

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

VOL. 3, ISSUE 4

8-1-23

## Look for these stories in this newsletter



Calling all Artists  
(See page 20)



20th Celebrate Mansfield Sept. 30  
(See page 6)



Ribbon-Cutting at MES  
(See page 13)



Youth Services and Summer Fun  
(See page 15)

## Message from the Town Manager

### Striving to Be a Place Where Every Voice is Valued and Heard

Greetings Fellow Residents!



A couple months ago I started off my welcome message commenting on how summer was almost upon us, and now it feels as though it is flying by and fall will be here before we know it! Notwithstanding the heat wave we have been grappling with in recent weeks, I hope that everyone has taken an opportunity to get outside to walk our trails or enjoy the countless outdoor recreational opportunities Mansfield has to offer.

As I introduce the latest edition of our bimonthly Town newsletter, I want to emphasize the critical importance of community engagement.

In this digital age, where communication is fast-paced and ever-evolving, nurturing meaningful interactions within our community becomes paramount. **Here in Mansfield, we continue to strive for new and better ways of initiating dialog and fostering meaningful engagement between our residents and their local government.** This newsletter – which launched in early-2021 at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic – is an example of one the many new tools we have implemented in the interest of disseminating valuable information, promoting a platform for dialogue, and helping us make progress toward a common vision. Although there will always be diverse viewpoints when it comes to the goals and priorities we set for our community, I believe there is unanimous consensus that **we want Mansfield to be a place where every voice is valued and heard.**

Community engagement is more than just a buzzword; it's the lifeblood of a successful and harmonious town. When residents actively participate and contribute their ideas, talents, and insights, we unlock the true potential of our community. It is through collaboration and understanding that we can address challenges, celebrate accomplishments, confront tradeoffs, and forge a future that benefits each and every one of us.

In the tapestry of our community, each thread represents a resident, a family, an individual whose presence we value and cherish. Mansfield's strength lies not only in its infrastructure or institutions but, more importantly, in the spirit of unity and collaboration that binds us together. Community engagement is the heartbeat of our town, and it is through your active involvement and participation that we can create a thriving, inclusive, and resilient community.

The power of community engagement transcends mere participation; it fosters a sense of belonging, ownership, and shared responsibility for the wellbeing of our town. **By being active stakeholders, each one of you brings unique perspectives, ideas, and insights that can enrich the decision-making process and lead us to the best possible outcomes.**

To this end, it is exciting that Mansfield has recently embarked on multiple strategic planning initiatives that are addressing important topics ([www.mansfieldtomorrow.org](http://www.mansfieldtomorrow.org)). These initiatives are the blueprint for the future we aspire to build together. They encompass a diverse range of areas, from sustainable development at a neighborhood scale, to prioritizing investment in municipal facilities to ensure we meet existing and emerging community needs, to envisioning the future of Mansfield Parks and Recreation.



(Continued)



*(Town Manager’s Message cont.)*

The success of these and future planning initiatives depends on your involvement. Your input, feedback, and contributions will shape the outcomes, ensuring they reflect the true aspirations of Mansfield residents. More than 100 residents joined us at Town Hall for an in-person Community Open House on July 11. This evening was just the beginning of the opportunity to provide input.



We encourage you to attend future meetings and share your thoughts through online surveys and a variety of digital forums we have activated. Your engagement will be the driving force that propels us forward on this exciting journey.



Our planning initiatives also provide the perfect platform for fostering partnerships and collaborations with local organizations, businesses, the University of Connecticut, prospective development partners, and other stakeholders. Together, we can pool our resources and expertise, leveraging the collective strength of our community to overcome challenges and capitalize on opportunities.

I want to emphasize that community engagement is not a one-time event or a fleeting enthusiasm; rather, it is a sustained commitment to building a better community. By engaging in ongoing dialogues, actively participating in events, and supporting one another, we create a ripple effect that transforms lives and shapes the destiny of our Town for the decades ahead.

As your Town Manager, I assure you that our doors are always open, and our ears are always attentive to your thoughts and concerns. Your opinions matter, and your active involvement is crucial in ensuring that Mansfield remains a vibrant, thriving, and inclusive place we are all proud to call home.

Let us embrace this journey of community engagement with enthusiasm and determination. Together, we will make a lasting impact and create a legacy for generations to come.

Thank you for your unwavering support and your dedication to our community's future. Thank you for being a part of our Mansfield's journey. I am truly excited about what we can achieve together.

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.

Please enjoy the last few weeks of summer ahead by taking in a Moonlight Movie on a Friday night, hiking one of our many trails, or stopping by the Mansfield Public Library for an ice cream on August 12. And be sure to Save the Date of September 30 when we will all enjoy the 20th annual Celebrate Mansfield Festival in Downtown Storrs. I hope I’ll see you there!

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!

### Important News from the Mansfield Assessor’s Office



#### Tax Relief Programs

The Assessor is currently accepting applications for Additional Veterans tax relief programs until October 1, 2023. Income maximums, based on IRS tax year 2022, are \$40,300 for an individual and \$49,100 for married couple.

