

A newsletter about what's happening in your Town of Mansfield

VOL. 2, ISSUE 5

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## Look for these stories in this newsletter



Primaries Set for August 9  
(See page 4)



Planning & Development Director Named  
(See page 7)



Dr. Carlita Cotton Joins Town Council  
(See page 8)



Upcoming Events  
(See page 23)

## Celebrations as Fall Comes to Mansfield



Greetings Fellow Residents!

I hope this message finds everyone thoroughly enjoying the onset of fall here in southern New England.

**Celebrate Mansfield Festival.** I want to start by extending a particularly hearty congratulations to the Mansfield Downtown Partnership for coordinating a very successful Celebrate Mansfield Festival on September 24. The event, which is the

Town of Mansfield's seminal fall festival, requires a great deal of careful planning and public outreach, and this year's festival was truly memorable. A number of departments and volunteer boards and commissions represented Mansfield. We appreciate all of the efforts of these departments to engage with residents and visitors, contributing to why our community is worthy of celebration. Thank you to the Registrars of Voters office, Resident State Troopers office, Mansfield Public Library, Parks & Recreation, Mansfield Fire Department, Mansfield Public Schools and E.O. Smith High School, and to staff of the Town Manager's office. We sincerely appreciate all the extra work by Department of Public Works and Facilities to support the Mansfield Downtown Partnership staff with the physical demands of the event. We also recognize The Taste of Mansfield partners, the Arts Advisory Committee and the Human Rights Commission for hosting tables and activities that support the Town's interests. Finally, let me of course thank all the members of our community and visitors to our Town who took part in the day's events. We hope you had a great deal of fun!

**UConn President.** If you have not already heard, the UConn Board of Trustees recently announced the appointment of Radenka Maric as the University's next President. Maric has served as the Interim President since February 2022, and was previously the Vice President for Research, Innovation and Entrepreneurship. As Town Manager, I was honored to accept the UConn Board of Trustees' invitation to serve on the Search Advisory Committee for the full extent of the search process of the next President, and feel very strongly that a fantastic selection has been made. During her tenure as Interim President, Maric demonstrated a genuine commitment to opening up dialog around important shared goals, and strengthening the partnership between Mansfield and the University. I am confident that the work the Town has been engaging in with UConn surrounding a shared framework for economic development in our community, and the longstanding relationship between our respective institutions, will continue to grow and thrive under Maric's leadership of the University.



**Facilities Study.** In my message in the August newsletter, I shared that local officials have been actively working with design and engineering professionals on a comprehensive municipal facilities needs assessment and programmatic use study to help us better understand both the current condition/viability of existing Town buildings to meet current and anticipated future needs. Over the course of this project — which officially commenced approximately one year ago — a wide range of design alternatives were explored. Over the course of the analysis, a subset of these options were deemed to be worthy of additional study and consideration.

These concepts were recently presented to the Town Council during its September 12 meeting. Feedback from the Council will shape the subsequent actions that Town staff take with regard to planning for and initiating the next phase of the work, which would include preparation of detailed schematic designs and more precise cost estimates. I want to underscore that community engagement and ensuring there are opportunities for the general public to provide feedback will be a key component of the next phase of this process. It should also be noted that Town officials are actively

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**(Town Manager’s Message cont.)**

exploring federal and state grant programs that may be able to offset a significant portion of the design and construction costs associated with various aspects of the municipal facility upgrades being considered.

**Local Government Academy.** Year 2 of the Mansfield Local Government Academy is off to a strong start! In total, approximately 20 residents registered for the program. The first session of this year’s 12-session program took place on September 15 and covered Town Governance, Administration, Municipal Budgeting, the Office of the Town Clerk and Elections. The second session took place on September 22 and focused on inspection-related services: Building & Housing, Fire Marshal and Emergency Management, and Public Health. The third session took place on September 29 and focused on Public Works *(shown right)*.



The level of participant engagement has been very strong in

this year’s cohort and we look forward to the many group discussions and facility tours that lie ahead over the next few months as we turn our focus to Human Services, Fire and Emergency Services, Library Services, Parks & Recreation, Facilities Management, Police and Animal Control Services, Mansfield Public Schools, and more!

**Neighborhood Stabilization.** As some residents may already be aware, this fall the Town will be kicking off a “Stabilization Plan” process for neighborhoods north and west of UConn. The plan will be paid for using a portion of the Town’s American Rescue Plan (ARPA) funding allocation and will involve a considerable amount of public feedback and community engagement opportunities. Neighborhoods located north and west of the University of Connecticut main campus of Mansfield have experienced a significant conversion of owner-occupied single-family housing to rental housing primarily marketed to students. While these conditions exist in many Mansfield neighborhoods, there are additional factors that set this area apart and drive the need for a comprehensive neighborhood plan, including:



- The impending closure of Goodwin Elementary School. This school has been an anchor for these neighborhoods and a hub for community activities, serving neighborhood families for generations.
- The availability of water and sewer infrastructure. This area is unique in that it has access to both water and sewer infrastructure. The availability of infrastructure combined with walking distance proximity to the UConn campus and the existence of large undeveloped and underdeveloped parcels has made it ripe for redevelopment.

While the plan will be specific to the neighborhoods north and west of UConn, it is our hope that this plan will serve as a blueprint for future neighborhood planning efforts in other areas of Town. Through the planning process, the Town will engage the community to build consensus around the future of these neighborhoods. The final goals of the plan will be determined by community input. Some of the anticipated objectives include identifying and prioritizing neighborhood improvements, such as water and sewer infrastructure, pedestrian, bicycle, and roadway improvements, and affordable housing as well as regulatory tools and design standards to assist in neighborhood stability. Understanding community priorities will allow the Town to be ready when grants are available to fund such improvements.

**Director of Planning.** I would also like to share a few words on an important transition taking place in the Town’s senior management team. Following the conclusion of a lengthy competitive search process, Jennifer Kaufman has been selected to serve as the Town’s next Director of Planning and Development. Jennifer has served as the department’s Acting Director since early-June following the departure of Linda Painter who recently accepted the Director of Planning and Development position with the City of Wilmington, NC. These were big shoes to fill and Jennifer has performed very successfully in the role during a time of considerable activity and short-staffing in the department. Prior to assuming her duties as Acting Director, Jennifer served the Town of Mansfield in a number of related roles over the last two decades, including most recently as Senior Planner/Inland Wetlands Agent. She is well known both locally and at the state level as a champion of smart growth, open space conservation, and agriculture. (Read more about Jennifer’s appointment on page 7.)

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*(Town Manager’s Message cont.)*

Finally, if you have friends or family who may be interested in receiving this electronic newsletter, but may not yet be subscribed, please forward a copy of this newsletter to them. And, remember, subscribing to receive the newsletter, and other updates from your town, is easy to do. (See box to the right.)

Please do not hesitate to contact the Town Manager’s Office, 860.429.3336 or [townmanager@mansfieldct.org](mailto:townmanager@mansfieldct.org), if you have constructive feedback on how the depth and breadth of information provided in the newsletter can be optimized to meet the needs of our residents.

I sincerely hope you enjoy this lovely fall weather, and will take advantage of Mansfield’s trails and preserves to get outside and fully appreciate the magical colors of October and November and our beautiful town.

Very respectfully,



Ryan J. Aylesworth  
Town Manager

**Subscribing to the electronic newsletter is easy and straightforward. Simply:**

—Go to this page on the town’s website:

<http://mansfieldct.gov/list.aspx>

—Enter your email address in the “Email Address” field

—Under the “Notify Me” section of the page check the box for “News & Press Releases”

Look for an automated email informing you that your email address has been added to the distribution list, then confirm your account. That’s it!

**Parks & Recreation Department Begins Work on Master Plan**



A consulting firm will soon be selected to facilitate a town wide Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The Master Plan is expected to be a nine-month process in 2022-2023 that will include several opportunities for community participation, evaluation of the existing park system, facilities, and recreation programming.

When complete, the plan will identify a guide to improve, protect and respond to identified needs of the town’s network of parks, facilities and recreational services for the near and long term. The selected firm will tentatively begin work in late October.

**The Mansfield Holiday Fund is Accepting Donations. Please Consider Helping Your Neighbors.**



The Mansfield Holiday Fund is currently accepting donations for this upcoming holiday season. Thanks to our generous community, more than 100 children and families received assistance last year to make their holidays a little more magical.

