



SENIOR SPARKS

VOLUME 38 ISSUE 5 MANSFIELD SENIOR CENTER ASSOCIATION, INC. MAY 2012
303 Maple Road, Storrs/Mansfield CT 06268 (860) 429-0262, ext. 5

* President: Marilyn Gerling * Vice President: Chuck Boster * Secretary: Beverly Gotch * Finance Officer: Don Stitts * Treasurer: Wilfred Bigl
* Asst. Treasurer & Sparks Manager: Kathy Rule * Travel: Judy Bigl * Ways & Means Co-Chairs: Zoe Leibowitz & Betty Savage
* Program Planning: Estelle Elliott * Member-at-Large: Sam Gordon * Computer Co-Chairs: Mike Palmer & Don Stitts

“SPRING BAZAAR”

SATURDAY, MAY 19, 2012
9:00 AM TO 1:00 PM

*Special White Elephant, Jewelry,
Hand-Knitted Items, Toys, Books,
Bake Sale, Lunch, & so much more ... !*

Bring your friends and brighten your spring with
the treasures you will find at our Spring Bazaar!

We will gladly accept bake sale items (*individually packaged, please*)
the day before or the morning of the sale.

Call 860-429-0262, ext. 0, for more information.

Volunteers Desperately Needed & Are Always Welcome!

*A Note from Cindy Dainton,
Senior Center Coordinator*

HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY!

May brings a lot of memories from May Day Baskets to Memorial Day. May Day Baskets were normally small with some flowers, and maybe something sweet in them. The trick was to sneak up to someone's door and ring the bell (or knock) and get away without being caught. Memorial Day brings the parade and a picnic while honoring those who lost their lives fighting for freedom.

There is a lot of information packed into this newsletter. As a reminder, Thursday evenings at the Senior Center will resume in June and will be the first Thursday evening of the following months: June (7th), July (5th), August (2nd), and September (6th). A Chinese dance troupe will entertain in June with a dinner. Dinner arrangements for June were not yet set at press time. You will need to sign up for dinner at the Senior Center by June 1st for the dinner. Please call the Center after May 14th for more information. In July there will be a picnic and a movie. In August there will be a barbeque and a band. In September there will be a pot luck dinner and special entertainment. It promises to be a great summer at the Mansfield Senior Center, so please put the dates on your calendar. More information will follow.

A few reminders: first, please dress in layers as it is difficult to control the temperature at the Senior Center given the age of the system; second, please remember to swipe in for all activities that you are doing at the Center. I report these numbers to the town. Third, please remember that the sun is getting stronger, and it would be a good idea to use sunscreen when outside.

A hero is someone who has given his or her life to something bigger than oneself. ~ *Joseph Campbell*

For love of country they accepted death. ~ *James A. Garfield*

*A Note from Marilyn Gerling,
President, M.S.C.A.*

*"The world's favorite season
is the Spring. All things
seem possible in May."
~ Edwin Way Teale*

*"Spring – an experience
in immortality"
~ Henry D. Thoreau*

With these thoughts in mind, let's all take time to stop and see, hear and feel the delights that surround us during this season.

April was such a full month, we have so much for which to be thankful. We thank all those who helped make the Volunteer Celebration special: speakers Mayor Elizabeth Paterson and Kevin Grunwald; Ellie Lamb for helping gather the chorus; chorus members; Dan Gebben for the slide show; and for everyone who helped serve the meals. There are volunteers we may not see often, and I extend sincere apologies to any volunteer whose picture I missed taking. How fortunate we are to have so many great volunteers at this Senior Center!

At this writing we are looking forward to the Intergenerational Dinner at E.O. Smith on April 25th.

Program Planning has entertainment for May 16th, with a Hawaiian theme you won't want to miss.

Next *Coffee and Ideas* meeting will be Friday, May 4th, 10:30 AM. The only thing that doesn't change is that there is more change. Come with your ideas!



**Mansfield Senior Center
860-429-0262, ext. 0**

Fax: (860) 429-3208

Wellness Fax: (860) 429-3905
E-mail: SeniorCntr@mansfieldct.org
www.mansfieldct.org

Hours: Monday to Friday
8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Senior Center Coordinator:
Cindy Dainton, 860-429-0262, ext. 9

Senior Services Social Worker:
Barbara A. Winslow, MSW, ext. 1
Volunteer Transportation Manager:

Gianna Stebbins, ext. 2

Administrative Assistant:
Linda C. Wohllebe, ext. 3

Receptionist:

Kathy Yaffee, ext. 4

The Municipal Agent for the Elderly, & Director, Dept. of Human Services: Kevin Grunwald, MSW, (860) 429-3315.

Transportation: Dial-a-Ride Transportation & Medical Transport outside the Dial-a-Ride Region: (860) 456-1462, **48 hours** in advance.

**Retired Senior Volunteer
Program (RSVP)**

If you are willing to share your time—we have the opportunity! Please call Sharon at RSVP at 860-774-9286.