Connecticut resident active duty service member’s motor vehicle exemption claim form due filed with the assessor by December 31, 2023.

#### Personal Property Declarations

All owners of taxable personal property are required to file annual declaration forms with the Assessor by November 1st. Assessor will mail forms to registered personal property owner’s September 2023. The deadline to file the form with the Assessor’s office: November 1, 2023. United States Postal Service Postmarks or certificates of mailing accepted. Failure to file by the prescribed deadline will result in a 25% assessment penalty.

Kindly note, if you received a form and you no longer own or have removed the personal property assessed in your name, from Mansfield, please indicate that on the affidavit on front of the form and submit by the deadline to avoid an estimated assessment with penalty.

#### Motor Vehicle Assessments

Motor vehicle assessments calculated based on 100% Clean (Average) Retail value listed in JD Power’s NADA October Eastern Edition, if that data is available. When such value is not listed therein, for example, as in the case of a brand new vehicle purchase, the assessor will use the best information available to them, to determine assessment value. No consideration given for condition of vehicle, mileage, or whether it is operational or not.

Pursuant to the provisions of CT law, the Board of Assessment appeals will meet in the month of September to hear motor vehicle appeals only. Motor Vehicle Appeal applications are available on the town website in August. Please [see their webpage](#) for more information.

### Renters’ Rebate Available to Help with Housing Costs



Starting April 1 through October 1 the Human Services Department will be assisting with applications for the State of Connecticut Elderly and Totally Disabled Renters Tax Relief Program. Residents are encouraged to explore this opportunity if you think you might qualify.

Basic eligibility qualifications for this program are:

- You must be 65 by Dec. 31, 2022
- Your gross income in 2022 FROM ALL SOURCES was no more than \$49,100 for married/civil-unionized couples or \$40,300 if single.
- You rent an apartment, house or mobile home lot and do not file under the Homeowner’s Tax Credit program.
- You resided in the State of Connecticut during 2022 and presently reside in Mansfield.
- You are under age 65 and are totally and permanently disabled, receiving Social Security Disability or SSI.

Please call Human Services at 860.429.3315 with any questions or to schedule an appointment.

### Town Council Welcomes Chris Kueffner as Newest Member

The Town Council has sworn in a new member this summer, Mr. Christopher Kueffner. Chris is fulfilling the term of Al Fratoni who resigned from his seat representing the Republican party.

Chris has been active in Mansfield most recently as Vice Chairman of the School Building Committee for the new elementary school. As a service to the Town and School District, this former educator volunteered to coordinate a series of video visits to show progress and explain attributes of the new net-zero elementary school for the community.



Chris has also participated in the Mansfield Local Government Academy in 2022, and is a local business owner.

### Enroll Today in Mansfield Local Government Academy



Are you interested in learning more about how the Town of Mansfield operates? What goes into the community’s decision-making process? What does each department do? The 2023 Mansfield Local Government Academy will launch on Thursday, September 7. We are enrolling residents who are interested in participating with this year’s Academy.

Town Manager Aylesworth organized the Academy to inform and engage citizens in what is involved to operate a high-functioning community government. Department heads lead each session and discuss the full array of programs and services their departments provide. In addition to learning about the challenges and opportunities our municipal leaders confront each day, you will have an opportunity to tour numerous Town facilities, including the public works garage, senior center, library, Town Hall, community center, and fire station plus meet key staff who provide the services there. Throughout the sessions you will learn about the Fire and Police Departments, the Public Libraries, the Town’s IT Operations, Mansfield Public Schools, Parks & Recreation, Elections, the role of citizen committees, and much more!

Participants are asked to commit to attend at least ten of the 12 two-hour sessions at various locations across the Town on Thursday evenings throughout the fall.

Feedback from the 30 participants who have completed the Local Government Academy in 2021 and 2022 is positive.

- “This is a great program. It’s amazing the services and programs our town supports.”
- “All speakers have been clear in relaying their mission, explaining in easy-to-understand terms.”
- “Really, all classes were excellent. There was not one I did not enjoy.”
- “I am a much more informed citizen voter.”

Find the tentative schedule on the [Town Manager’s webpage](#). To express your interest, please email [TownMgr@mansfieldct.org](mailto:TownMgr@mansfieldct.org) or call 860.429.3373.



### Department of Agriculture Awards Grant to Human Services Dept.



Human Services is thrilled to announce that the Town of Mansfield has been awarded a \$5,000 Farm Viability Grant from Connecticut’s Department of Agriculture. This funding will help in our sustainability efforts by providing funding to convert the existing 10’x10’ walk-in freezer from Goodwin Elementary School into a refrigerator, and installing it at the Senior Center.

The repurposed fridge will greatly expand our cold food storage, benefiting both the Senior Center nutrition programs and the Mansfield Farms to Family program.

The Mansfield Farms to Family Program (MFFP) is in its third year. A concept launched by the Taste of Mansfield, the program purchases local food grown or produced by area farmers and distributes it to eligible households that apply. Farmers benefit from the local demand for their goods and residents benefit from the access to fresh foods. The Human Services Department coordinates regular distributions of these farm products including milk eggs, fresh bread, vegetables, fruits, honey, meats, and cheeses throughout the year. The extra storage space at the Human Services Department will make collecting, sorting, and holding the fresh products for residents much safer and more convenient.