The Mansfield Human Services Department is once again seeking donations to brighten the season for our friends and neighbors. A donation means food, clothing, toys and other goods for those who could use help during a stressful time. Help keep the spirit of the season alive for those who may go without.

The Mansfield Holiday Fund is seeking monetary and gift card donations. Please make checks payable to Town of Mansfield/Holiday Fund. Contributions can be dropped in our secure drop box outside of the Human Services Offices located at the Mansfield Senior, or mailed to:

The Mansfield Holiday Fund,  
c/o Mansfield Human Services Department  
303 Maple Road, Mansfield, CT 06268

For more information, please visit <https://www.mansfieldct.gov/1898/Seasonal-Programs>

## Request Your Absentee Ballot for November Election Now



Election Day is November 8, 2022 and the polls will be open from 6AM – 8PM. If you need to vote by mail instead, **absentee ballots are available starting October 7, 2022.** Here are some frequently asked questions about absentee ballots:

### How do I apply to vote by mail (absentee ballot)?

In Connecticut, voters must apply to vote by absentee ballot. You may download an application from [www.MansfieldCT.gov/TownClerk](http://www.MansfieldCT.gov/TownClerk), call 860-429-3302 ext. 4 to request an application, or email your request along with your mailing address to [TownClerk@mansfieldct.org](mailto:TownClerk@mansfieldct.org). Completed application must be returned with original ink signature one of three ways: option #1 by mail to: Town Clerk, 4 South Eagleville Road, Mansfield, CT 06268; option #2 to the Town's 24/7 access general drop box (located to the left of the Town Hall door closest to the offices of the Tax Collector and Town Clerk, Rte. 275 side of the building); or option #3 by returning to the Office of the Town Clerk during office hours.

**What if I apply twice?** Please do not submit more than one application to our office. Submitting more than one application will not result in receiving more than one ballot. Submitting only one application reduces staff time spent verifying and rejecting duplicate applications.

**When will I receive my absentee ballot?** Absentee ballots for applications received before October 7, 2022 will be mailed on October 7, 2022. Absentee ballots for applications received on or after October 7, 2022 will be mailed within 24 hours after the application is received.

**What if I want to receive my absentee ballot in person?** Absentee ballots may be issued in person during our business hours at the Office of the Town Clerk starting October 7, 2022.

**What if I receive my absentee ballot but I change my mind and want to vote at the polls instead?** If you have your absentee ballot in hand and decide you'd rather vote at the polls, simply destroy your absentee ballot and go to your polling location on Election Day.

**What if I submit my absentee ballot but I change my mind and want to vote at the polls instead?** You may be able to cancel your absentee ballot and vote at the polls instead. Contact the Town Clerk to see if you are within the deadline to cancel your absentee ballot. Your absentee ballot will need to be cancelled in order to be allowed to vote at the polls. Absentee ballots received via drop box or mail after the deadline will not be counted if the same person votes at the polls.

**How can I make sure my vote gets counted?** Follow the ballot instructions included with the ballot exactly for the ballot to be counted. Voters have until 8PM on Election Day to return their ballot to the ballot drop box (open 24/7 and located to the right of the Town Hall door closest to the offices of the Tax Collector and Town Clerk, RT 275 side of the building). Ballots may also be returned by mail. Any ballot received by drop box or mail after 8PM on Election Day cannot be counted.

**What if I'm not registered to vote?** You cannot vote by absentee or at the polls without being registered. You must register by seven days prior to Election Day in order to vote and avoid waiting in line for Election Day Registration. You may register to vote online at [voterregistration.ct.gov](http://voterregistration.ct.gov) or contact the Registrars of Voters for a voter registration card at 860-429-3368 or [voterregistrars@mansfieldct.org](mailto:voterregistrars@mansfieldct.org).

**What is Election Day Registration?** Election Day Registration (EDR) allows voters to register to vote on Election Day. This option is available for those who did not register by the registration deadline of seven days prior to Election Day. Since its inception in 2013, EDR has proven a very popular option for University students. As a result, the wait time can be unpredictable and long. If at all possible, we recommend taking care of your registration before the registration deadline.

**What if I'm registered to vote in another town?** You may only vote in the town in which you are registered and you should be registered in your town of residence. If you need to update your registration to a new town of residence, you must do so by seven days prior to Election Day in order to vote and avoid waiting in line for Election Day Registration in your new town. You may register in your new town online at [voterregistration.ct.gov](http://voterregistration.ct.gov) or contact the Registrars of Voters in your new town for a new voter registration card.

**What if I don't know where I'm registered or where my polling location is?** You may look up this information about yourself at [myvote.ct.gov/lookup](http://myvote.ct.gov/lookup) or contact the Registrars of Voters at 860-429-3368 or [voterregistrars@mansfieldct.org](mailto:voterregistrars@mansfieldct.org).

**What if I have more questions?**

Office of the Town Clerk: 860-429-3302 ext. 4 or [townclerk@mansfieldct.org](mailto:townclerk@mansfieldct.org)

Registrars of Voters: 860-429-3368 or [voterregistrars@mansfieldct.org](mailto:voterregistrars@mansfieldct.org)



# HOW TO VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT



## REQUEST YOUR BALLOT

Submit your application to the Town Clerk. Applications are available by request or online at [www.MansfieldCT.gov/TownClerk](http://www.MansfieldCT.gov/TownClerk)



## GET YOUR BALLOT

Absentee ballots become available on October 7, 2022.



### GET YOUR BALLOT IN PERSON

October 7 - November 7, 2022 during Town Hall hours (excluding State holidays) at the Town Clerk's Office. Bring your completed application.

### GET YOUR BALLOT BY MAIL

Absentee ballots for applications received before October 7, 2022 will be mailed on October 7, 2022. Absentee ballots for applications received on or after October 7 will be mailed within 24 hours after the application is received.



# VOTE

Carefully follow the directions provided with your ballot.



### RETURN YOUR BALLOT VIA OFFICIAL DROP BOX

Located to the right of the Town Hall door closest to the offices of the Tax Collector and Town Clerk, RT 275 side of the building.

### RETURN YOUR BALLOT VIA MAIL

Ballots MUST be received by 8 pm on November 7th to be counted. Please allow ample time for mailing.

## Interested in Keeping Up with the Latest Development Activities? Visit the Town of Mansfield Website!

Are you interested in learning about proposed projects and businesses coming to Mansfield? Check out the [Development Activity](#) portion of the Planning and Development web page on the Town of Mansfield's website which is updated regularly.

Of particular note, on October 3 the Inland-Wetlands Agency will continue to hear comments on an application for a [Mixed-Use Development in Four Corners](#) between the Toast/Hops 44 property and the Standard at Four Corners.

In September, the Planning & Zoning Commission conducted pre-application meetings for three proposed multi-family developments as well as a proposed zone change.

We encourage you to use this tool to stay informed of proposed projects in our community and access the detail you need.



## E.O. Smith High School Named a 2022 National Blue Ribbon School



Governor Ned Lamont and Connecticut Education Commissioner Charlene Russell-Tucker announced on September 26 that Edwin O. Smith High School is among four public schools in Connecticut named by the U.S. Department of Education as 2022 National Blue Ribbon Schools. This award is given annually to select schools across the nation for demonstrating overall high achievement of success in closing achievement gaps.

E.O. Smith, or Regional School District 19, (Ashford, Columbia, Coventry Eastford, Mansfield, Willington, and Windham) was joined by Booth Hill School in Trumbull, Great Plain School in Danbury, and Whiting Lane School in West Hartford.

“Connecticut’s public schools are consistently rated among the best in the nation, and that is due to the teachers and staff who work in our school systems and provide a high level of learning that is helping our students achieve success throughout their future careers,” Governor Lamont said. “The ability to attract businesses and encourage them to expand and grow in our state is directly connected to the strength of our workforce and the quality of training that students receive, which is why it is critical that we provide the youngest in our communities with the tools needed to compete in today’s economy. Our administration remains committed to strengthening all of the schools in our state so that every child – no matter their neighborhood or family income level – has an opportunity to receive an education that prepares them for achievement.”

“The Connecticut State Department of Education congratulates all of the schools named Blue Ribbon Schools in 2022,” Commissioner Russell-Tucker said. “We have made it a focus this year to highlight what’s right in schools, and our Blue Ribbon Award winners are prime examples of the many innovative practices underway in districts to ensure the continued growth and educational success of our students.”

