



# THE MANSFIELD MINUTE OCTOBER 2016

*www.mansfieldct.gov*

- *The Town Hall will be closed on Monday, Oct. 10, for Columbus Day.*
- *Have you changed the batteries in your smoke detectors & CO alarms? It's that time of year!*
- *The next **Repair Café** will take place on Saturday, Oct. 22, 10AM-2PM, First Congregational Church, Arnold Auditorium, 199 Valley Street, Willimantic.*
- *Did you know that take-out cold beverage cups are recyclable (without liquid or ice, please!) The straw goes in the trash.*

## **Fran Raiola Will Be Our New Fire Chief**

*The Town is pleased to announce that Mr. Fran Raiola will be appointed to the position of Fire Chief effective October 15, 2016.*

Mr. Raiola is an accomplished professional with over three decades experience in the Fire and Emergency services field. Most recently, Mr. Raiola has been serving as the Town's Deputy Chief-Fire Marshal-Emergency Management Director since April 2012. Mr. Raiola has been with the Town of Mansfield since September 2000 and previously served in the capacity of Assistant Chief-Deputy Fire Marshal-Assistant Emergency Management Director. Mr. Raiola was a member of the UCONN Fire Department, ultimately rising to the position of Captain/Shift Commander/Deputy Fire Marshal. Mr. Raiola holds an associate's degree from Charter Oak College and numerous certifications in the Fire and Emergency Services field. Matt Hart, Town Manager, states that, "Chief Raiola has the volunteer, operational, and command experience that we are looking for. I also value his experiences as Fire Marshal and Emergency Management Director. Chief Raiola is cool and composed under pressure, always professional, and cares deeply about this community. He is an exemplary manager and leader, and I look forward to working with him in his new role."

*(Continued on page 2)*

## **David Dagon Retiring as Fire Chief**

*David Dagon, Mansfield's Fire Chief, is retiring from the Town after 14 years of dedicated service.*

Mr. Dagon is Mansfield's first career chief; the municipal Fire and Emergency Services Department was created in 2005 following the consolidation of two non-profit fire companies.

His last day of work is October 14. A retirement reception will be held in his honor on Wednesday, October 19, from 5:30-7:30 PM at the Deanston House on Middle Turnpike Road. Tickets are \$30. RSVPs can be made to Erica Sledge in the Fire Chief's Office, [Erica.Sledge@mansfieldct.org](mailto:Erica.Sledge@mansfieldct.org).



David Dagon, retiring Fire Chief; Fran Raiola, new Fire Chief; and Matt Hart, Town Manager.

(Raiola, cont. from page 1)

Mr. Raiola will be the Town’s second career Chief, succeeding David Dagon, who will be retiring this fall after 14 years of dedicated service to the Town.

The Town is currently planning a swearing in ceremony and reception for Mr. Raiola. The reception will be held on Thursday, October 13, 2016 from 6-7 PM in Council Chambers of the Beck Municipal Building, 4 South Eagleville Road, Mansfield, Connecticut. All are welcome to attend.

The municipal Fire and Emergency Services Department was created in 2005, following the consolidation of two non-profit fire companies. Mansfield Fire and Emergency Services is a combination workforce of career and volunteer personnel. For FY 16/17, the Department has 21 paid full-time equivalent positions (combination of full and part-time staff), 30 active volunteer members of the Mansfield Firefighter’s Association, and an annual operating budget of \$2,196,280. Mansfield has 3 fire stations, all of which have paid staff located on duty 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

### No Call is Too Small

The Connecticut State Police and the Mansfield Resident Trooper’s Office want to remind citizens to call police at the first sign of bothersome activity such as a suspicious person or a gathering causing a public nuisance or disturbance. Many citizens feel that a call to the police regarding suspicious activity or the start of a party can be looked at as nonessential or bothersome to police. This is simply not true as police will respond to any and all complaints.

*No call is too small* - if it’s a concern of yours, it’s a concern of ours. The sooner we know the better chance we have of controlling the situation.

The Connecticut State Police and the Mansfield Resident Trooper’s Office conduct police services for the Town of Mansfield 24 hours a day, year round. In the event that you have any type of issue that causes you concern, please contact us immediately at 860-429-6024 or 860-896-3200.

### Your Town Needs You!

*Do you want to have a say in the direction the Town is taking?*

*Do you have a skill, a passion, an interest to share?*

*Do you want to make Mansfield an even better place to live?*

#### **Why not VOLUNTEER?**

Mansfield has over 30 advisory boards and commissions from which to choose, including: Agricultural Committee, Arts Advisory Committee, Cemetery Committee, Historic District Commission, Open Space Preservation Committee, and Parks Advisory, to name a few.