You can read more about the grant here: <https://portal.ct.gov/DOAG/Press-Room/Press-Releases/2023/June/Connecticut-Department-of-Agriculture-Announces-Farm-Viability-Grant>

### Sign up for CODE RED Emergency Alerts from the Town of Mansfield

Residents are encouraged to sign up for emergency notifications from the Town of Mansfield. The Town uses the system to notify residents of important information during an active emergency, as well as for disaster recovery information. The Town also gives residents the option to opt-in to receive other urgent information pertaining to local government operations. We encourage everyone who lives or works in Mansfield to sign-up for this important notification system through [our website](#)



## WOULD YOU LIKE TO DONATE FOOD TO THE MANSFIELD FOOD PANTRY?



### We are currently in need of:

- Cereal
- Snacks for kids (crackers, fruit cups, chips)
- Shampoo, conditioner, soap, deodorant
- Toilet paper and paper towels
- Canned chicken
- Pasta and sauce
- Peanut butter and jelly/jam
- Dish soap, laundry detergent, dryer sheets
- Mayonnaise, ketchup, salad dressings
- Rice
- Mac & Cheese
- Pancake, cookie and brownie mixes

Please email [socserv@mansfieldct.org](mailto:socserv@mansfieldct.org) to arrange drop off or possible pick up of donations.

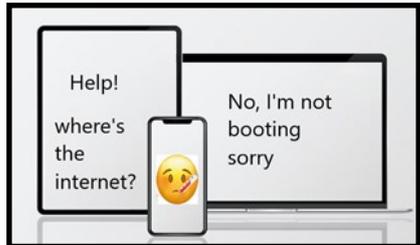


### Free Technology Help for Residents Now Available in Mansfield



These days everyone needs a technology advisor, and now free tech help for Mansfield residents is available through the Mansfield Public Library and its new ARPA grant-funded Digital Access Specialist! Through one-on-one appointments and upcoming workshops, everyone can receive help with:

- Getting online
- Setting up and using a computer or tablet
- Creating an email address
- Using your connected device on Wi-Fi
- Purchasing/upgrading recommendations
- Device pros/cons, and more.



Digital Access Specialist Jon Cuppini will pop up at locations across the community, at Town of Mansfield facilities, and at the Mansfield Public Library. To acquaint folks with his service, he and the new van are transporting library staff to visit local apartments and distribute books for summer reading. Watch for the new white Mansfield Public Library van in your neighborhood and at Moonlight Movies on August 4!

Residents of any town can receive help with their tech device if they visit the Mansfield Public Library, but offsite visits are strictly limited to Mansfield CT residents. Direct home visits are not permitted through this program. Call or text 959-444-1305, or email [mansfieldtechhelp@gmail.com](mailto:mansfieldtechhelp@gmail.com) for more details and/or to set up an appointment.



## Be a part of the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Celebrate Mansfield Festival!



The Mansfield Downtown Partnership, Inc. invites Mansfield businesses, artists and crafters, community organizations, student clubs, sports teams, families, and individuals to join in the fun at its 20<sup>th</sup> Annual [Celebrate Mansfield Festival!](#) This year's community celebration will be Saturday, September 30 in Downtown Storrs. There are a variety of ways to participate:

**Activity Booths:** A great opportunity for organizations to connect with community members; Cost: \$25; Open to businesses and organizations located in Mansfield and UConn departments, programs, and student groups. Deadline to sign up: Friday, August 4. Learn more and sign up at [downtownstorrsfestival.org/activities](https://downtownstorrsfestival.org/activities)

**Craft Booths:** Crafters and artisans are invited to share their talents with our community as part of a juried craft show; Deadline to apply: Friday, August 4; Approved crafters, makers, and artists will be notified by Friday, August 11 and will pay a fee of \$25. Find the application and more information at [downtownstorrsfestival.org/crafts](https://downtownstorrsfestival.org/crafts)

**Food Booths:** A perfect option for restaurants to show off their specialty menu items or for community groups to raise money; Open to businesses and organizations located in Mansfield and UConn departments, programs, and student groups. Cost: \$25; Deadline to sign up: Friday, August 4. More information can be found at [downtownstorrsfestival.org/food](https://downtownstorrsfestival.org/food)

**Community Art "Quilt"** What do you love about Mansfield? Show us with your original art! Create your two-dimensional art on an 8.5"x11" piece of paper and submit it by noon on Friday, September 1 to be included in the "quilt." Submissions can be dropped off at the Nash-Zimmer Transportation Center (23 Royce Circle), Mansfield Community Center (10 S. Eagleville Road), or Mansfield Public Library (54 Warrenville Road). The "quilt" will be on display at the Library Express in the Nash-Zimmer during the Festival. Open to all ages! Learn more at [downtownstorrsfestival.org/artquilt](https://downtownstorrsfestival.org/artquilt)

**Scarecrow Decorating Contest:** Decorate a scarecrow in a family-friendly theme of your choice! There is no fee to participate, but registration is required and space is limited. Open to businesses and organizations located in and residents living in Mansfield and UConn departments, programs, and student groups. See the full details and sign up by Friday, August 4 at [downtownstorrsfestival.org/scarecrow](https://downtownstorrsfestival.org/scarecrow).