The Connecticut State Department of Education uses data from the Next Generation Accountability System to nominate schools for the National Blue Ribbon School award. Given the recent pause in accountability determinations, current recipients were nominated based on 2018-19 accountability results. Nominated schools must complete an application process and be approved by the U.S. Department of Education. All selected schools in Connecticut were designated as Schools of Distinction. National Blue Ribbon Schools are identified in two categories: exemplary high performing and exemplary achievement gap closing.

The Governor’s announcement included this summary about E.O. Smith High School in Region 19 (Exemplary High Performing):

E.O. Smith High School located in Mansfield enrolls about 1,100 students from a variety of other small towns including Ashford, Willington, Columbia, and Eastford. Students from Coventry and Windham are also able to attend E.O. Smith through participation in a four-year comprehensive Agri-science program. The percentage of students from economically-disadvantaged families has increased over the last decade from about 12% to more than 25% in recent years. The school maintains a strong relationship with the University of Connecticut, which is adjacent to the high school campus. This partnership affords E.O. Smith students a wide range of learning opportunities including enrolling in tuition-free college courses.

There is evidence to suggest that students leave E.O. Smith well-prepared for their post-secondary education. Based on data from the Class of 2019, 80.9% of students enrolled in a two or four-year institution within one year of graduating and more than 90% of those students were still enrolled one year later. Educators at E.O. Smith encourage persistence by allowing students to revise work and reassess progress toward learning goals. The school prides itself on a blending of high standards, mastery-based learning, and personalization with ample flexibility. They do not focus on unnecessary prerequisites and timelines. Instead, they offer guidelines and create conditions that will allow all students to improve and develop their skills as self-directed learners.

On behalf of the Town of Mansfield, we congratulate the staff, students and leaders of E.O. Smith High School for this outstanding achievement.

For more information about the program, visit the U.S. Department of Education’s [National Blue Ribbon Schools Program webpage](#).

## Jennifer Kaufman named as Planning and Development Director



Town Manager Ryan Aylesworth has announced that Jennifer Kaufman has been selected as the new Director of Planning and Development for the Town of Mansfield following a nationwide search. Jennifer has been serving as Acting Director since Linda Painter left the position to relocate in June. Jennifer is a demonstrated leader in this field as a certified planner with a comprehensive understanding of land use, economic development, affordable housing, and natural resource protection.

Jennifer has served in several roles here in Mansfield since 2000. She has served with the department as Senior Planner/Inland Wetlands Agent since 2019, as Natural Resources and Sustainability Coordinator/Environmental Planner/Inland Wetland Agent and was Parks Coordinator for twelve years.

An advocate for natural resources, Jennifer earned a Master of Science, Natural Resources Planning and Water Resources from the University of Vermont, and as a researcher she wrote the first Vermont Environmental Quality Index, measuring water and air quality, wildlife and habitat quality, waste management, and energy conservation. She also holds a Bachelor's degree from Bates College.

In her time here, she worked closely with Director Painter to develop *Mansfield Tomorrow*, the Town's Plan of Conservation and Development, and has worked to acquire \$1.7 million in grants for programming, planning, land acquisition, and park development. Her work has led to more than 800 acres of open space and recreational lands protected as well as 740 acres of farmland. Jennifer was a major contributor to Mansfield achieving Silver Certification through Sustainable CT, and she was instrumental in crafting Mansfield's Affordable Housing Plan.

In 2017 Jennifer received the Working Lands Alliance Farmland Preservation Pathfinder Award for Outstanding Individual, and was recognized by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) among Women Inspiring Conservation in Connecticut in 2013.

Town Manager Ryan Aylesworth says, "Jennifer is well known both locally and at the state level as a champion of smart growth, open space conservation, and agriculture. In addition to many other professional qualities that made her the right choice for this important position, Jennifer enjoys very productive working relationships with a wide range of key stakeholders and has a true passion for, and deep connections to this community that she and her family have called home for many years.

He continues, "The Town of Mansfield is on the precipice of experiencing a considerable amount of new development (particularly multi-family development and the desire to significantly expand the availability of affordable and senior housing in our community), and the Director of Planning and Development will play a key role in helping to facilitate desired growth while at the same time preserving the Town's rural character, protecting open space, and achieving other goals. Jennifer possesses the knowledge, experience, creativity and other professional skills needed to actively help articulate a shared vision for the future and work in close coordination with myriad stakeholders to ensure anticipated future (smart) growth proceeds successfully in the years ahead."

Jennifer and her husband Doug live in Mansfield, and raised their two daughters here.

## Mansfield Public Library Introduces CreativeBug!



The library is now offering CreativeBug, the go-to online resource for high-quality, on-trend arts and crafts instructional videos produced by renowned artists and creative experts. The instructors bring a lifetime of practice, passion, and proven teaching methods along with the basics every maker needs to learn. People of all skill levels can work alongside them to learn craft techniques. Class offerings ranging from sewing to papercraft to holiday décor.

We've subscribed to CreativeBug in tandem with the presentation of our new monthly craft classes for adults. The first class was the Autumn Button Tree Craft. For more information on CreativeBug, and upcoming classes, call the MPL circulation desk at: 860-423-2501.

### Town Council Welcomes Dr. Carlita Cotton as New Member



Dr. Carlita Cotton was sworn in as a Town Council member last month, fulfilling the term of Peter Kochenburger. Council member Kochenburger stepped away from the office due to a work commitment, and the Mansfield Democratic Party selected Dr. Cotton to complete his term.

Carlita Cotton is a well-known member of the community. She has supported Mansfield as Commissioner and Vice-Chair of Planning and Zoning Commission/Inland Wetlands Agency, and as a member of Capital Region Council of Governments. As a retired U.S. Air Force NCO, she was most recently appointed by Gov. Ned Lamont to the Department of Veterans Affairs' Board of Trustees. Dr. Cotton is a Professor of Psychology, and a licensed/ordained Methodist Clergy. She is passionate about advocating for the mental health and social-emotional needs of children/youth, the differently-abled, military veterans, dual diagnoses clients and those for whom English is a second/third language.

Carlita enjoys spending time with extended family and friends and lives in Mansfield with her husband, The Rev. Hollis M. Cotton.

### Mansfield Parks & Recreation Adds New Playground at the Library



The Mansfield Parks & Recreation, with support from the Facilities Department and the Department of Public Works, is installing a new playground on the site of the Mansfield Public Library. Elements of the playground include a focus on features for two to five year olds, but are welcoming to children of all ages. The playground is designed to offer elevated, ground-level, sensory, social-emotional, and cognitive, creative play. The play area is specially designed to optimize accessibility so that youngsters with mobility

limitations may play and interact with peers in most areas with ease.

Features of the whimsical play equipment include music, rocking, and spinning. The playground includes a Farmers Market Café and Loft, a musical instrument garden, motion elements, and two decorative flower accent pieces to connect the playground to the adjacent garden on the side.

All generations of visitors to the Mansfield Public Library will enjoy paying a visit to this new playground when it is completed in late October.

In addition to this project, Parks & Recreation have also made improvements to other



facilities it maintains within town:

**Sunny Acres Park:** Parks and Recreation has utilized approved American Rescue Plan Act funds to make a number of improvements at Sunny Acres Park. Located at the intersection of Meadowbrook Lane and Circle Drive, the park hosts a small playground, baseball diamond, racket-sport courts lined for pickle ball and tennis, and basketball hoops. New portable pickleball nets and court surface repairs have been completed to the tennis/pickleball court. Mansfield residents can gain free access to pickleball nets by registering through Parks & Recreation for access to the onsite storage box. Additionally, a basketball court refurbishing project will include resurfacing, painting, new posts, rims and nets. The full project should be completed by the end of October. For park users' convenience, a seasonal porta-let is now located on site.



**Southeast Park:** After serving as a staging area for construction of the new school, Field C will be refurbished this fall including grading, establishing outfield turf, and reinstalling fencing. Scoreboard reinstallation and reconditioning of the infield material will be completed in the spring. The field is anticipated to be fully ready for spring of 2023 for Little League play and community rentals.

### Mansfield Registrars Seeking Poll Workers: Pay and Training Provided



The Mansfield Registrars of Voters are looking for people interested in working at the polls on November 8. Workers are needed at all polling places including Election Day Registration at the Town Hall. These are paid positions and training is provided.