NEEDED:

Tutors to assist with literacy and mathematical skills; Friendly Visitors for fellow senior citizens who are homebound and want companionship; and Friendly Shoppers to accompany seniors to the store or go for them, in some cases.

**AURICULAR ACUPRESSURE
with Bi Zhang**

Monday, May 7th, 10:30 AM
at the Mansfield Senior Center

Learn how auricular acupressure may be applied in managing your health.

MISCELLANY

Thank You

Many thanks to John Adamcik, Jim Campetelle, June Curtis, Sam Gordon, and Karen Peters for collating the April issue of *Sparks*. *Thanks so very much!*

Welcome to the newest members of the Mansfield Senior Center Association:

*Peggy Dillon
Patricia O'Hara
Susan Morton
Theresa Eifler
Joyce Owen*



Have you recently moved? Please let us know if you have a change of address or if you will be temporarily away, so we may update our records, especially if you receive the monthly newsletter *Senior Sparks*. Thanks!

Sparks Submissions

Please submit your articles for the June issue of *Sparks* by May 11th.

IN MEMORY OF

**BETTY MAE TOON
DAVE LINDORFF
DENNISON NASH
JAMES MCVIEGH
CHARLES O. HICKING, JR.**

Senior Hobby Display Case

Share your talent!

Please call Cindy if you have items you would like to display.

TRAVEL DESK



The Travel Desk welcomes you to join us on our 2012 bus trips.

Hours are Monday to Friday, 10:00 AM to noon. Please call 860-429-0262, ext. 6, or 860-429-0180.

****All trips leave from the South Eagleville Fire Department, Rt. 32, Mansfield, CT.**

****All payments must be received two weeks prior to the trip date and checks must be made out to: MSCA.**

Thursday, June 14th: ***“The Singing Trooper”*** at the Katherine Hepburn Theatre, Old Saybrook Morning Show, then on to the Mohegan Sun for lunch and a free casino bonus. \$59.00 pp. Departs 9:00 AM; returns 6:00 PM. Deadline: May 31st.

Thursday, July 12th: ***“Newport Playhouse with Lobsterfest Menu.”*** Play: ***“The Kitchen Witches.”*** \$86.00 pp. Deadline: June 28th.

Tuesday, August 14th: ***“Odyssey Luncheon Cruise on Boston Harbour.”*** Elegant luncheon. Two and 1/2 hour Boston Harbor cruise with musical entertainment. \$79.00 pp. Deadline: July 31st.

Tuesday, September 18th: ***“Grand Ole’ Opry”*** at the Log Cabin with stop at Christmas Tree Shop. Luncheon menu of Southern fried chicken, dessert, and petite bottle of wine. \$94.00 pp. Departs 8:00 AM. Deadline: September 4th.



Wednesday, October 24th: ***“Germanfest”*** at Historic Williams Inn in Williamstown, Mass. All you can eat German buffet, with German beer and wine by the glass. German entertainment and lot’s of fun! \$76.00 pp. Departs 8:30 AM; returns 6:00 PM. Deadline: October 10th.

Wednesday, November 7th: ***“Patsy Cline Tribute”*** at the Log Cabin with stop at the Christmas Tree Shop. Complete luncheon of Chicken Francaise and Pork Dijonnaise a with petite bottle of wine. \$94.00 pp. Departs 8:00 AM. Deadline: October 24th.

****Ride FREE on our trip to Mashantucket Pequot Museum on Wednesday, May 16th.** Sign up early as seats are limited on Dial-A-Ride leaving Mansfield Senior Center at 9:00 AM. \$15.00 entrance fee with guide. Lunch on your own. See sign up sheet at the Travel Desk. Must pay at the Museum. Approximate return time will be 4:00 PM.



**“SENIOR DAY”
at the
Mohegan Sun Arena**

Sunday, June 10th

**\$31.00 per person
(Courtside Seating)**

Departing Senior Center:
3:00 PM & ETA: 9:00 PM

Reservation Deadline:
Friday, April 27th

**Please contact Gianna at
860-429-0262, ext. 2.**

**Barbara A. Winslow, MSW,
Senior Services Social Worker**

Barbara is available at the Wellness Center Mon., Wed., Thurs., and Fri.'s from 8:30 AM-4:30 PM, to assist you with information, assessments, and referrals to community services, as well as short-term counseling free of charge.

In the last two issues of *Sparks*, I have discussed how to prepare yourself and family for an emergency such as Storm Irene and Alfred. This month I would like to address how the elderly and individuals with disabilities can prepare. It is very important to discuss with family and friends what plans you should make if you lose electricity and a source of heat/AC. Should you travel to a family house before a storm hits? Will you go to a friend's home? If you are using special equipment such as oxygen, do you have extra tanks on hand? Make sure any electrical device that you use has a back-up power source (yes, I know a woman who was trapped in her electric seat lift chair when she lost power! Many such chairs have battery back up support.) Have information available if you have any special medical needs; teach family members how to use any medical devices. Consider giving your house key to someone you trust. Have medicine and medical supplies refurbished before a storm. Have an emergency bag packed with clothing, flowers, and important information if you should have to go to another location such as a shelter. If you have a nursing agency coming in to assist you, be sure to let them know if you leave your home. The important thing is to make a plan with others, don't go it alone!