**Community Puppet-Building Workshop and Puppet Pageant:** Together with the Ballard Institute and Museum of Puppetry, the Partnership will host free Community Puppet-Building Workshops during which participants will build larger-than-life puppets. Participants will perform with their creations during the Puppet Pageant, part of the main stage entertainment at the Festival. The workshops and pageant are free and open to all ages – no puppetry experience required! Dates and details to come at [downtownstorrsfestival.org/puppets](https://downtownstorrsfestival.org/puppets)

**Volunteer:** There are opportunities throughout the day for individuals or groups to help make the Festival a success; Documentation of service is provided upon request. Learn more and sign up at [downtownstorrsfestival.org/volunteers](https://downtownstorrsfestival.org/volunteers)

The largest community event in Mansfield, the Festival is a day-long celebration of the people, businesses, and community organizations that make Mansfield a wonderful place to live and grow. This event is free and open to everyone to attend.

"We are thrilled to be hosting our 20<sup>th</sup> celebration of Mansfield!" said Partnership Executive Director Cynthia van Zelm. "This event is made possible and all the more special with the participation of hundreds of people, businesses, and organizations each year. We look forward to working with everyone to create a fun day for our whole community."



The 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Celebrate Mansfield Festival will take place from 2:00 PM to 8:00 PM on and around Betsy Paterson Square (2 Dog Lane) in Downtown Storrs. In the event of inclement weather, the Festival will be held inside at E. O. Smith High School (1235 Storrs Road).

Follow @DowntownStorrs on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter or visit [downtownstorrsfestival.org](https://downtownstorrsfestival.org) for news and announcements as planning progress.

*Photo by Laura Stone*

### Town Clerk’s Office Assists with Access to Information



The Connecticut Freedom of Information (FOI) Act guarantees your access to most town records with few exceptions. At the Clerk’s office, we help you locate and request the documents you need. The Clerks regularly work alongside citizens to enter a request into the Town’s formal FOI fulfillment process and collect the documents from other town departments. In 2022, 85 of these requests were documented. Countless more requests are undocumented due to the ready availability of many items.

The FOI Act pertains only to documents that exist. If it doesn’t exist, it is not required to be created. In addition, the FOI Act applies only to documents possessed by the record owner. If the documents requested were not created by the Town, then the Town is not required to obtain and produce the requested documents.

Many records of common interest are online at [www.mansfieldct.gov](http://www.mansfieldct.gov). Vehicle and property tax information is available on the [Revenue Collector’s page](#), geographic and property card information is available on the [Assessor’s page](#) via the geographic information system (GIS), and budget and audit information is available on the [Finance Department’s page](#). Visit our [Services for Residents](#) page on the main menu of the website Home page for departmental links. Your Town departments have a lot of information online. Don’t worry — we can help you find what you are looking for!

The FOI Act also ensures that you have access to public meetings. This means you are able to find out when a committee is meeting, what they will be meeting about (agendas), and what they did at that meeting (minutes).

Mansfield has more than 45 committees ranging in interest from agriculture to economic development, arts to recreation, and youth services to cemetery preservation— and all of their agendas and minutes are available online. To receive notifications of their activities automatically, you can sign up for email notices by clicking [Emails About Town News](#) on our [How Do I...](#) menu

You can learn more about the work of our committees by checking out [the Boards and Committees](#) webpage.



The Mansfield Human Services Department is collecting school supplies as part of our Back to School Program.

Supplies can be dropped off at the Mansfield Town Hall in the bin by the side entrance that faces Rt 195, or at the Mansfield Human Services office, 303 Maple Road.

We are also accepting gift cards to local stores for clothing, or checks made out to the Town of Mansfield referencing "Back to School" in the memo that can be sent to the Human Services office.

Please submit donations by August 18, 2023.

#### WHAT WE NEED

- BACKPACKS
- LUNCH BOXES
- WATER BOTTLES
- ICE PACKS
- PENCILS/PENS
- COLORED PENCILS
- PENCIL POUCHES
- PENCIL SHARPENERS
- ERASERS
- WIDE -RULED NOTEBOOKS
- COLLEGE-RULED NOTEBOOKS
- STICKY NOTES
- TRAPPERS
- 1/2" AND 1" 3-RING BINDERS
- POCKET FOLDERS
- GRAPH PAPER
- HIGHLIGHTERS
- EAR BUDS



### Three New Businesses Coming to Downtown Storrs!



The [Mansfield Downtown Partnership](#) is looking forward to welcoming three new businesses to Downtown Storrs in the coming months:

[Playa Bowls](#) – Playa Bowls has signed a lease for 1 Dog Lane Suite 102. Founded in New Jersey, Playa Bowls’ menu focuses on fresh, healthy ingredients for açai, pitaya, and coconut bowls and smoothies. Two UConn alumni will own and operate the Downtown Storrs location, which will be their sixth in Connecticut (other locations are in Avon, Darien, Fairfield, Glastonbury, and West Hartford).