Shifts are seven or eight hours long, but four-hour shifts can be accommodated for some positions. You must be a U.S. citizen and be 16 years old or older. If you are 18 or older, you must be a registered voter, but in any Connecticut town

Working at the polls is a very enjoyable experience—give it a try! Call Anne at the Registrars office: 860-429-3368, or stop in and see us. Office hours are Tuesdays 10am-12pm and Thursdays 4:30pm-6:30pm but we're often there at other times.



## We Want Your Opinion

### PLEASE TAKE OUR SURVEY ON OPTIONS FOR A NEW REGIONAL TOURISM BRAND

The Towns of Bolton, Coventry, Mansfield and Tolland are in the process of creating a tourism brand for the four-towns region. The region has a significant opportunity to be seen as a desirable destination to dine, shop and play, based upon its distinctive combination of resources across the four towns. These resources include outdoor recreation, agriculture and agri-tourism, culture and entertainment, higher education institutions, and small businesses and entrepreneurs. The four towns are seeking community input on the draft branding options.

A short survey is available online. It will only take a few minutes to complete and your responses will remain anonymous. Your votes will help determine the final branding selection!

The online survey is available through October 11, 2022.

TAKE THE SURVEY HERE:  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/4TownsBrandSurvey>  
or <https://bit.ly/3qHJCM4>



### Coming Soon! Check Your Child's Car Seat for Safety!



Members from the CT State Police Mansfield Barracks and members from the Mansfield Fire Emergency Services will be attending a Car Seat Installation class to obtain their certification in the proper installation and checking of car seats. The class is through the State's Center for Injury & Violence Prevention Office.

These safety personnel will then be hosting a free clinic for the public where you can stop by to have your child's car seat checked to be sure it is keeping them as safe as they can be. **Please watch for details** in the coming weeks on this clinic.



Mansfield Human Rights Commission and  
Mansfield Public Library Present:

# Waking Up White, and Finding Myself in the Story of Race

By: Debby Irving

Book Discussions & Author Talk

- Does being "white" mean anything on a day-to-day basis?
- Are you curious about the social and cultural effects of "whiteness" on our relationships with other people?
- Would you like to discuss this subject with other people in a facilitated book discussion?

Dates/Times: October 13 & 27, 2022: 6:00-7:30 p.m.  
Book Discussions led by Jane Fried, Human Rights Commission

## MEET THE AUTHOR EVENT with DEBBY IRVING November 2, 2022: 5:00-6:30 p.m.

\*\*Special Q&A with Debby Irving following the author event for those who attended one of the prior book discussion dates.

Location: Mansfield Public Library, Buchanan Auditorium  
54 Warrenville Road, Mansfield, CT 06250

All are welcome. Books are available for checkout at the Mansfield Public Library Circulation Desk.



**THIS WALKTOBER TOUR MANSFIELD'S OLDEST FARM**  
 Saturday, October 15 (Rain Date 10/16) 10 AM-12 PM  
 Meet at Mountain Dairy, 50 Stearns Road. Park in the lot opposite the barn  
 Walk #132. Free




**250 Years – One Farm – One Family**  
**the Stearns of Mansfield's Mountain Dairy**

Walk the fields and farm to learn how the farm grew over the 250 years. Learn the history of agriculture in one place and the effects of war and weather on the family and farm. Sponsored by Mountain Dairy and the Mansfield Agriculture Committee. No dogs, please.



Mansfield is hosting guided hikes every weekend in October! Learn more at <https://www.mansfieldct.gov/DocumentCenter/View/5226/Parks-Preserves-and-Guided-Hikes>

**Sarah Dufresne Selected for State Honors for Youth Services**



Mansfield Social Worker Sarah Dufresne will be receiving the 2022 Connecticut Youth Services Association Employee of the Year Award at the upcoming annual conference on October 21.

She was selected from a pool of nominees from across all Youth Service Bureaus in the state of Connecticut. Youth Services Supervisor Katie Bell nominated her for the award. In her submission, Katie shared, "I am consistently and constantly impressed with Sarah's hard work and eagerness to serve the community. She finds creative linkages to create opportunities that would not otherwise exist. She uses her strengths, creativity, and skills to find a way to turn ideas into a reality and makes them often look effortless. She is our resident office Martha Stewart, Queen of All Trades, and is always willing to jump in to lend a hand when something unexpected comes up."

Sarah has been with the Town of Mansfield for six years within the Human Services Department, and started her work in the Senior Center before joining the Youth Services team, often stepping in to assist or fill in throughout the Human Services Department. She has also served as the staff leader for the Mansfield Advocates for Children. In late September, Sarah moved from serving youth, taking on the role of the Adult Services Social Worker. She is currently working on her Master's Degree in Social Work. A resident of Mansfield, Sarah and her family were featured in the April 2021 issue of *Mansfield Connections Magazine*.

**Grants Available for Local Businesses & Non-Profits**



The Town Council recently approved a second round of grants to be distributed from the Town of Mansfield Local Business & Non-Profit Relief Fund. In a change from the first round, nonprofit organizations are now eligible to receive support.

The Local Business & Non-Profit Relief Fund Program is funded through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and administered by the Town of Mansfield in collaboration with the Mansfield Downtown Partnership. It is intended to help

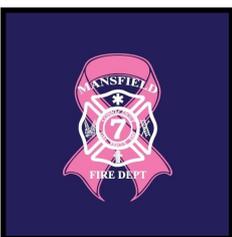
Mansfield businesses and non-profits become stronger and prosper.

Application materials and more information are available online at [mansfieldmdp.org/arpa/app](https://mansfieldmdp.org/arpa/app).

Completed applications are due no later than **4:00 PM on Friday, October 28, 2022**.

Please call or email the Partnership office (860.429.2740, [mdp@mansfieldct.org](mailto:mdp@mansfieldct.org)) with any questions about the Local Business & Non-Profit Relief Fund Program or to request a paper copy of the application materials.

**Mansfield Fire Department Urges Breast Cancer Awareness in October**



Members of the Mansfield Fire Department will be wearing special shirts bearing the pink ribbon to promote breast cancer awareness each Monday throughout October. They are joining in this national effort to honor those whose lives have been impacted by breast cancer.

According to the American Cancer Society, when breast cancer is detected early, and is in the localized stage, the 5-year relative survival rate is 99%. Early detection includes doing monthly breast self-exams, and scheduling regular clinical breast exams and mammograms. Please take care of yourself!

### Submit Your Recipes to the Mansfield Parks & Rec Cookbook



October is National Cookbook Month and we're joining the fun by creating our very own cookbook filled with favorites from within our community! Submit YOUR favorite recipe to [parksandrec@mansfieldct.org](mailto:parksandrec@mansfieldct.org) with a categorization: APPETIZERS/SNACK, MAIN COURSE, DESSERT/TREAT. Be sure to include your name for credit, and pictures if you have them! All MCC members will receive a digital copy in November (just in time to try something new for Thanksgiving).

The Taste of Mansfield is also collecting family recipes to help connect the community through local food. Learn more at <https://www.tasteofmansfieldct.org/submit-your-family-recipes.html>



### Meet Mansfield's Resident State Troopers: Serving You Day and Night



Rear left, TFC Jamie Sanders, day trooper; Rear right middle, TFC Matthew Button, midnight trooper; Rear right, TPR Justin Paradis, evening trooper

Front left to right, TPR Mark Aldasch, day trooper; TPR Ryan Butler, late evening trooper; Sgt. Timothy Merrill; TPR Hecmaly River, evening trooper, TPR Ashley Fillian, Administrative trooper and school liaison; TPR Joseph Csiki, day trooper

**MANSFIELD Parks & Recreation**

# Before & After School Friends

Available at Goodwin and Vinton MES locations! Registration currently open through December. Spaces limited.

**LEARN MORE AT**  
[HTTPS://WWW.MANSFIELDCT.GOV/1612/BEFOREAFTER-SCHOOL-FRIENDS](https://www.mansfieldct.gov/1612/beforeafter-school-friends)  
**AND REGISTER TODAY!**

## 100th Anniversary of Fire Safety Weeks: Please Remember that Fire Won't Wait. Plan Your Escape.



The Mansfield Fire Department is teaming up with the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®)—to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Fire Prevention Week (FPW), October 9-15, 2022. This year's FPW campaign, "Fire won't wait. Plan your escape", works to educate everyone about simple but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe from home fires.