Congressman Joe Courtney will visit the Mansfield Senior Center on Thursday, May 3rd, at 1:00 PM, along with an attorney from Medicare Advocacy to discuss Medicare health insurance. Many doctors are no longer accepting Medicare insurance. How will baby boomers access medical care? Where will seniors go to get medical help? Can we, as consumers, do anything? Please plan on attending this very important event!

**Conversation with
Betty Heiss, MSW**

The first Thursday of the month
at the
Mansfield Wellness Center
11:00 AM

Thursday, May 3rd:

**“Beginnings:
World Wise & Otherwise”**

*Everyone welcome for this
friendly, lively discussion.*

Joe Courtney

at the Mansfield Senior Center

Thursday, May 3rd, 1:00 PM

Information on Medicare!

“VETERANS”

**Celebrating the Living
but
Remembering the Fallen**

The Mansfield Senior Center is pleased to honor the Veterans who served our United States of America throughout history.

A planning committee is developing a “Veterans’ Celebration” for **Friday, November 9th**.

Many of the details still need to be worked out, but PLEASE put it on your calendar for an upcoming event.

*We look forward to seeing
everyone there!*



Meal Program

The TVCCA meal program is subsidized through the Older Americans Act and available to seniors 60 years or older at a suggested donation of \$2.00. Individuals younger than 60 are welcome to eat, but are asked to pay the actual cost of the meal, which is \$7.00. **Reservations must be made 72 hours in advance by 11:00 AM of that third day (three workdays, not counting weekends and holidays).** Guests and new members will need to complete a registration form at the time of their reservation. Homebound seniors may call 1-800-953-1365 to receive Meals-on-Wheels.

Main Entrée Options

Tues., May 1: Haddock Italiano
Wed., May 2: Cheese Manicotti
Thurs., May 3: Tuscan Beef Stew
Fri., May 4: Pork Loin w/Gravy

Mon., May 7: Chicken Cacciatore
Tues., May 8: Hamburger Casserole
Wed., May 9: Sweet & Sour Chicken
Thurs., May 10: Eggplant Rolette
Fri., May 11: Lemon Pepper Fish

Mon., May 14: Orange Glazed Pork
Tues., May 15: Chicken Florentine
Wed., May 16: **To Be Decided**
Thurs., May 17: Honey Glazed Ham
Fri., May 18: No Lunch Served

Mon., May 21: Beef & Bean Burrito
Tues., May 22: Breaded Pork Patty
Wed., May 23: Parmesan Crusted Fish
Thurs., May 24: Baked Ziti w/Sausage
Fri., May 25: Honey Baked Chicken

Mon., May 28: Memorial Day-Closed
Tues., May 29: Beef Hot Dog w/Bun
Wed., May 30: Meatloaf w/Gravy
Thurs., May 31: Maple Pork Loin

Join us Wednesday, May 9th
at 12:45 PM for **Lunch & a Movie**

“The Proposal”
... a romantic comedy

starring Sandra Bullock
& Betty White

WELLNESS PROGRAMS & SUPPORT GROUPS

Please call Kathy Yaffee at 860-429-0262, ext. 4, Monday through Thursday, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, to schedule appointments with the providers listed below, unless otherwise noted.

ADULT HEALTH SCREENINGS by VNA East Nurse Mary Hess. Nominal charges for blood pressure, cholesterol, HDL cholesterol, blood glucose, earwax, and foot care. Checks payable to VNA East. May 10 & 16.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS on the first & third Wednesday of each month at 11:00 AM, offered by Interim Health Care. No appointments necessary for these free screenings. May 2 & 16.

CAREGIVER'S SUPPORT GROUP with Barbara La-voie every third Thursday at 6:30 PM. The group will meet on May 17th. Please call Barbara at 860-429-0262x1, for further information.

ELDERCARE LAW with Attorney Gates from CT Legal Services provided free to people 60 years or older, Monday, May 21st, 1:00-3:00 PM. Please call Kathy Yaffee for an appointment.

FOOTCARE with Dr. Walter, Podiatrist, Tuesday, May 8th, 9:00 AM. Medicare will be billed if you are eligible. Dr. Walter carries Dr. Comfort shoes, including M/C Diabetic shoes. Call Kathy for your appointment.

LOW VISION SUPPORT GROUP with Barbara Winslow the second Monday of each month from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM. The next meeting is Monday, May 14th.

MASSAGE THERAPY with Faith Manning the first and third Mondays of the month, payable to Faith. Please make your appointment with Kathy Yaffee. May 7th only.

