



# THE MANSFIELD MINUTE JANUARY 2017

*www.mansfieldct.gov*

- *Town Hall will be closed on January 2 for New Year's Day.*
- *Town Hall will be closed on January 16 for Martin Luther King Day.*
- *The next **Repair Café** will take place on Saturday, Jan. 14, 10AM-2PM, First Congregational Church, Arnold Auditorium, 199 Valley Street, Willimantic.*



**Open Mansfield**  
[open.mansfieldct.gov](http://open.mansfieldct.gov)

Do you have questions about the town's budget?  
Go to [Open Mansfield](http://OpenMansfield) and get answers!

### **Mansfield Annual Report Now Available**

The Town of Mansfield Fiscal Year 2015-2016 annual report is now available online at [www.mansfieldct.gov/annualreport](http://www.mansfieldct.gov/annualreport).

Hard copies of the report are available at the Town Hall in the Town Clerk's Office, Community Center, Senior Center and Library.

It's full of great information about the town!



## Gearing Up for the FY 17/18 Budget Process

*Each year the Town prepares an operating budget and capital improvement program.*

Pursuant to state law, the Town operates on a July 1—June 30 fiscal year. Most of the key dates in the Town's budget process will occur in late winter/spring 2017 for the July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018 fiscal year. The Town budgets for its anticipated revenues and expenditures needed to provide services such as Pre K-12 education, fire and police protection, snow plowing, and a public library. The capital budget provides funding for projects such as road paving, drainage projects, and school building renovations.

Under the council-manager form of government, the Town Manager develops and proposes an operating and capital budget to the Town Council, usually in late March of every year. The Town Council then holds a series of workshops, hearings, and information sessions on the budget, adopting a budget annually in late April. Electors in Mansfield then vote on the submitted budget at the annual Town Meeting. The 2017 Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 9, 2017 at 7 PM in the Mansfield Middle School Auditorium.

Electors and citizens are encouraged to actively participate in the budget process by attending budget workshops, public information sessions and hearings, and voting at the annual town meeting. The Town video-records as many budget workshops and hearings as possible on its government access channel (Channel 191 for Charter subscribers) and on the Town's website (live streaming and archived footage for 30 days), [www.mansfieldct.gov/MansfieldTV](http://www.mansfieldct.gov/MansfieldTV).

In late March 2017 hard copies of the Manager's proposed FY 17/18 budget are distributed to the following locations for public viewing: Town Clerk's Office; Mansfield Community Center; Mansfield Public Library; and the Mansfield Senior Center. The budget will also be available to view online at the Town's website, [www.mansfieldct.gov/Budget](http://www.mansfieldct.gov/Budget).

Some Mansfield homeowners are eligible for property tax relief. Taxpayers that may be eligible for property tax relief include veterans, seniors, disabled persons, and farm owners. Information about tax abatement programs in Mansfield, including eligibility requirements, can be obtained by contacting our Assessor's Office at 860-429-3311 or on the web at [www.mansfieldct.gov/Assessor](http://www.mansfieldct.gov/Assessor).

## Four Corners Sewer Project: Update

*The purpose of the Project is to develop the Four Corners area into a vibrant and economically successful commercial gateway to Town.*

The Four Corners Sanitary Sewer Project is proposed to encompass an approximately 500 acre area near the intersection of Routes 44 and 195 in northern Mansfield known as “Four Corners” and is considered to be the gateway to Mansfield.

While the Four Corners is one of a few limited areas identified in the [Mansfield Tomorrow Plan](#) as appropriate for higher density mixed use development, the area has been unable to achieve this vision due to inadequate supplies of water and inadequate sanitary sewage disposal due to a high groundwater table and unsuitable soils for long-term use of on-site septic disposal systems for commercial entities.

The lack of public water service is being addressed through the construction of a new water main by a private water company.



### 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 Planning and Zoning Commission’s Regulatory Review Committee is currently working on updates to Zoning Regulations related to multi-family housing in Mansfield.