"Today's homes burn faster than ever. You may have as little as two minutes (or even less time) to safely escape a home fire from the time the smoke alarm sounds. Your ability to get out of a home during a fire depends on early warning from smoke alarms and advance planning," said Lorraine Carli, vice president of Outreach and Advocacy at NFPA.

The Mansfield Fire Department encourages all residents to embrace the 2022 Fire Prevention Week theme. Members of the department will be in Mansfield Schools this month teaching the town's youngest residents about the importance of making a fire escape plan.

"It's important for everyone to plan and practice a home fire escape. Everyone needs to be prepared in advance, so that they know what to do when the smoke alarm sounds. Given that every home is different, every home fire escape plan will also be different," said Fire Marshal Adam Libros. "Have a plan for everyone in the home. Children, older adults, and people with disabilities may need assistance to wake up and get out. Make sure that someone will help them!"

### The Mansfield Fire Department wants to share these key home fire escape planning tips:

- Make sure your plan meets the needs of all your family members, including those with sensory or physical disabilities.
- Smoke alarms should be installed inside every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of your home.
- Know at least two ways out of every room, if possible. Make sure all doors and windows open easily.
- Have an outside meeting place a safe distance from your home where everyone should meet.
- Practice your home fire drill at least twice a year with everyone in the household, including guests. Practice at least once during the day and at night.

For more general information about Fire Prevention Week and fire prevention in general, visit [fpw.org](http://fpw.org) and [sparky.org](http://sparky.org).

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### Know about road construction and closure notifications, plus more!



If you want to receive alerts from the Town of Mansfield, just [visit the website under Sign Up for Notifications](#), and select *News & Press Releases*.

You will be informed when the Town has news you should know! Events. Emergencies. Traffic holdups. Road work.

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### Do Your Part in Minimizing Plastics: Bring Your Reusable Bags



Both the State of Connecticut and Mansfield ban the use of plastic checkout bags. The Mansfield ordinance went into effect shortly before the State law passed. The Mansfield ordinance, known as the Bring Your Own Bag Ordinance, prohibits businesses from using plastic checkout bags under all circumstances. This includes takeout orders. The Ordinance also prohibits "compostable" bags and thicker plastic bags.

To help our local stores, and our environment, bring your own reusable bag for all types of shopping excursions, including trips to restaurants.

If you have questions about the ordinance or observe violations, contact the Mansfield Recycling Coordinator at 860-429-3333 or [waltonvd@mansfieldct.org](mailto:waltonvd@mansfieldct.org).

**Planning an Event? Low-Waste Planning is a Great Way to Go!**



The successful and well-attended Celebrate Mansfield Festival was planned and carried out as a low-waste event. If you are planning an event for your organization, or even a family party, it's not as hard as you may think to plan with waste reduction in mind.

Of all the things to consider when planning, why should this matter? Because our consumption practices (yours, mine and everyone else's) contributes to **30%** of the greenhouse gas emissions in the U.S. Waste has a cost and it will soon be getting more expensive. Reusable items have a significantly smaller ecological footprint – fewer materials to mine and harvest, less pollution and fewer resources used. Reusable items quickly pay for themselves and save you money. Some ways to make your event or party low waste:

- Plan activities that create little or not waste
- Use reusable items, such as dishes and linens instead of disposable items
- Favor durable, long-lasting items and avoid trinkets
- Use QR codes instead of handouts promoting your event
- Use bulk containers rather than single-serve packets and containers
- Avoid excessive quantities of food by asking for an RSVP; plan for handling leftovers so that no food is wasted

If you are part of an organization or club that wants to try this, the Town of Mansfield has materials they will share with you such as folding trash, compost and recycle containers, waste station canopies, banners for the waste stations, and signage for food vendors. Step by step guidance can be found at: <https://www.mansfieldct.gov/1960/Low-Waste-Events>.

If you would like a presentation made to your organization, contact the Mansfield Recycling Coordinator at 860-429-3333 or [waltonvd@mansfieldct.org](mailto:waltonvd@mansfieldct.org).

# Mansfield TEEN CENTER

**SIGN UP TODAY  
FOR A FREE TEEN  
CENTER  
MEMBERSHIP!**

**Middle School**  
(MMS bus drops off at MCC)  
Mon., Tues., & Wed.  
3-6PM

**High School**  
Thur. & Fri.  
2:30-6PM



- PING PONG TABLE
- POOL TABLE
- FOOSBALL TABLE
- AIR HOCKEY TABLE
- VIDEO GAMES
- COMPUTERS
- BOARD GAMES



MANSFIELD COMMUNITY CENTER  
10 SOUTH EAGLEVILLE RD  
MANSFIELD CT, 06268  
860-429-3015  
[WWW.MANSFIELDCC.COM](http://WWW.MANSFIELDCC.COM)



## Managing Stormwater to Protect Waterways: You Can Do Your Part



Stormwater is water from precipitation that flows across the ground and pavement when it rains or when snow and ice melt. The water seeps into the ground, drains to streams, or to the Town’s Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4). The Town’s MS4 are those drains (catch basins) that can be seen along a roadway. It’s a network of structures, channels, and underground pipes that carry stormwater to ponds, lakes, streams and rivers. Our MS4 are designed to control the quantity, quality, timing and distribution of storm runoff.

While stormwater travels across the ground it may contact debris, pet waste, fertilizers, chemicals, and other pollutants carrying those items to streams, ponds, lakes or even sources for drinking water.

Impervious surfaces like roads, rooftops, and sidewalks prevent stormwater from seeping into the ground, causing greater volumes of runoff. This can have a number of side effects, including increased severity of flooding and pollution into waterways.

### Pollutants of Concern

Stormwater is not treated before entering waterways, so pollutants containing bacteria, nitrogen, and phosphorus can cause issues for the environment. These can make recreational waterways unsafe for use and contaminate sources are drinking water.

Pet waste has bacteria that makes our streams, river and reservoirs unsafe for swimming, drinking and other recreational activities. It can cause streams and lakes to become murky, green, smelly, and full of algae and weeds. When you walk your pet please bring along a plastic bag and place in the trash. In most of the town’s parks and Downtown Storrs you will find pet waste disposal stations.

Poorly performing septic systems can cause a serious health threat to your family and neighbors. They can introduce nitrogen, phosphorus, and bacteria into the environment, especially lakes, streams and groundwater. They can put thousands of water supply users at risk if you live in a public water supply watershed and fail to maintain your system.

Fertilizers contain nitrogen and phosphorous, which can increase algae growth. Algae uses up oxygen as it decays, suffocating fish. Never fertilize before rain and keep fertilizer off of pavement where it is likely to runoff. Fertilizers should not be applied on lots next to waterbodies. Additionally, grass clippings, which can also cause algae blooms, should be kept on the lawn and can act as natural fertilizer.

Herbicides and Pesticides can pose a health risk to humans, plants, and beneficial insects. Alternatively, weed by hand and choose plants that resist pests and disease. Never apply pesticides before rain, and use them sparingly.

## Updates and Opportunities: Recycle, Recover and Repair



### Black Plastic is OUT

Until recently, black plastic items were considered recyclable, but it has come to our attention from the local recycle sort facility (MRF) that black plastic skirts the optical sorter at the facility. The optical sorter is key to separating plastics by their chemical composition. If the optical sorter is unable to “read” the type of plastic flying by, then it can end up in bales of cardboard, metal,

paper or other plastic types, making it trash in the bales of those materials. Please do not put black plastic items into your recycle bin.

### Take an “Armchair Tour” of the Transfer Station

A new video on the Mansfield Transfer Station can be found on the Mansfield webpage, [www.mansfieldct.gov/transfer-station](http://www.mansfieldct.gov/transfer-station). You may be surprised by what you can recycle!

### Exactly What Happens to my Recyclables?

Check out the video that shows what happens to your recyclables once they leave the curb. Visit [www.mansfieldct.gov/recycle](http://www.mansfieldct.gov/recycle).

