and music that opens an exciting window onto Chinese culture. Fun for the whole family, takes the place of Saturday Family Storytime.

Beat the Winter Blues

Monday, Feb. 8, 1– 2 PM



Presented by Jo Anne Harrison-Becker

Winter means shorter and grayer days, longer nights but there is a lot we can do to stay creative, bright, active and cheerful. Learn more about Seasonal Affective Disorder and the winter blues. Handouts and assessments included. Free.

Valentine Crafts for Kids

Thursday, Feb. 11, 4 – 5:30 PM

Drop in after school for some sparkly fun, and make a valentine for everyone you love.

All ages welcome!



Opera For Kids!

The Bremen Town Musicians

Tuesday, Feb. 16, 2 – 3 PM

UConn's Opera Outreach program presents a one-act opera based on the German folktale about 4 misfit animals looking for a place to fit in. A fun frolic through the German countryside that delivers a message of acceptance along the way.

Library programs are always free.

Mansfield Senior Center

Disabled/Elderly Homeowners Tax Credit Program

February 1 thru May 1

Call Kathy Ann Easley at 860-487-9873

for more information.

AARP Tax-Aide Assistance

AARP's Tax-Aide program provides free tax preparation to taxpayers with low to moderate income, with special attention to those 60 and older. Appointments available Tuesdays and Thursdays from February 2 through April 7.

Call 860-429-0262

for appointment.



FoodShare Distribution

Thursday, Feb. 4 and 18

11:30–12:15

Parking Lot of 303 Maple Rd. Bring your own shopping bag!

Chinese New Year Luncheon

Wednesday, Feb. 10, 12 PM

Celebrate Chinese New Year with a festive Chinese meal! Purchase your ticket at the Senior Center by February 8.

MSCA Luncheon & Entertainment

Wednesday, Feb. 17, 12 PM

Meatballs and Penne and then *The Jim and Dave Duo* at 1 PM.

Call 860-429-0262 ext. 0

to register.

Drop the Base

Friday, Feb. 26, 1 PM

Join us for a concert by UConn's newest female acapella group!

Light refreshments.

Call 860-487-9870 to register.