[Haven Hot Chicken](#) - Haven Hot Chicken has signed a lease for 1206 Storrs Road, Suite A. Led by two UConn alumni, this Connecticut business focuses on Nashville-style hot chicken and offers chicken and vegetarian options ranging from not spicy to very spicy. Their Downtown Storrs location will be their sixth, with their other locations in New Haven, Orange, Norwalk, North Haven, and Middletown.

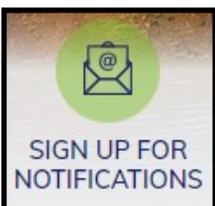
[Square Peg Pizzeria](#) – Square Peg Pizzeria has signed a lease for 9 Dog Lane, Suite 101. Another Connecticut business with multiple locations, Square Peg has full-service restaurants in Glastonbury and Vernon along with others within breweries and entertainment venues across the state. Their wood-fired pizzas are complemented by a full menu of salads, sandwiches, pastas, and sides.

With the addition of these businesses, there will be 71 businesses and organizations operating in Downtown Storrs. Of these businesses, 52% are independently-owned. Fifteen percent are locally owned franchises. The remaining businesses and organizations are a mix of UConn entities (e.g. UConn Health), national businesses (e.g. Chase Bank), and non-profit organizations (e.g. the Mansfield Downtown Partnership).

To see a full directory of businesses in Downtown Storrs, please visit [downtownstorrs.org](http://downtownstorrs.org).



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



If you want to receive alerts via email or text 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. Key personnel announcements.

There is an opportunity to sign up for minutes, agendas and other information there, too.

### Firefighter David Keplesky Earns Commander's Award at National Honor Guard Academy



Congratulations to Mansfield Firefighter Dave Keplesky for his graduation from the National Honor Guard Academy. Dave excelled in this week-long program, which is held at the Connecticut Fire Academy in Windsor Locks. He is now eligible to serve in the Mansfield Fire Department's Honor Guard who are dedicated to honoring fallen firefighters, their families, and department members, past and present.

Dave was also recognized with the Commander's Award for Excellence, given only to one attendee during the week-long training. Dave also earned a spot in the Academy class Color Guard for the graduation ceremony.

It is the mission of the Mansfield Fire Department Honor Guard to represent the department as a highly disciplined team serving with honor at ceremonial functions. The Guard functions with respect and dignity at funeral services for active and retired personnel as needed, and provide comfort and compassion for the survivors. The Honor Guard projects a positive image of the Department and its members by performing as a well trained professional team at local, state, and national events as well.

We are extremely proud of Firefighter Keplesky for these achievements, and his work representing Mansfield's emergency responders.



# Banana Split Day is just a few weeks away!

**IT'S A FREE MANSFIELD DAY  
FAMILY FUN EVENT,  
4-7 P.M.  
FRIDAY, AUGUST 25, 2023**



**Ice cream available during 4-7 p.m. while supplies last.  
Included with family fun night admission.  
Free to Members and Mansfield residents.  
Non-member non-residents welcome with day pass purchase.**

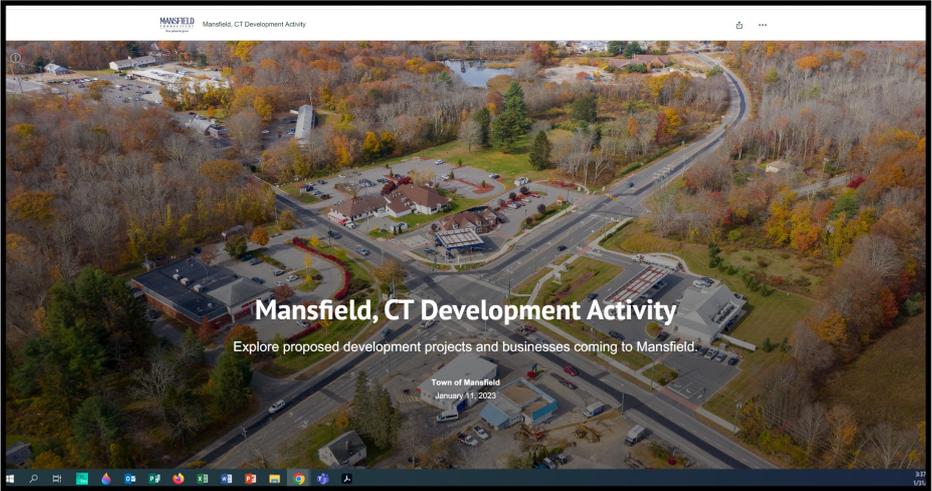
**MANSFIELD COMMUNITY CENTER, 10 S. EAGLEVILLE ROAD, STORRS, CT 06268  
860-429-3015 WWW.MANSFIELDCC.COM**

**Keep Up With the Latest News on Development Activity in Mansfield**



There are a number of mixed-use and multi-family developments in various stages of the permitting process. If you are interested in staying informed about these proposals, the Planning and Development Department has a helpful tool for you.