### Repair Café Returns on October 8! (But Please Plan to Wear a Mask.)

What do you do with a dress that has a tear or a lamp that no longer works? Bring it to the Repair Café on Saturday, October 8, 2022 from 10 am to 2 pm, at the First Congregational Church, 199 Valley Street, Willimantic. The Repair Café is a FREE event open to the public. Skilled volunteers will repair – or teach you to repair – your broken item. Visit the Willimantic Repair Café Facebook page: @repaircafe.willimantic



**Pumpkins: Don't Just Carve Them—Eat Them!**



Did you know that one cup of cooked pumpkins has only 40 calories? The deep orange color of pumpkin flesh is the sure sign that pumpkin is a good source of vitamins A and K. So why would you even consider tossing out the meaty flesh of a pumpkin when you carve it? It's easy to clean a pumpkin, cook it down in a saucepan or roast it and puree it to use in all kinds of soups, casseroles, and desserts. Here is one recipe that's sure to be a crowd pleaser!

**Pumpkin Cookie Dough Bites**

- 1 ½ cups old fashioned rolled oats
- ½ cup ground flaxseed
- ½ cup peanut butter
- ½ cup pure pumpkin puree
- ⅓ cup honey or maple syrup
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- ½ cup dark chocolate chips



Place all ingredients, except chocolate chips, in the food processor and pulse until dough has formed. Stir in chocolate chips. Place in the refrigerator for 15-30 minutes. Form bite-sized balls of dough and place in an airtight container.

Storage Tip: Store in an airtight container in the refrigerator up to 7 days and in the freezer up to 2 months.

Source: <https://fruitsandveggies.org/recipes/pumpkin-cookie-dough-bites/>



### Husky Hour Student Showcase featuring UConn Rock Ensemble



Wednesday, Oct. 26  
6:00 PM – 7:00 PM  
Betsy Paterson Square  
Free & Open to Everyone!

Enjoy a free performance by the UConn Rock Ensemble, a collective of undergraduate musicians from UConn, who share a passion and love for rock music! Find more info at: [downtownstorrs.org](http://downtownstorrs.org).

### 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Winter Welcome on Saturday, December 3



In Downtown Storrs; Free & Open to Everyone!

Celebrate the start of the new season in Downtown Storrs! This fun, free event is open to everyone and will feature seasonal treats at participating businesses, community displays, live music, and more!

The popular Trim-a-Tree contest returns with more spaces available for friends, families, businesses, and community groups to show off their creative talents in a little friendly competition. This contest is free to enter but pre-registration is required. Look for details, registration materials, and deadlines at [downtownstorrs.org/winterwelcome](http://downtownstorrs.org/winterwelcome) as planning progresses.

12-1:30 P.M.  
SUNDAYS  
SEPT.-OCT.

# FREE YARD GAMES GROUP!

REGISTRATION  
NOT REQUIRED.  
JUST DROP BY!

ALL AGES WELCOME!  
COME PLAY!

MANSFIELD COMMUNITY CENTER  
LAWN AREAS  
WEATHER PERMITTING  
GAMES PROVIDED MAY VARY

10 S. EAGLEVILLE ROAD, STORRS, CT 06268

MANSFIELD  
Parks & Recreation



CALL US WITH QUESTIONS!  
860-429-3015



**YOUNG ADULT & YOUTH PASS**  
AVAILABLE TO NEW MEMBERS AGES 12 TO 26

**FITNESS CENTER**

Track available to ages 12+. Fitness Center fully available to ages 14+ with strength training, cardiovascular machines, and recovery equipment included. Personal training & classes at an additional cost.

**SWIMMING POOLS**

Lap swimming, open swim and therapy pools available during scheduled times.

**BASKETBALL COURT**

Drop-in basketball, open gym, futsal, pickleball, and volleyball. See schedules at [mansfieldcc.com](http://mansfieldcc.com)

**TEEN CENTER**

Supervised times for grades 5 to 12



ONLY  
**\$19** / per month  
+ \$1 ENROLLMENT FEE  
3 month or 12 month  
commitment required.

**Start Today!**

LIMITED TIME OFFER  
SIGN UP AT  
THE MANSFIELD COMMUNITY CENTER  
10 S. EAGLEVILLE RD., STORRS, CT 06268  
LEARN MORE AT [WWW.MANSFIELDCC.COM](http://WWW.MANSFIELDCC.COM)

**Watch for More News and Updates on our Social Media**



**FACEBOOK:**

- Town of Mansfield
- Mansfield Public Library
- Mansfield Senior Center
- Mansfield Youth Services
- Mansfield Fire Department
- Downtown Storrs
- Mansfield Downtown Partnership
- Mansfield Community Center
- Mansfield Public Schools
- Taste of Mansfield

**TWITTER:**

- Town of Mansfield
- Downtown Storrs
- Mansfield Public Library
- Eastern Highlands Health District

**INSTAGRAM:**

- Mansfield Downtown Partnership
- Taste of Mansfield

**Subscribe to our YOUTUBE channel to view meetings:**  
[mansfieldct.gov/video](http://mansfieldct.gov/video)



COME TOGETHER WITH FAMILY & FRIENDS FOR

# Free Family Paint Days!

**REGISTER NOW! ACT # 230053**



**Still-Life**

Thursday, October 13, 5:30-7:00 pm

**Community School of the Arts - Lenard Hall**

Pre-registration required. Limited spaces available.



**Abstract**

Thursday, November 10, 5:30-7:00 pm

**Community School of the Arts - Lenard Hall**

Pre-registration required. Limited spaces available.

COMMUNITY SCHOOL OF THE ARTS LENARD HALL  
450 S EAGLEVILLE ROAD STORRS, CT 06268  
860-429-3015 EXT. 6 WWW.MANSFIELDCC.COM/CSA

## Emergency Relief Funding Available for Residents



Are you facing an emergency financial situation that was magnified by the COVID-19 crisis? Human Services administers the Mansfield Resident Assistance & Relief Program (RARE), which was established using federal funds made available through the American Rescue Program Act (ARPA).

You can find the application [on our website](#). Applicant households are evaluated individually with health, housing, utilities, mental health and other emergencies as priorities. Criteria for assistance includes: financial hardship (200% of federal poverty income or below), history of assistance, and access to other available private/public financial resources. The financial crisis must have been caused or magnified by the COVID pandemic. In addition, an assessment will be conducted to whether the assistance will help the individual or family become more self-sufficient. Please reach out to Human Services with questions at 860.429.3315.



# SENIOR SPARKS

## MANSFIELD SENIOR CENTER NEWSLETTER

~ OCTOBER 2022 ~

There's always something fun happening at the Mansfield Senior Center! For all the upcoming programs, and information on meal menus, musical opportunities, day trips, and other services, read the latest issue of [Senior Sparks!](#)



# Trick-or-Treat in Downtown Storrs

Saturday, October 29 | 3:00 - 5:00 PM

MANSFIELD DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP  
Business and Community

DOWNTOWN STORRS  
Eat - Explore - Enjoy

Info: [downtownstorrs.org](http://downtownstorrs.org)

Calling all goblins, ghouls, and ghosts! The Partnership invites Trick-or-Treaters to visit participating Downtown Storrs businesses for an afternoon of Halloween fun! This event is free, open to everyone, and will be held rain or shine. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

### More Halloween Fun at 5:00 PM:

Walk over to the Mansfield Community Center for their Annual Halloween Party and Trick-a-Trunk!



# DO YOU LOVE HALLOWEEN?

**Trick-A-Trunk is coming and YOU'RE INVITED!**

**SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, October 29th, 5-6:30pm\***  
**WHERE: Outside at the Mansfield Community Center**

**THREE WAYS TO JOIN THE FUN:**

**COME AS A TRUNK!**  
"Trunkers" are an essential part of the evening! Get out those decorations, bring lots of candy, and get dressed up for the fun! All vehicles welcome.  
Contact Steve at [CapobiancoS@mansfieldct.org](mailto:CapobiancoS@mansfieldct.org) today to let him know you're coming.

**COME TRICK-OR-TREAT!**  
It's FREE! Families with young children from all towns are welcome. Get dressed up and plan for a night of candy, prizes, games and activities in a safe environment.  
P.S. Trick-or-Treat Downtown Storrs is the same day from 3pm-5pm.