To find out more about a committee, you can visit [mansfieldct.gov](http://mansfieldct.gov) and view committee agendas and minutes or contact the Town Clerk’s office at 860-429-3302 for more information.

Most committees meet once a month. To submit your volunteer application visit the Town’s website: [https://www.mansfieldct.org/forms/committee\\_sign\\_up.html](https://www.mansfieldct.org/forms/committee_sign_up.html)

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



### Water Conservation Emergency

Due to this summer’s dry conditions, we are experiencing low stream flows in the area. UConn has now issued a Stage IV Water Supply Emergency. Both the Town and UConn are requesting your support and cooperation to conserve water until further notice. Depending on your water source, some conservation measures may be mandatory (this is the case for UConn water customers).

We are asking everyone to voluntarily conserve water. There are many ways to conserve, including taking shorter showers, running washers with full loads, don’t run water continuously when washing up or brushing your teeth, don’t wash your car or house, and water your lawn or garden as little as possible. Thanks!

More information at [www.mansfieldct.gov/news/?FeedID=3003](http://www.mansfieldct.gov/news/?FeedID=3003)



## National Fire Prevention Week

*Don't Wait – Check the Date!*

*Replace Smoke Alarms Every 10 Years*

Fire Prevention Week commemorates the Great Chicago Fire in October 1871. The two day blaze killed more than 250 people, left hundreds of thousands homeless, and destroyed more than 2,000 acres in urban Chicago. According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), US fire departments responded to an estimated 367,500 home structure fires in 2014. These fires caused 2,745 deaths, 11,825 civilian injuries, and \$6.8 billion in direct damage.

Every year during the month of October, the Mansfield Fire Marshal's office organizes and conducts a series of classes and events that promote fire prevention. The Fire Marshal's 2016 curriculum includes teaching age specific material to children in grades Pre K- 5th, and UConn students living off campus. Additionally, fire officials give presentations at local businesses, neighborhoods, and community events. Town fire officials will visit area schools to conduct interactive programs to educate students and staff on fire safety. The programs are comprised of an inside educational presentation followed by an outside demonstration and viewing of fire apparatus.

For the past three years the NFPA has focused on different aspects of smoke alarms and escape plans. The 2016 theme highlights the importance of replacing smoke alarms every 10 years to ensure alarms are still fully operational. From 2009-2013, the NFPA reported that three out of five home fire deaths were caused by fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.

For more information on events, how to get involved, or to pick up an activity book for your child please stop in at the Fire Marshal's Office in Town Hall, call 806-429-3328, or visit the Town website at [www.MansfieldCT.org](http://www.MansfieldCT.org).

More information about national efforts can be found at [www.FirePreventionWeek.org](http://www.FirePreventionWeek.org).



# WALKTOBER™

## National Walking Month

For a complete listing of Walking Weekends events, see the complete brochure at [thelastgreenvalley.org](http://thelastgreenvalley.org)

- Sept. 24 & 25 – Atwood Farm Art Exhibit, 624 Wormwood Hill Rd., (860-429-9023)
- Saturday, Oct. 1, 1 PM—Walk 50 Feet With a View, 954 Storrs Rd. (Rte. 195), (860-429-6257)
- Sunday, Oct. 9, 11 AM—Mansfield Hollow Dam Tour, 141 Mansfield Hollow Rd., Many stairs (860-923-2982) \*No photos of gatehouse!\*
- Sunday, Oct. 16, 1 – 3 PM—A Look at Water Life. Moss Sanctuary, 10 S. Eagleville Rd., Park in Community Center lot. Meet by front door. (860-429-6257)
- Saturday, Oct. 22, 2 – 4 PM—Wolf Rock and the Meaning of Deep Time, Wolf Rock Nature Preserve, Crane Hill Rd., (860-429-9023)
- Sunday, Oct. 23, 1 – 3 PM– Between a Rock and a Marshy Place: explore Wolf Rock & Sawmill Brook Preserves (860-429-6257)
- Sunday, Oct. 23, 2-4PM — *Quietly Revolutionary* Join local storyteller Carolyn Stearns at the old Mansfield Center Cemetery to learn about people who played important roles in the Revolution.
- Saturday, Oct. 29, 10 AM—Coney Rock - What a Rock! Mulberry Rd., Parking for several cars at trailhead. (860-455-9914)

## Halloween in Mansfield Saturday, October 29

- Library Open House 9 AM to 3 PM. Spooky Garden, Mystery Graveyard, crafts, treats and stories.
- Trick-or-Treat in Downtown Storrs 4-5 PM. Wear your costume & have FUN downtown!
- Annual Halloween Party & Trick-A-Trunk at the Community Center, 5-6:30 PM.