The Department maintains a [Development Activity](#) page on the Town’s website which provides updates on upcoming and recently approved projects. We encourage residents to visit the site frequently to stay informed on the proposals before the Planning and Zoning Commission and other activity.



There are also a number of opportunities to speak up about projects at upcoming public hearings. [Sign up for notifications](#) so you can receive Planning and Zoning Commission agendas in advance, and learn how to submit your input or appear to speak in person at public hearings.

**Upcoming Public Hearings:**

The public hearing regarding the Special Permit Application of CMC Storrs SPV, LLC and BPOZ 17 Cedar Swamp, LLC (Applicants/Owners), for a Multi-Family Residential Community at 497 Middle Turnpike (Assessor's Parcel ID 8.14.19) and 17 Cedar Swamp Road (Assessor's Parcel ID 8.14.18) and three parcels fronting on Cedar Swamp Road, Assessor's Parcel IDs 8.14.14-2, 8.14.14-3, and 8.14.14-4 (PZC File # P1380) **was continued to August 7, 2023.**

*Planning and Zoning Commission and Inland Wetlands Agency*

**August 7, 2023 (PZC)-** Temporary and limited moratorium on high-density housing to March 31, 2024. *During this temporary and limited moratorium, new developments in excess of five (5) total units or with an average density greater than three (3) units per acre shall be prohibited, and no applications shall be received by the Planning and Zoning Commission or Zoning Agent.*

*Exceptions:*

- a. To continue to encourage housing that supports Mansfield’s aging population, new developments for which not less than fifty percent (50%) of the units are to be restricted to persons at least fifty-five (55) years or older shall be excluded from this moratorium.*
- b. Given the immediate proximity to the University, and to further support Goal 8.1., Strategy C, of the Mansfield Tomorrow Plan of Conservation and Development new developments within the PB-4 zone as currently depicted on the Town’s official zoning map shall be excluded from this moratorium.*
- c. To ensure that those projects which have already commenced the land use approval process with the Mansfield Inland Wetland Agency are not disproportionately affected, new developments which otherwise meet the criteria established herein but for which an application has already been received and/or approved by the Mansfield Inland Wetlands Commission as of the effective date of this moratorium shall be excluded from this moratorium.*

**August 7, 2023 (PZC)-**Special permit application of Yamei Development LLC (Applicant/Owner) for a mixed-use development known as the Villages at Four Corners and located at 1659 Storrs Rd and 625 Middle Turnpike for 12,000 square feet of commercial/restaurant space and 116 multi-family residential units.

**August 7, 2023 (IWA) September 5, 2023 (PZC)-** Special Permit Application of Wilhusky Housing, LLC for a Mixed Used Development known as the HUB at Mansfield on four parcels located at 22 and 28-32 King Hill Road and 125 and 134 North Eagleville Road (Assessor's Parcel IDs 15.33.3, 15.33.4,15.33.5, and 9.23.26)

**Reducing Trash is Important to Our Earth. How is Mansfield Doing?**



To improve our community and our world, humans need to reduce and dispose of less trash. To help shed some light on how Mansfield is progressing, we want to share some trashy facts.

**Did you know...** that with the recently awarded municipal solid waste contract, which covers the cost to dispose trash at the Preston Resource Recovery Facility (trash incineration), **the cost to dispose trash rose 53%, from \$74.95 to \$115 per ton.**

**Did you know...** that the current cost to **dispose trash** from the Mansfield Transfer Station, multi-family and single-family residences totals around **\$23,700 per month** whereas the cost to **recycle** cans, bottles, paper, cardboard from the Transfer Station, multi-family and single-family residences totals around **\$3,400 per month.**

**Did you know...** that residents who subscribe to single-family collection recycle about **32%** of their waste whereas residents using the Transfer Station recycle about **43%.**

How about some more data? Here is a breakdown from May 2023 of the amount of materials coming from:

**Single-family residences using curbside collection (about 2,700 residences):**

- Trash – 164.38 tons or 328,760 pounds or 121 pounds per household
- Recycle – 75.85 tons or 151,700 pounds or 56 pounds per household
- Recycle rate= 32%

**Multi-family residences with dumpster collection (about 2,500 residences):**

- Trash – 130.84 tons or 261,680 pounds or 105 pounds per household
- Recycle – 27.60 tons or 55,200 pounds or 22 pounds per household
- Recycle rate= 17%

**Transfer Station Users**

- Trash – 20.78 tons or 41,560 pounds - # of households unknown
- Recycle – 15.81 tons or 31,620 pounds - # of households unknown
- Recycle rate= 43%

**Did you know...** that of the five different single-family trash service sizes Mansfield offers, the 35-gallon service is the most subscribed size. The 64-gallon service, however, is catching up! (See graph below.)



Can we improve by generating less trash? We need to try! To learn about how your household can reduce its trash, cut down on food waste, compost, and recycle more please [visit our website](#) on Trash and Recycling information.