As part of this process, the Committee will also be considering potential changes to development and design standards in the Four Corners area to facilitate more pedestrian friendly design. It is expected that the Committee will also be considering other changes to permitted uses in the Four Corners area based on availability of public water and sewer service as the comprehensive update of Zoning Regulations moves forward in 2017.



The Connecticut Water Company has completed construction of a pipeline to bring public water to Four Corners which is now active and available for property owners to connect.



The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection has issued a Record of Decision supporting the sewer project, allowing for the 3 million dollar grant to be available for the Town to complete construction. The Town’s consultant is completing design of the pumping stations and the Town is negotiating with property owners to secure easements. Construction is expected to begin in 2017 and is estimated to last two construction seasons.

## Mansfield awarded FM Global Grant

The Town of Mansfield has received a \$2,250 fire prevention grant from FM Global, one of the world’s largest commercial property insurers. The award will be used to assist fire investigators determine the cause of a fire.

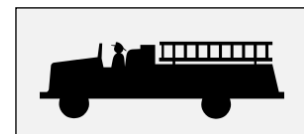
The Mansfield Fire Marshal’s Office has been committed to using its resources to prevent fires and reduce property damage through a team approach.

They will be purchasing a Nikon camera and Pelican remote lighting system with the grant funds.

“The camera equipment will allow us to better document scenes and evidence during fire and explosion investigations. It will also be used to educate our community in fire prevention and education and in the training of our fire investigators,” said Fire Chief Fran Raiola. “The lighting equipment will assist with processing fire scenes to determine origin and case and will not require us to use fuel operated generators.”

FM Global representatives presented the award to Fire Chief Fran Raiola, Assistant Town Manager Maria Capriola, and Finance Director Cheryl Trahan on November 21, 2016.

For additional information on fire prevention and safety, visit [www.mansfieldct.gov](http://www.mansfieldct.gov) and select Departments & Services, then Fire Marshal, or contact the office at 860-429-3328.



## Recycling 101 Talking Trash!

Monday, Jan. 30, 6:30 – 7:30 PM  
*From time to time, everybody wonders,  
“Is this recyclable?”*

Join Town of Mansfield Recycling Coordinator, Ginny Walton, at the Community Center for this free, fun, and interactive workshop! Gain a better understanding of what is recyclable, what is compostable, and what is just plain trash, learning to best separate and minimize “waste” in your own home. Questions about the program? Contact Ginny at 860-429-3333 or [waltonvd@mansfieldct.org](mailto:waltonvd@mansfieldct.org).



## Just Eat It — Movie and Discussion

Monday, Jan. 19, 6:30-8 PM at the library.  
*Just Eat It: A Food Waste Story* premiered in 2014 and has since won numerous film festival awards. Follow two food lovers and filmmakers through their discovery of the massive food waste in North America (from farm to fridge), their decision to live off only discarded food, and the unexpected consequences and discoveries that came along with their adventure to bring attention to the global consequences of food waste. Discussion Leader is Ginny Walton, Recycling Coordinator.

## Fingerprinting Services Suspended at Mansfield Resident Trooper’s Office

Effective January 1, 2017, the Town of Mansfield will suspend its fingerprinting services temporarily while alternative options are considered.

Fingerprinting services are available at the following locations:

*Troop C, 1320 Tolland Stage Road, Tolland, CT*

- Seven Days a Week, no appointment necessary,
- 7 AM, 3 PM and 11 PM
- Fee \$15.00

*State Police Headquarters, 1111 Country Club Road, Middletown, CT*

- Monday thru Friday, 8:30 AM – 4:15 PM
- No appointment necessary
- Fee \$15.00

*UConn Police Department, 126 N. Eagleville Rd., Storrs, CT*

- Tuesday, 1-3 PM
- Wednesday, 5-8 PM
- Thursday, 1- 3 PM



THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC: Our Communities, Our Concern  
SAVE THE DATE

**Wednesday, February 8, 2017**

Tolland High School Auditorium, 1 Eagle Hill, Tolland

**5:30 PM** doors open for resource fair **6:30 PM** featured speaker address begins

**Featured Speaker** Greg Williams, national recovery leader, director of the award-winning film *The Anonymous People*, and recently released film *Generation Found*

**Panel Discussion** with audience question and answer

**Resource Fair** will include NARCAN demonstration and training, drug take-back station, and representatives from local support programs & service agencies.