## Mansfield Pup Crawl

Saturday, Oct. 15, 9:30 AM, Town Square  
Join the Mansfield Downtown Partnership for a guided walk through Downtown Storrs with your four-legged friends! Rain or shine over varied terrain. Dogs must be leashed. [mansfieldct.gov/pupcrawl](http://mansfieldct.gov/pupcrawl)





# October Events and Activities in Mansfield



## Parks and Recreation

### Fall Family Fun Nights

Saturday, Oct. 8, 4:30-7:30 PM

Friday, Oct. 21, 5:30-8:30 PM

No fee for members, non-members pay the daily fee.

### Recreation Rescue

Tuesday, Oct. 11, 7:30 - 5:30 PM

One day camp on teacher professional days. Open to grades K-8, meet in the MMS gym for games, crafts & free play. Field Trip to to Nomad's Adventure Quest.

### Family Paint Nights

Saturday, Oct. 22, 6:30-8:30 PM

Acrylic paint so dress for a mess! Each person paints a 16" x 20" canvas. Supplies and step-by-step instruction provided.

Artist featured this session:

Pablo Picasso. Fee.



### Annual Halloween Party & Trick or Trunk

Saturday, Oct. 29, 5-6:30 PM

Dress up in costume and join us for games, craft activities and trick-a-trunking. What's that?

Trick or Treating around our back parking lot, filled with cars and volunteers who hand out treats! This event is geared to kids 10 and under.



### Town of Mansfield, Connecticut

Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building

4 South Eagleville Road, Mansfield, CT 06268

[mansfieldct.gov](http://mansfieldct.gov)

860.429.3336

## Mansfield Public Library

### Mansfield Library Storywalk

October 1 - October 31

Enjoy a self-guided storywalk on the playground, featuring *Zinnia's Flower Garden* by Monica Wellington.

### Family Nature Walk in Mansfield

Tuesday, Oct. 11, 1:30 - 2:30 PM

Southeast Elementary School  
Meet behind the ball field. Gary Drew will lead families on an hour-long hike.

### Film Discussion— Psycho

Thursday, Oct. 13, 7 PM

A new series of film screenings and discussions. The first in the series is Hitchcock's 1960 classic, *Psycho*.

### Documenting the Dead

Monday Oct. 17, 6:30 PM

@ the Library Express

Dustin Pari from SyFy's [Ghost Hunters](#) will talk about his experiences searching for proof of the afterlife.

### Fall Crafts for Kids

Tuesday, Oct. 18, 4-5:30 PM

Drop in after school to make fall-themed crafts and decorations

### Quietly Revolutionary

Sunday, Oct. 23, 2-4 PM

Old Mansfield Center Cemetery  
Join local storyteller Carolyn Stearns to learn about people who played important roles in the American Revolution.

### Halloween Open House

Saturday, Oct. 29, 9AM – 3PM

Visit the spooky garden, and follow the maze to the Mystery Graveyard, crafts, stories, treats!

## Mansfield Senior Center

### Flu Clinic

Monday, Oct. 3, 1-3 PM

You will need a copy of your insurance card and your license. Call 860-487-9870 to make an appointment.

### Bistro Lunch

Wednesday, Oct. 5, 12 PM

Performance by the Cameo Club at 1 PM. Lunch TBD. Please pay by October 3, \$7.

### Home Cooked Luncheon

Friday, October 7, 12 PM

Performance by Tony Memmel at 1 PM. Butternut Squash Soup, Chicken breast with sautéed mushrooms, Green Beans, Autumn Greens and Chocolate Chip cookies. Please pay by October 4.

### FoodShare Distribution

Oct. 13, 27, 11:30-12:15 PM

If you have a need for food, stop by. No questions about income. Please bring your grocery bags.

### Gen Silent Screening

Thursday, Oct. 13,

5:30 PM Light Dinner (free)

6 PM Screening. There will be a panel led discussion after the viewing. Register by Oct. 7 by calling 866-740-6947 or visit

<https://aarp.event.com/CTGENSILENT1013>

### Masquerade Ball

Wednesday, Oct. 19, 11:30-1:30

Sarah D's Chili, cornbread and a side. Best costume/mask wins a prize & door prizes in general. \$7. Pay by Friday, October 14.