M.S. SUPPORT GROUP meets the second Tuesday of each month in the Craft Room from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. The next meeting is May 8th. Please contact Susan Gavitt at 860-423-7413 for further information

REFLEXOLOGY every other Friday at 10:00 AM, with Therese John, still only \$15.00, payable to Therese John. May 11 & 25th.

BLUEBERRY STUDY

Blueberries must be ordered by
Thurs., May 10th, 11:00 AM

NO EXCEPTIONS! Blueberry pick-up is
Fri., May 18th, 11:00-11:30 AM

Blueberries are available to study participants only; however, you may become a new participant in the study by contacting Howard Raphaelson.

MAY CLASSES REQUIRING REGISTRATION

~ **QUILTING w/PAT** Thursdays, 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM. May 10 to 31 & June 7 to 21. Seven classes. \$42.00 residents; \$49.00 non-residents. This session is **"Finish It Up!"** Bring in anything you have that needs a finishing touch and/or assistance from Pat. *(Last session until fall.)*

- **Evening Quilting** first and third Wednesdays, 6:30 to 9:00 PM. Current session May 16, 30; and June 6, 20.
- **All-Day Quilting Mini-Retreat with Pat Monday, May 7th.** \$30.00 residents; \$35.00 non-residents.

~ **SENIOR AEROBICS** with Margie Stickles Mondays & Thursdays, 3:15-4:15 PM. May 7 to 31. Seven classes. \$35.00 residents; \$42.00 non-residents.

~ **SPARKETTES** with Richard Risley each Thursday at 10:00 AM. May 3 to 31. Five classes. \$25.00 residents; \$30.00 non-residents.

~ **T'AI CHI** with Laddie Sacharko on the following days: T'ai Chi Mondays, 9:00 AM; T'ai Chi Wednesdays, 9:15 & 10:15 AM; T'ai Chi Fridays, 1:00 PM. See calendar for actual dates. *Registration dependent on available space in classes.*

~ **WATERCOLORS** with Bill Dougal Tuesdays at 10:30 AM. May 1 to 29. Five classes. \$30.00 resident; \$35.00 non-residents. *(Last session until fall.)*

~ **YOGA** with Therese John Fridays, 9:00 AM. May 4 to 25. Four classes. \$20.00 residents; \$24.00 non-residents.

Genealogy Group with Helen Collins

Tuesday, May 8th, 10:00 AM
at the Mansfield Senior Center

The Genealogy Group meets the second Tuesday of the month and is **FREE**. This is a friendly group who gets tips and ideas from the leader, and also shares information with each other. All are welcome, no matter what stage of genealogy you are in. Call Helen at 860-429-4557 with any questions.

NON-FICTION BOOK CLUB

Are you interested in participating in a non-fiction book club? We have a volunteer who would like to form one. If you are, please call the receptionist and leave your name and phone number, and if enough people are interested, a club could be started.

MONDAY

TUESDAY

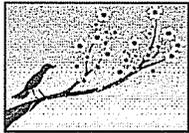
WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SAT. & SUN.