### Mansfield Historical Society Creates Button Exhibit at Town Hall



When you visit the Mansfield Town Hall, be sure to stop by the new display created by the Mansfield Historical Society. It features a stunning collection of buttons and buckles produced by the Mansfield Button Company. The factory was founded in Gurleyville in 1923 by Czech-born entrepreneur Leopold Heinige, Sr. and produced buttons through 1946.

Many residents have enjoyed learning about this piece of Mansfield history, and reminisce about the area's rich manufacturing history. The Mansfield Button Company building was later home to Button Box Antiques, and is now the Riverworks Art Center.

The Mansfield Historical Society is dedicated to preserving and publishing information on the history of Mansfield. The MHS facility on Spring Hill is closed this summer in preparation for renovation work, but their important work continues through research and programming. Visit the MHS website, for a list of other [local museums and historical exhibits](#) you can visit, and to sign up for their newsletter.

### How Are We Doing? There are Lots of Ways to Let Us Know!



The Town of Mansfield is committed to excellence in service.

How are we doing? Please give us feedback now [through this form](#).

The Town Manager's Office has also placed suggestion boxes at locations around town including the Senior Center, the Mansfield Public Library and Library Express, and at the Mansfield Community Center. You can either access the input form through the QR code, or fill out the card and drop it in the box. Or just call us at 860.429.3336.



We want to hear how we can better serve our residents!

**MANSFIELD COMMUNITY CENTER**  
*Family, Fitness & Fun!*

LET NEW ROUTINES  
**FALL**  
INTO PLACE

*SWIM-EXERCISE-PLAY*  
*membership special*  
*FITNESS + FRIENDS = FUN*

**\$35 Enrollment fee waived\* + Members bring one guest free each Friday in September.**

**Don't SWEAT the fall stuff; month-by-month membership options available.**

\*\$35 Enrollment fee waived August 1-September 3, 2023. Members also receive discounted sign-up for fitness and aquatics programs. Free guest option provides general access to fitness center, track, therapy & main pools, and gymnasium. Does not include class or child care access. No guest pass needed. One guest per date; member must accompany guest. Member and guest sign-in required.

**Students! Watch for the return of the YAY pass!**

**Mansfield Community Center**  
10 S. Eagleville Road, Storrs, CT 06268  
860-429-3015 [www.mansfieldcc.com](http://www.mansfieldcc.com)

## Celebrating Our New School: Mansfield Elementary School



Mansfield Public Schools and the Town of Mansfield held the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Mansfield Elementary School (MES) on Friday, June 9 at 9:30 AM. The ceremony was timed so students and staff could all attend the celebration, and also included a few invited guests. Grade 3 students Ella Ferrigno and Kwesiga Ampeire joined Superintendent Peter Dart in welcoming the crowd, and cut the ribbon held by student representatives of every classroom. The two were among students who had broken ground on the new school two years ago in June 2021, so their involvement symbolically brought the building project full circle. The school opened its doors to students on April 18 and 19.

MES is the first new net-zero energy elementary school in Connecticut, and several special guests were on hand to celebrate the significance of this accomplishment. Lieutenant Governor Susan Bysiewicz joined the festivities and addressed the gathering. Invited guests also included Hand Webster, Deputy Commissioner of Energy for the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), Beeca Trietch, Senior Policy Advisor at DEEP, Keith Norton, Chief Strategic Planning Officer for the Connecticut Department of Education, State Senator Mae Flexer, and State Representatives Gregory Haddad and Patrick Boyd, UConn Mayor Toni Moran. Members of the Mansfield School Building Committee, Town Council, Board of Education and key Town staff also attended.

The ribbon-cutting opened with a performance by grade 3 students surrounding the gymnasium to perform, "Welcome Here, Three Shaker Songs," led by Music Instructor Katherine Smallidge. Mayor Toni Moran welcomed the guests, and School Building Chair Randy Walikonis acknowledged the work of the many parties involved with the project. He especially recognized individually the members of the School Building Committee who continue to volunteer for multi meetings per month to oversee the design and completion of the new school.

He also acknowledged those community members who worked to get the project approved by town voters. A video was shared which chronicled the first days of the new school when town leaders, teaching staff, and students began to move in, and summarized the journey to achieve its opening this spring.

Kelly Lyman, Coordinator of the Executive Leadership Program at UConn's Neag School of Education and former Mansfield Superintendent also addressed the gathering, summarizing the goals of the new school. She emphasized how the building was designed for 21<sup>st</sup> century learning, meeting the needs so clearly articulated by the community from the early planning stages.

MES students, led by Grade 1 students and Music Educator Julie Frascarelli, sang a song with the guests called, "At MES". The song referenced the blending of three schools into one, and the unified spirit that is growing at Mansfield Elementary School.

Representatives Boyd and Haddad and Senator Flexer also brought a special Proclamation to Mansfield to celebrate the new net-zero school, and Representative Haddad read an excerpt.



(Continued)

**MES Celebration (Continued)**

At the climax of the ceremony, Principal Lauren Rodriguez invited the students to come forward as the members of the School Building Committee (shown below), the Lieutenant Governor, Ms Lyman and professional partners from TSKP stood behind them in support. As the ribbon was snipped, students, staff, and guests erupted into joyful cheering as school mascot, Thunder the Tiger, encouraged them from the stage.

