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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

6th Annual Winter Fun Day: Saturday, February 4

Event will include a food drive for the Covenant Soup Kitchen

January 23, 2012 – The Mansfield Downtown Partnership and the Town of Mansfield Parks and Recreation Department invite area residents to celebrate the season at the 6th Annual Winter Fun Day on Saturday, February 4. This event will be held from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm at the Mansfield Community Center.

There will be a number of fun activities for all ages to enjoy, including ice skating (weather permitting/bring your own skates). Visitors can take a break from skating with a ride in a horse drawn wagon, courtesy of Cedar Knoll Farms. Or, step inside the Community Center for storytelling and crafts with the Mansfield Public Library. Representatives from University of Connecticut Dining Services will carve ice sculptures on site.

Stan's Curbside Grill will have hotdogs and other hot food items to purchase, and Parent Teacher Organizations from the Mansfield schools will provide free hot chocolate. Several student *a cappella* groups from UConn are scheduled to perform, including the Chordials (12:30 pm) and Notes Over Storrs (1:00 pm), among others.

At 1:00 pm, local naturalists Sue and Tom Harrington will lead "Feet, Hooves, and Paws – Winter Animal Tracking for People of All Ages." Registration for this activity is required (\$6 per person for residents; \$16 per person for non-residents). Please contact the Parks and Recreation Department (860.429.3015) to register. This special activity runs from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm and includes both indoor and outdoor activities.

Throughout Winter Fun Day, donations of non-perishable food items will be accepted for the Covenant Soup Kitchen. Visitors are asked to please bring items that have not been opened and have not expired. While all donations are welcome, there is a particular need for canned fruit, cereal, and "meal in a can" items such as stew, chili, or ravioli.

Winter Fun Day is free and open to the public and will be held outdoors. The inclement weather date is Saturday, February 11. For more information, please contact the Mansfield Downtown Partnership: 860.429.2740 or mdp@mansfieldct.org.