**May
2012**



<p>May 2012</p>	<p>1. 8:30-Strength/Stability 10:00-Scrabble 10:00-Wii Bowl 10:00-Ways & Means 10:30-Watercolors Class 12:00-Lunch 12:30-Lovely Old Bones 1:00-Bingo 1:30-Therapeutic Exer. 2:30-Computer Comm. 6:15-9:00-Dance-R</p>	<p>2. 9:15 & 10:15-T'ai Chi 9:30-Writing Group 11:00-Blood Pressure 12:00-Causeries en Français 12:00-<i>Birthdays Lunch</i> 12:45-<i>"Sign of the Times"</i> 5:45-7:45-Ballet-R</p>	<p>3. 8:30-Strength/ Stability 10:00-Sparkettes 10:00-Wii Bowl 10:00-Bridge w/Chinky 11:00-Conversation w/Betty 12:00-Lunch 12:30-Lovely Old Bones 1:00-Medicare Program w/Joe Courtney 1:00-Bridge 1:00-Jewelry 1:30-Therapeutic Exer. 3:15-Senior Aerobics 5:45-7:45-Ballet-R</p>	<p>4. 9:00-Yoga 10:00-Scrabble 10:00-Knitting & Crocheting 10:00-Photo Club 10:15-Zumba Gold 10:30-<i>Coffee & Ideas</i> 12:00-Lunch 1:00-Art Studio 1:00-T'ai Chi</p>	<p>5. Saturday ~~~~~ 6. Sunday</p>
<p>7. 9:00-Internet Class 9:00-T'ai Chi 10:00-Quilting Retreat w/Pat 10:00-Sparkettes / Art Studio 10:00-Computer Help 10:00-Ways & Means Mtg. 10:30-<i>Auricular Acupressure</i> 12:00-Lunch 1:00-Mahjongg 1:00-Beg.'s Tap 1:00-Chorus 1:00-Massage Therapy 3:15-Senior Aerobics 5:45-9:00-Ballroom-R</p>	<p>8. 8:30-Dr. Walter 8:30-Strength/Stability 9:00-Excel 10:00-Scrabble 10:00-Wii Bowl 10:00-Genealogy 10:30-Watercolors Class 12:00-Lunch 12:30-Lovely Old Bones 1:00-Bingo 1:30-Therapeutic Exer. 6:15-9:00-Dance-R 6:30-8:00-M.S. Support</p>	<p>9. 9:15 & 10:15-T'ai Chi 9:30-Writing Group 10:00-Executive Meeting 12:00-Causeries en Français 12:00-Lunch 12:45-Movie: <i>"The Proposal"</i> 5:45-7:45-Ballet-R 6:30-9:00-TNT Quilters</p>	<p>10. 8:30-VNA East 8:30-Strength & Stability 9:00-Excel 10:00-Sparkettes 10:00-Wii Bowl 10:00-Bridge w/Chinky 10:00-Quilting w/Pat 12:00-Lunch 12:30-Lovely Old Bones 1:00-Bridge 1:00-Jewelry 1:30-Therapeutic Exer. 3:15-Senior Aerobics 5:45-7:45-Ballet-R</p>	<p>11. 9:00-Yoga 10:00-Scrabble 10:00-Knitting & Crocheting 10:00-Reflexology 10:15-Zumba Gold 12:00-Lunch 1:00-Art Studio 1:00-T'ai Chi</p>	<p>12. Saturday ~~~~~ 13. Sunday <i>Mother's Day</i> </p>
<p>14. 9:00-Internet Class 9:00-T'ai Chi 10:00-Sparkettes 10:00-Art Studio 10:00-Computer Help 11:00-Low Vision Group 12:00-Lunch 1:00-Mahjongg 1:00-Beg.'s Tap 1:00-Chorus 3:15-Senior Aerobics 5:45-9:00-Ballroom-R</p>	<p>15. 8:30-Strength/Stability 9:00-Excel 10:00-Scrabble 10:00-Wii Bowl 10:30-Watercolors Class 12:00-Lunch 12:30-Lovely Old Bones 1:00-Bingo 1:30-Therapeutic Ex. 6:15-9:00-Dance-R</p>	<p>16. 8:30-VNA East 9:00-Lv. for Museum Trip 9:15 & 10:15-T'ai Chi 9:30-Writing Group 11:00-Blood Pressure 12:00-Causeries en Français 12:00-Special Lunch 12:45-<i>Kahana Hula Luau Show</i> 2:00-Red Hatters 5:45-7:45-Ballet-R 6:30-9:00-Evening Quilting w/Pat</p>	<p>17. 8:30-Strength & Stability 9:00-Excel 10:00-Sparkettes 10:00-Wii Bowl 10:00-Bridge w/Chinky 10:00-Quilting w/Pat 12:00-Lunch 12:30-Lovely Old Bones 1:00-Bridge 1:00-Jewelry 1:30-Therapeutic Exer. 3:15-Senior Aerobics 5:45-7:45-Ballet-R 6:30-Caregiver's Support Grp.</p>	<p>18. Bazaar Set Up 9:00-Yoga 10:00-Scrabble 10:00-Knitting (<i>Can.</i>) 10:00-Photo Club 10:15-Zumba Gold 11:30-Blueberry Pick-Up 12:00-Lunch Not Served 1:00-Art Studio (<i>Hobby Room</i>) 1:00-T'ai Chi</p>	<p>19. Saturday "Spring Bazaar" 9:00 AM-1:00 PM Armed Forces Day ~~~~~ 20. Sunday</p>

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SAT. & SUN.

21. 9:00-T'ai Chi
 9:00-Internet Class
 10:00-Sparkettes
 10:00-Art Studio
 10:00-Computer Help
 12:00-Lunch
 1:00-Program Planning
 1:00-Mahjongg
 1:00-Beg.'s Tap
 1:00-Chorus
 1:00-Atty. Gates
 3:15-Senior Aerobics
 5:45-9:00-Ballroom-R

22. 8:30-Strength/Stability
 10:00-Scrabble
 10:00-Wii Bowl
 10:00-Intro. to Comp.
 10:30-Watercolors Class
 12:00-Lunch
 12:30-Lovely Old Bones
 1:00-Bingo
 1:30-Therapeutic Ex.
 6:15-9:00-Dance-R

23. 9:15 & 10:15-T'ai Chi
 9:30-Writing Group
 12:00-Causeries en Français
 12:00-Lunch
 5:45-7:45-Ballet-R
 6:30-9:00-TNT Quilters

24. 8:30-Strength/Stability
 10:00-Sparkettes
 10:00-Wii Bowl
 10:00-Bridge w/Chinky
 10:00-Quilting w/Pat
 10:00-Intro. to Computers
 12:00-Lunch
 12:30-Lovely Old Bones
 1:00-Bridge / Jewelry
 1:30-Therapeutic Exer.
 3:15-Senior Aerobics
 5:45-7:45-Ballet-R