**BE A SPONSOR!**  
Want to support the event, but handing out candy isn't for you? Become a SPONSOR! Monetary and candy donations welcome. To learn about sponsorship levels and benefits, contact Steve at [CapobiancoS@mansfieldct.org](mailto:CapobiancoS@mansfieldct.org)

Mansfield Parks and Recreation 10 South Eagleville Rd Mansfield CT 06268 [www.mansfieldcc.com](http://www.mansfieldcc.com)

## Storrs Farmers Market: Fresh, Local and Lots of Fun Downtown!



**Every Saturday through November 19  
3 to 5:00 PM, On the front lawn of Town Hall**

This is the season when fresh produce is rolling in at its peak! Right through until frost in mid-fall, you can take home a terrific selection of locally grown fruits, vegetables and farm products. Plus there are always guest vendors offering special treats.

This is the perfect opportunity to try your hand at preserving local goodness to enjoy in the seasons to come. Ask the farmers for their favorite methods, or visit the Taste of Mansfield Partner Mansfield Public Library to access resources on how to pickle, freeze, preserve, can or dehydrate foods to optimize quality and nutritional value.



Visit the [Market's website](#) for updates, and [sign up for the weekly newsletter](#) to learn what special features are in store this Saturday!

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## Parks and Recreation Upcoming Events and Activities



There is plenty to do with Parks and Rec this fall! The youth basketball season is gearing up, WALKTOBER guided hikes are here, stroke clinics for swimmers take place this December, Fitness classes are underway (session 2 and some free opportunities coming soon!), weekly social yard-game play has started, and Saturday plein-air painting sites are planned.

Don't forget to check the list for open house, free Mansfield days, the annual Trick-a-Trunk event, and other opportunities for fun as a family this fall!

### Sundays in October – Yard Games Group!

Sat., Oct. 8 – **Plein Air Painting in the Parks – Mt. Hope Park**, 10 a.m.

Mon., Oct. 10 – **Family Play Day!** What to do on these days off from school? Come by the Mansfield Community Center for the day at a discounted family rate! Additionally, members can bring two guests for FREE (two guests per household). Check [www.mansfieldcc.com](http://www.mansfieldcc.com) for schedules and more info!

Tues., Oct. 11 – **Recreation Rescue** No school? No problem! We have the answer for your kids on Mansfield teacher professional days for kids entering grades K-8.

Wed., Oct. 12 – **Travel Basketball Registration Deadline**  
Basketball

Thurs., Oct. 13 – **Grades 3-8 Rec Basketball Registration Deadline**

Thurs., Oct. 13 – **Free Family Paint Night** at Lenard Hall – Theme: Still Life

Sat., Oct. 15 – **Pumpkin Painting Challenge** Must register by Oct. 7 to participate! Come show us your inner artist as we invite you to join us for a pumpkin painting challenge.

Sat., Oct. 15 – Last day to rent **Kayaks and Paddleboards** for the season!

Sat., Oct. 15 – **Plein Air Painting in the Parks – Eagleville Dam**, 10am

Sun., Oct. 16 – **American Red Cross Adult and Pediatric CPR Course**.  
Registration deadline Oct. 6.

Oct. 18 – Health and Fitness Seminar – **Concepts of Fat Loss After 50**; Free to CC Members, \$10 for non-members.

Oct. 20 – **Lifeguard Training Certification Course Registration Deadline!**

Sat., Oct. 22 – **Free Mansfield Day** at the Community Center! Center Hours are 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Mon., Oct. 24 – Session 2 **Fall Fitness Classes start!** Registration is open now!

(Continued)



### **More Fun from Mansfield Parks & Recreation:**

Sat., Oct. 29 – 5-6:30 p.m. **Trick-a-Trunk!** Have a spooktacular time at the season's most popular event! Everyone is welcome to participate! (More details pg. 21)

Sun., Nov. 6 - **American Red Cross Adult and Pediatric CPR Course.** Registration deadline Oct. 31.

Tues., Nov. 8 – Health and Fitness Seminar – **Making the Most of Your Fitness Journey** - Free to CC Members, \$10 for non-members.

Thurs., Oct. 13 –**Free Family Paint Night** at Lenard Hall – Theme: Abstract

Fri., Nov. 11 –**Free Mansfield Day** at the Community Center! Center Hours are 5:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. **Includes Family Fun Night access!**

Fri., Nov. 11, 4:30-7:30 p.m., **Family Fun Night!** Theme: Sundae Day. Can you guess what goes along with this? That's right...FREE SUNDAES! Come have a scoop!

Nov. 15 – **Craft Fair Registration Deadline.**

Sat./Sun., Nov. 19-20 – **Community Center Open House** – Come see what Family, Fitness, and Fun in Mansfield is all about!

Sat., Nov. 19 – **Babysitter Safety Course** – registration deadline Nov. 11

Nov. 21-23 – **Giving Week! Free Fitness class** attendance with donation of a non-expired canned good, non-perishable item, or monetary donation. Watch for more info at [www.mansfieldcc.com](http://www.mansfieldcc.com)

Sat., Nov. 26, 1:30-3:30 p.m., **Family Fun Event!** Theme: Super Heroes! We heard the new Black Panther movie was coming out this month, and thought we should celebrate our love of all things superhero! Come dressed to impress in your superhero best (maybe make use of those Halloween costumes) and be ready to play and save the day!

Nov. 28 – **Jingle Jog Registration Deadline!**

Nov. 28 – **Swim Lessons Mini-Session Starts!** Registration is open now!

Nov. 26-Dec. 11 – **Letters to Santa Drop-off!** The magic mailbox will be in the Community Center lobby accepting your letters to Santa. Don't forget to include a self-addressed and stamped envelope to receive a reply!

Dec. 1 –**K-2 Instructional Basketball Registration Deadline**

Sat., Dec. 3 – **Holiday Fun Day** – Jingle Jog and Craft Fair!

Sat./Sun, Dec. 3 & 4 – Showings of **The Nutcracker!**



## What's Happening in Town? Don't miss these **EVENTS!**

Watch for more on the [Town of Mansfield website](#) . Watch for updates from the [Mansfield Senior Center](#) which hosts many online and in-person activities each month along with the [Mansfield Public Library](#) and the [Mansfield Community Center](#).

Date	Event/Activity	More Info/Register
October 5	Wonderful Wednesdays Story time, 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
October 6	Free CT FOODSHARE Distribution, Wrights Village Parking Lot on Maple Rd., 11:30 AM-12 noon	<a href="#">Mansfield Human Services</a> or call 860.429.3315
October 6	History for Fun: Movie Monsters, 1:00PM	Mansfield Senior Center (Register by 10/4 to 860.429.0262)
October 7	Infant & Toddler Time, 10:15 AM - 11:30 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
October 8	Family Story time, 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
October 8	Toy Theatre Spectacle & Exhibit Tours, 12:00 PM - 6:00 PM	<a href="#">Downtown Storrs</a>
October 8	Family Story time, 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
October 8	Plein Air Painting in the Parks - Mt. Hope Park, 10 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a>
October 9	Free Yard Games Group, 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a>
October 10	Most Town Offices CLOSED for Indigenous Peoples Day	
October 10	Family Play Day (with Special Day Pass Rates)	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a>
October 11	The Pequot Story: Celebrating Heritage, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
October 11	Mansfield Library Book Discussion Group, 6:45 PM - 8:00 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
October 11	Recreation Rescue @ Mansfield Middle School, 7:30 AM - 5:30 PM (cost \$54)	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a>
October 12	Wonderful Wednesdays Story time, 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
October 12	Travel Basketball Registration Deadline	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a>