Open to all

More information coming in January 2017

Snow Date February 28, 2017



# January Events and Activities in Mansfield



## Parks and Recreation

### **Creative Kids/ Parents Night Out**

Friday, Jan. 6, 6-8:30 PM  
Drop off children in grades pre-K—6 for evening of fun with pizza, drinks and art project. Fee.

### **Winter Family Fun Nights**

Saturday, Jan. 7  
4:30—7:30 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.

Winter Frozen theme!

### **Free Mansfield Days**

Saturday, Jan. 7, 6:30 AM-8 PM  
Sunday, Jan. 8, 8 AM-8 PM  
Mansfield residents come for free with proof of residency.

### **Family Paint Nights**

Saturday, Jan. 21, 4-6 PM  
Acrylic paint so dress for a mess!  
Each participant paints a 16" x 20" canvas. Supplies and step-by-step instruction provided. Fee.  
Artist for this month: Matisse.



### **Storrs Winter Farmers Market**

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

2017 Winter dates:

January 7 and 21

February 4 and 18

March 4 and 18

April 8 and 22

For more info:

[storrsfarmersmarket.org](http://storrsfarmersmarket.org)

## Mansfield Public Library

*The Library is Closed for  
Maintenance January 3-5.*

### **Weekly Toddler Time**

Starts up again on  
Friday, January 6, 10:30-12  
Stories, songs and playtime for ages  
birth to 3 with a caregiver.

### **Board Game Night at the Library Express!**

Tuesday, Jan. 10, 6–9 PM  
Enjoy board games in a fun and relaxed setting. *Remember! Two hours free parking in the garage.*

### **Big Night**

#### **Screening & Discussion**

Thursday, Jan. 12, 7 PM  
In 1996 first time directors Stanley Tucci and Campbell Scott created this indie comedy about a failing Italian restaurant run by two brothers who gamble on one special night to try to save their business.

### **After School Fun: Get Ready for the Year of the Rooster**

Tuesday, Jan. 24, 4 – 5:30 PM  
Stories, crafts and activities that celebrate this important and colorful festival.

### **What the Buddha?**

Tuesday Jan. 24, 7 PM  
In this two hour class, instructor John Schwenk will give an overview of the teachings of the Buddha, known as the dharma.

### **Black Bears in Connecticut**



Thursday Jan. 26, 6:30 PM  
Learn about the natural history of black bears in CT, their habitat, diet, behavior, and current research efforts.

## Mansfield Senior Center

### **FoodShare Distribution**

Thursday, Jan. 5 and 19  
11:30–12.00  
Parking Lot of 303 Maple Rd.  
Bring your own shopping bag!

### **AARP Fraud Watch**

Tuesday, Jan. 10, 10 AM



Understand the psychology behind ID Theft and other scams affecting your family and community. Please call 860-487-9870.

### **Aging Well**

Thursday, Jan. 12, 1 PM  
Jo Anne Harrison-Becker will discuss accepting and managing changes that occur while aging. Please call 860-487-9870

### **Winter Wonderland Luncheon and Show**

Wednesday, Jan. 18, 12 PM  
Lunch with entertainment by Airborne Jazz Trio following the meal. Please purchase your \$7 ticket by January 11. No tickets sold at the door.

### **Your Meaningful Journey**

Mondays, Jan 23, 30, Feb 6, 13,  
10:30-11:30 AM  
A free series with Lois Happe, Spiritual Director. We will discuss what gives your life meaning and enjoyment. Call 860-487-9870.

### **Fresh Friday**

Friday, Jan. 27, 12 PM  
Enjoy some homemade lasagna, salad and dessert. Please purchase your \$7.00 ticket by January 24. No tickets sold at the door.