25. 9:00-Yoga
 10:00-Scrabble
 10:00-Knitting & Crocheting
 10:00-Reflexology
 10:15-Zumba Gold
 12:00-Lunch
 1:00-Duplicate Bridge
 1:00-Art Studio
 1:00-T'ai Chi

26. Saturday
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27. Sunday

28.
Memorial Day
(Observed)



Center Closed

29. 8:30-Strength/Stability
 10:00-Scrabble
 10:00-Wii Bowl
 10:00-Intro. to Comp.
 10:30-Watercolors Class
 12:00-Lunch
 12:30-Lovely Old Bones
 1:00-Bingo
 1:30-Therapeutic Ex.
 6:15-9:00-Dance-R

30. 9:15 & 10:15-T'ai Chi
 9:30-Writing Group
 12:00-Causeries en Français
 12:00-Lunch
 5:45-7:45-Ballet-R
 6:30-Evening Quilting

Memorial Day

31. 8:30-Strength/Stability
 10:00-Sparkettes
 10:00-Wii Bowl
 10:00-Bridge w/Chinky
 10:00-Quilting w/Pat
 10:00-Intro. to Computers
 12:00-Lunch
 12:30-Lovely Old Bones
 1:00-Bridge / Jewelry
 1:30-Therapeutic Exer.
 3:15-Senior Aerobics
 5:45-7:45-Ballet-R

*"Will you love me December as you do in May?
 Will you love me in the good old fashioned way?
 When my hair has all turned gray,
 Will you kiss me then and say,
 That you love me in December as you do in May?"*

~ James Walker



JUNE

June 6th: *"Beethoven's Chorus"*
 June 7th: Chinese Dance Troupe & Dinner
 June 13th: MSCA Annual Meeting
 June 13th: Movie: *"Seven Brides for Seven Brothers"*
 June 20th: Annual Spring Banquet



JULY

July 5th: Picnic Dinner & Movie
 July 11th: Movie *"Yankee Doodle Dandy"*
 starring James Cagney
Closed week of July 16-20 for annual cleaning & maintenance.

Classes followed by "R" are
 Recreation/Community Center-sponsored classes.

Please note that the *Senior Sparks* may be checked on the Town
 Web calendar at <http://mansfieldct.org> for updated changes.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

*Birthstone: Emerald for Happiness
Flower: Lily of the Valley for Purity*



- 1 Barbara Alley, Eleanore Gaynor
Constance Greene, Patricia Hiser
Angeline Paulson, Naomi Sanders
- 3 Elizabeth Norris, John Roulier
- 4 John Berg, William Nauss, Shirley Olsen
- 5 Jean Alcorn, Fred Emmert
- 6 LeRoy Faulkner, Lillian Gyure
Alice Raphaelson, Pamela Skoog
- 7 Lloyd Duff, Gladene Fait, Ivan Franson
Bettejane Karnes, Louise Longo, JoAnne Wood
- 8 George Waller
- 10 William Lonergan, Jr., Harold Mattern
Joan Watson
- 11 Jean Landry
- 12 Camille Ayala, Robert Guttay, Barbara Hood
Patricia Kirtley, Maybelle McCormick
Louis O'Mara, Doris Ouimette, Brenda Shaw
- 13 Patricia McHugh, Howard Yorke
- 14 Sylvia Corcoran, Helen Dombrowski
Joan Griffith, Clyde McKenna, Alice Reynolds
- 15 Bernard Baldwin, Robert Burns
Benjamin Cosenza, Kay Holt
Kenneth Moorhead, Joanne Nolan
- 16 Arthur Perretta, Mary Thatcher
- 17 Edith Breault, Albert Ching, Mary Turcotte
- 18 Fred Brown, I. Ridgeway Davis, John Dudek
Winifred James, Barbara Roy, Betty Savage
- 19 Joan DeBella, Linda Frazier, Louise Hawkins
Ron Milavsky, Harriet Pettingill, Carl Raynor
- 20 Elinor Chovnick, Georgette Comeau
Catherine Johnson, Louis Loyzim
- 21 Eunice Brewer, James Fandell, Sue Graham
- 22 Evelyn Budzinski, Marueen Cepelak
Jim Durdan, Beverly Young
- 23 Walter Banas, Erika Kares, Gerda Michaels
Caroline Provost, Dorothy Rondeau
Helen Schroeter
- 24 Maggie Chambers, Paul Klemens
- 25 Maybelle Guttay, Hedi LaBranche
- 26 Jessie Daniels, Teresa Galipeau
- 27 Richard Brown, Kim Henryk, Sandy Martino
Anne Piontek
- 29 Aline Booth, Jane Howard, Marion Ryan
- 30 Paul Barbeau, Granville Beschler
Shirley Corcoran, Mary Francis
Suzanne Hill, Lois Meyers, Donald Stitts
- 31 Paula Clebnik, Elinor Gadoury, Henry Gile
Susan McDougall, Barbara Moore