## More **EVENTS!**

Date	Event/Activity	More Info/Register
October 13	Book Discussion: "Waking Up White, and Finding Myself in the Story of Race" by: Debby Irving, 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>  (Co-hosted by the Human Rights Commission)
October 13	Grade 3-8 Rec Basketball Registration Deadline	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a>
October 13	Free Family Paint Night @ Lenard Hall	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a>
October 13	Mansfield Film Discussion Dracula 4K (1931), 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
October 14	Infant & Toddler Time, 10:15 AM - 11:30 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
October 14	Fresh Friday, Drive Thru 11:30AM - 12:00 PM, Dine in starts at 12:00 PM	Mansfield Senior Center (Register by 10/7, cost \$10, 860.429.0262)
October 14	Infant & Toddler Time, 10:15 AM - 11:30 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
October 14	Fresh Friday, Drive Thru 11:30AM - 12:00 PM, Dine in starts at 12:00 PM	Mansfield Senior Center (Register by 10/7, cost \$10, 860.429.0262)
October 15	Sock Monkey Circus, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	<a href="#">Downtown Storrs</a>
October 15	Pumpkin Painting Challenge, 10 AM - 1 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a> (Register by 10/7)
October 15	Last Day to Rent Kayaks and Paddleboards	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a>
October 15	Plein Air Painting in the Parks - Eagleville Dam, 10 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a>
October 16	Free Yard Games Group, 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a>
October 16	American Red Cross Adult and Pediatric CPR Course	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a> (Register by 10/6, cost \$82 for members, \$106 for non-members)
October 18	The Power of Meditation and Gratitude, 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
October 19	Wonderful Wednesdays Story time, 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
October 20	Mansfield Library Knitting Group, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a>
October 20	Free CT FOODSHARE Distribution, Wrights Village Parking Lot on Maple Rd., 11:30 AM-12 noon	<a href="#">Mansfield Human Services</a> or call 860.429.3315
October 21	Infant & Toddler Time, 10:15 AM - 11:30 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
October 22	Family Story time, 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
October 22	Storrs Farmers' Market, Town Hall facing Price Chopper, 3-5PM	<a href="#">Storrs Farmers' Market</a>
October 23	Free Yard Games Group, 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a>

## More **EVENTS!**

Date	Event/Activity	More Info/Register
October 23	We're Liking the Vikings at our Family Halloween Party!,	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
October 26	Wonderful Wednesdays Story time, 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
October 26	Husky Hour Student Showcase, 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	<a href="#">Downtown Storrs</a>
October 27	Book Discussion: "Waking Up White, and Finding Myself in the Story of Race" by: Debby Irving, 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>  (Co-hosted by the Human Rights Commission.)
October 28	Infant & Toddler Time, 10:15 AM - 11:30 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
October 28	Halloween Pizza Party, 12:00PM	Mansfield Senior Center (Register by 10/21, cost \$8,
October 29	Family Story time, 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
October 29	Trick-or-Treat in Downtown Storrs, 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM	<a href="#">Downtown Storrs</a>
October 30	Free Yard Games Group, 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a>
November 1	Inner Peace This Holiday Season Through Meditation,	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
November 2	Wonderful Wednesdays Story time, 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
November 2	Author Talk: "Waking Up White, and Finding Myself in the Story of Race" with Debby Irving, 6:00—7:30 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>  (Co-hosted by the Human Rights Commission.)
November 3	Free CT FOODSHARE Distribution, Wrights Village Parking Lot on Maple Rd., 11:30 AM-12 noon	<a href="#">Mansfield Human Services</a> or call 860.429.3315
November 4	Infant & Toddler Time, 10:15 AM - 11:30 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
November 5	Storrs Farmers' Market, Town Hall facing Price Chopper, 3-	<a href="#">Storrs Farmers' Market</a>
November 6	American Red Cross Adult and Pediatric CPR Course	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a> (Register by 10/31, cost \$82 for members, \$106 for non-members)
November 8	Mansfield Library Book Discussion Group,	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>

More **EVENTS!**

Date	Event/Activity	More Info/Register
November 9	Wonderful Wednesdays Story time, 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
November 9	What Women Should Know Before Applying For Social Security, 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Public Library</a>
November 11	Town Offices CLOSED for Observance of Veterans Day	
November 12	Storrs Farmers' Market, Town Hall facing Price Chopper, 3-5 PM	<a href="#">Storrs Farmers' Market</a>
November 17	Mansfield Library Knitting Group, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM	<a href="#">Mansfield Community Center</a>
November 17	Free CT FOODSHARE Distribution, Wrights Village Parking Lot on Maple Rd., 11:30 AM-12 noon	<a href="#">Mansfield Human Services</a> or call 860.429.3315
November 19	Storrs Farmers' Market, Town Hall facing Price Chopper, 3-5PM	<a href="#">Storrs Farmers' Market</a>
November 24 & 25	Town Offices CLOSED for Thanksgiving Holiday	

### Upcoming Municipal Meetings

For the most up-to-date schedule of Town meetings, go to our website at

<https://www.mansfieldct.gov/calendar.aspx?CID=32>

We encourage residents to participate in Mansfield’s governance. Many municipal meetings are still being held virtually, but some are fully in-person. Hybrid meeting options (a combination of virtual attendees from remote locations and in-person at a central location) are offered for the Town Council and The Board of Education

Regardless of the meeting format, residents may still submit Public Comment prior to meetings. You may view some meetings as they occur via Live Video Stream on our YouTube channel. Other meetings are recorded so you may review minutes and recordings after the fact.



To find the log-in information for each of these meetings, go to the [Agendas/Minutes](#) page on the town’s website. Look up the name of the committee, and click on the arrow to the left of the title. The agenda for the upcoming meeting will appear. Click on the pdf, and you will see who to contact to receive call-in information.

Minutes of past meetings are also posted there.

## Please Contact Our Department Leaders for What You Need



Our staff is ready to help answer any questions you have about how to access the services of your community. Please reach out to them by phone or by email for anything you need.

Department	Department Leader	Contact
Animal Control	Noranne Nielsen, Animal Control Officer	860-487-0137 ACO@mansfieldct.org
Assessor	Rochelle Lambert, Assessor	860-429-3311 Assessor@mansfieldct.org
Building and Housing Inspection	Michael Ninteau, Building & Housing Director	860-429-3324 BldgDept@mansfieldct.org
Downtown Partnership	Cynthia van Zelm, Executive Director	860-429-2740 MDP@mansfieldct.org
Eastern Highlands Health	Robert Miller, M.P.H., R.S., Director of Health	860-429-3325 ehhd@ehhd.org
Emergency Management	Adam Libros, Emergency Management Director	860-429-3328 OEM@MansfieldCT.org
Facilities	Allen Corson, Facilities Director	860-429-3320 facilities@mansfieldct.org
Finance	Charmaine Bradshaw-Hill, Director of Finance	860-429-3345 FinanceDept@mansfieldct.org
Fire Marshal	Adam Libros, Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal	860-429-3328 FireMarshal@mansfieldct.org
Fire & Emergency Services	Fred Mitchell, Fire Chief	860-429-3323 firedept@mansfieldct.org  <b>EMERGENCY: 911</b>
Housing Authority	Rebecca Fields, Housing Authority Executive Director	860-487-0693 rfields@mansfieldhousingct.org
Human Resources	Holly Schaefer, Human Resources Director	860-429-3380 HR@MansfieldCT.org
Human Services	Patricia Schneider, Director of Human Services	860-429-3315 HumanServ@MansfieldCT.org
Information Technology	Jaime Russell, Information Technology	860-429-3384 technology@mansfieldct.org
Mansfield Discovery Depot	Debbie Plourde, Director	(860) 487-0062 MDD@mansfieldct.org
Parks & Recreation/ Mansfield Community Center	Jay O'Keefe, Director	860-429-3015 parks&rec@mansfieldct.org



**Please Contact Our Department Leaders for What You Need**

Department	Department Leader	Contact
Planning & Development	Jennifer Kaufman, AICP Director	860-429-3330 PlanZoneDept@mansfieldct.org
Public Library	Leslie McDonough, Library Director	860-423-2501 MansfieldLi- brary@MansfieldCT.org
Public Works	John Carrington, Public Works Director	860-429-3331 PublicWorks@mansfieldct.org
Registrars of Voters	Anne Greineder, Democratic Registrar  Vera Ward, Republican Registrar	860-429-3368  860-429-3369 VoterRegistrars@mansfieldct.org
Senior Center	Sarah Taylor, Senior Center Supervisor	860-429-0262 TaylorS@mansfieldct.org
State Police (Resident State Trooper)	Sergeant Tim Merrill, Resident State Trooper Sergeant	860-429-6024 Police@mansfieldct.org
Tax/Revenue Collections	Jerl Casey, Collector of Revenue	860-429-3307 Taxes@mansfieldct.org
Trash and Recycling	Virginia Walton, Recycling Coordinator	860-429-3333 waltonvd@mansfieldct.org
Town Clerk	Sara-Ann Chaine, Town Clerk	860-429-3302 TownClerk@MansfieldCT.org
Town Manager	Ryan Aylesworth, Town Manager	860-429-3336 TownMngr@mansfieldct.org
Youth Services	Katherine J. Bell, Psy.D Youth Services Supervisor	860-429-3319 BellKJ@mansfieldct.org