Happy Birthday to our April Attendees:

*Ruth Gunn, Jim Campetelle, Beverly Gotch,
Ted Lamb, Marilyn Gerling & Rose Ferreri (102!)*



Birthday Lunch:

June 6th: "Beethoven's Chorus"

Cards

Duplicate Bridge: March 16, 2012

NS

- 1. Paula Tate & Mary Shinoski 51.5
- 2. Jenny Shaffer & Omar Sheppard 49
- 3. Floyd Bass & Carol Hewitt 48

EW

- 1. Phanindra & Paul Stanton 51.5
- 2. (Tie) Jeanne Haas & Sally Hirakis 47.5
- 2. (Tie) Barbara Hood & Michael Stephens 47.5
- 3. Doris Ledoyt & Anna McLain 44.5

Duplicate Bridge: April 4, 2012

NS

- 1. Jerry Schaffer & Omar Sheppard 60.5
- 2. Aline Booth & Jeanne Haas 59.5
- 3. Betty Savage & Muriel Fenn 55.5

EW

- 1. Sue Losee & Ellie Tambornini 61
- 2. Joe & Mary Ann Fodor 52.5
- 3. (Tie) Andrea Marshall & Noreen Steele 45
- 3. (Tie) Michael Stephens & Barbara Hood 45

Gram Scam by Joan Buck, March 27, 2012

I am writing this account of my recent experience being scammed to help other seniors recognize and deal with similar situations. My scammers were clever and sophisticated in their methods, and they well understood how to manipulate a naive victim. (This account is abbreviated for space reasons.)

On the afternoon of March 12, 2012, I was called by someone claiming to be my grandson. He said he was calling from Canada where he had gone for a friend's wedding. He said he had done a lot of partying over the weekend and had driven his rental car on an errand and been in an accident. The investigating officer had him take a breathalyzer test, which he failed. As a result he was arrested and jailed. He was calling from jail to ask if I would make his bail and pay his court costs. I was horrified and asked if he had called his parents. He said tearfully that he could not bring himself to call them because he was so ashamed. He made me promise not to tell his parents until he did so. I promised, urging him to call them as soon as possible. He told me that his attorney would be calling me to instruct me on how to send the money by Western Union.

Shortly thereafter someone claiming to be the attorney called and told me how much to send and how to do so. I followed his instructions, and then reported the numbers on the order forms to him. The next day the lawyer's assistant called to say he would need more money to get my grandson released and to pay for an airline ticket and a driver to take my grandson to the airport. There were two possible flights he could get. Again, I complied, never suspecting that the entire scheme was a hoax.

The next day I spoke with the original lawyer, who explained that the plaintiffs were bringing a civil suit against my grandson for \$10,000, but he succeeded in getting that reduced to \$1,144. So, of course, I would need to send him that amount. I became quite frantic, wondering how my grandson was holding up and hoping he had called his parents. The lawyer said that he had not yet called them. Again I had the money sent to cover the plea deal and called the attorney to confirm the transfers. So far I had spent \$5,672, and there seemed to be no closure in sight.

Thursday the assistant called to say that the original lawyer had made a mistake that Western Union had not released the funds, and so I would need to send the same amounts again. He assured me that he would see that I got the original transfers back. Later that night, after I had sent more money, the assistant called to say my grandson had been released but missed his flight and was staying in a hotel. He will confirm on Friday the flight that my grandson was to take.

On Friday the assistant called to say my grandson had fired the original lawyer for unethical behavior! There has been an even more unexpected change of plans; the plaintiffs had decided to sue for \$25,000! At that point I said that I was unsure how I could manage that and would have to talk with my financial advisor. I did so, found that I could set up an escrow account in that amount, but she said I should "think about it." This was clearly a hint that she felt something was amiss. Right away I called my daughter in Florida, who said that my grandson was indeed at home and had just left for work. When she asked what the problem was, I told her I had been scammed. I then called the local State Trooper, who came and took my statement. He then advised me to report the scam and suggested I call my lawyer. I am now in the process of educating any senior I can reach, as the search continues for the culprits.

Speak Up! Speak Out!

Birdbrains

by Cynara Stites, *Writer's Group*

Every spring for the 30 years I've lived in my house in Storrs, a female bird builds a nest on the outside light fixture by the front door. She lays eggs, sits on the eggs until the eggs hatch, brings food to her baby birds, and hovers over the little birds while they flap around learning to fly. I call the birds the "small birds" because the actual name of their bird species escaped my brain many years ago.

The bird had long been settled in her nest on one unforgettable early May night when I said "goodnight" to my husband and settled in my bed. I was dozing off when I heard the UConn professor, who stayed overnight twice a week, come in the front door. Minutes later, all hell broke loose. It sounded like the professor and my husband were going around the house banging doors and kitchen cabinets. After a few minutes of this noisy commotion, my husband came into the bedroom. "How should we get rid of the bird that got into the house when Lee came in?" he asked. Although my husband and the professor had about 40 years of education between them, they had no idea how to get the bird out of the house. I immediately figured out what to do. I told my husband to turn off all the lights in the house, prop open the door to the deck, and turn on the outside deck light. As I expected, the bird flew right out the deck door and back to her nest by the front door. The bird's departure left only two birdbrains in the house ... and neither birdbrain was me.



Do you have any comments, articles, a favorite poem, etc., you would like in the Sparks? Please see Kathy Rule, or leave a message at 860-429-0262, ext. 5. She will return your call as soon as she can. Thank you.

MSCA Computer Learning Center — MAY Classes

* **Free help for PC users** with Dan Gebben every Monday from 10:00-11:00 AM in the Computer Lab.

* **Free “Photo Club”** with Dan Gebben every first and third Friday of the month in the Computer Lab from 10:00 AM to noon. This is an ongoing club, and all are welcome to attend.

* **FREE “Mac Club”** at the Mansfield Senior Center. Call Frank Trainor or Mike Palmer at 860-429-0262, ext. 7, for more information. Please leave your name and phone number.

(The following courses are \$10.00, payable with registration at the Mansfield Senior Center. If you have any questions, please call the Computer Lab at 860-429-0262, ext. 7, and leave your name and number.)

Internet Class with George Jones Mondays, 9:00-11:00 AM, May 7, 14, & 21st. Prerequisite: Introduction to Computers or equivalent. Electronic communication through e-mail. Searching for information via the world-wide web.

Excel with Mike Beschler Tuesdays & Thursdays, 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM, May 8, 10, 15, & 17. Prerequisite: Introduction to Computers or equivalent experience. In Excel, you create a document that can automatically perform all of the mathematic functions (addition, division, multiplication, and subtraction) by just entering the data. For example, a check register would allow you to enter only the date, the payee, and the amount. The current balance would be calculated automatically by formulas you have constructed to suit your circumstances. But Excel can also manipulate data such as names and telephone numbers. By entering a name, a document can automatically look up the phone number, address, and other information previously entered into a table. In this course, you can learn how to work with numbers and data.

Introduction to Computers with Dan Gebben Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM, May 22, 24, 29, 31, & June 3. Areas to be covered include basic computer use, mouse control, games, folders and files creation, word processing, saving and deleting, E-mail, Skype, Facebook, Internet usage, purchasing a computer, troubleshooting, maintenance, and the media player.

Where’s Waldo?!

Find the hidden item listed below somewhere in this issue, and send in the answer on the entry form to: Mansfield Senior Center/MSCA, 303 Maple Road, Storrs CT 06268, by May 9th, or drop in the box at the Front Desk, in order to qualify for the drawing. At the end of that day, we will draw one name from all of the correct entries, and that person will win a free lunch on the Association at the Mansfield Senior Center.

“Hidden Item” Entry Form

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Correct Page & Answer #:

Hidden Item: the word “flowers”

The May winner will be announced in the June issue of **Sparks**. Please, only one entry per person. Good luck!

Ten entries for April, and the winner is: Jan Scottron.

Congratulations!

MSCA News

CALL TO MEETING

Mansfield Senior Center Association Members:

The Mansfield Senior Center Association’s Annual Meeting will be Wednesday, June 13, 2012, at 12:45 PM. One item on the agenda is the approval of the proposed budget listed below. We encourage all Association members to attend this important annual meeting.

**Mansfield Senior Center Association, Inc.,
Proposed Budget for
FY 2012/2013**

INFLOWS

Association	\$	500.00
Bread		750.00
Bridge		300.00
Cards		300.00
Coffee		300.00
Interest		10.00
Donations		250.00
Craft Sale		500.00
Jewelry		500.00
Knitting		500.00
Lunch		250.00
Miscellaneous		250.00
Newsletter		2,300.00
Spring Sale		1,750.00
Winter Event		2,250.00
Operating Surplus		1,575.00

TOTAL INFLOWS \$12,285.00

OUTFLOWS

Association Expense	1,485.00
Food Supplies	1,750.00
Insurance	1,200.00
Music	500.00
Paper Goods	350.00
Program	3,500.00
Program Food	500.00
Sparks	2,750.00
Ways & Means	250.00

TOTAL OUTFLOWS \$12,285.00

FULL PAGE FOR ADVERTISEMENTS



Save the Date!

**Wednesday,
June 20th**

The Mansfield Senior Center Association
will present its

~ Annual Banquet ~

Confirmed information will follow in
the June issue of *Sparks*.

*Yes! Please renew my Sparks subscription!
(Covers period July 1, 2012, to June 30, 2013)*

(PLEASE PRINT)

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**Mansfield Senior Center
303 Maple Road
Mansfield-Storrs, CT 06268**

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