As the students returned to classes, guests were invited for tours of the new net-zero energy school.

A video of the full ribbon-cutting ceremony can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ykZagePqLgo>



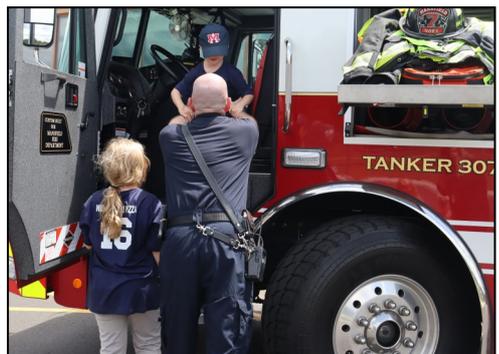
**Open House Celebration June 10**

Continuing with the celebration, the district hosted a Celebration Open House at the new Mansfield Elementary School on Saturday, June 10 from 12 noon to 3 PM for any member of the greater Mansfield community who wanted to tour the new net-zero school building.

The Open House Celebration included self-guided interior and exterior tours of the new facility with detailed descriptions of each area, with staff on hand to answer questions. The tour was also included among the statewide Connecticut Open House Day events.

As families enjoyed the playgrounds following their tours, the band Echo Uganda entertained them performing outdoors. Mansfield Fire Department staff was on hand with a fire truck, a tanker, and ambulance apparatus for families to see. Mansfield Historical Society members, who have staged an exhibit about the history of schools in Mansfield in the Great Hall of the new school, also attended and answered questions.

Town departments including exhibits from Human Services, Youth Services, Mansfield Community Center, and the Mansfield Public Library staffed information tables at the event. BikeMansfieldCT, a non-profit organization that is collaborating with Mansfield Elementary School to develop a bicycling curriculum, showed a chart demonstrating how close they are to their \$28,000 fundraising goal.



### A Summer of Fun and Service with Mansfield Youth Services Programs



Mansfield Youth Services has been having a great time out and about in the community with Mansfield youth this summer with the Mansfield Mustangs service learning program, Covenant Soup Kitchen Volunteer Program, and Great Outdoor Adventure Learning (GOAL) program.

**The Mansfield Mustangs** are a youth-driven service learning group for Mansfield youth entering grades 5-9. Members participate in community service projects in-and-around

Mansfield with a focus on nature, animals, and supporting sustainability. After a hard day's work, youth end the day by playing games, swimming, and tomfoolery at Bicentennial Pond.

**The Covenant Soup Kitchen Volunteer Program** invites Mansfield youth to participate in community service to support the Covenant Soup Kitchen including assisting with deliveries, helping to prepare and serve lunch, and general cleaning and organization.



**GOAL** is an adventure-based learning and positive youth development program for Mansfield youth preparing to transition into high school. Youth have the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities including hiking, canoeing, swimming, ropes courses, camping and community and character building activities to develop self-confidence, social connectedness, and resilient responses to new adventures and situations.



**GOAL** is a challenge-by-choice program in which individuals set goals for themselves and as a group in the adventure activities. The youth have the opportunity to start small for skills-assessment and experiential learning before moving on to more intense experiences if they so choose. **GOAL** isn't just about completing physical tasks but also interpersonal ones.

#### Cope mentoring. Back again this Fall!

Keep an eye out this September for registrations for the return of our beloved Cope mentoring program! Mansfield Elementary Youth grades 1-4 are invited to sign up for Cope to have lunch and do a fun activity once a week with some amazing UConn volunteer mentors through this Youth Services program.

Details and registration forms will start going out in September through MES electronic backpacks and take-home notices! We anticipate this program to fill up quickly so be sure to get your forms in early.

**MANSFIELD COMMUNITY CENTER**  
Family, Fitness & Fun!

# JOIN US FOR FREE MANSFIELD DAYS

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25 (FAMILY FUN!)  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19

PROOF OF MANSFIELD RESIDENCY REQUIRED

MANSFIELD RESIDENTS RECIEVE FREE GENERAL ADMISSION TO THE MANSFIELD COMMUNITY CENTER IN ACCORDANCE WITH FACILITY SCHEDULES. PLEASE VISIT [WWW.MANSFIELDCC.COM](http://WWW.MANSFIELDCC.COM) FOR SCHEDULES MORE INFORMATION.

### Monthly Interviews on WILI-AM Offers Updates on Mansfield News



Local broadcast legend Wayne Norman has a regular morning chat with Town Manager Ryan Aylesworth every month on WILI-AM. The show is a great way to catch up on what's current in Mansfield. The next show will be August 4 (typically the first Friday of the month at 7:40 AM.)

[Listen to the show from Friday, July 7.](#)

### Using a Different Pavement Preservation Method: Cape Seal



During the 2022/2023 Budget Cycle, the Town Council asked the Department of Public Works if there was another quicker process to get some of our roads looking and performing better. The decision was to try a short-term (10 year) pavement preservation, called cape seal. Best for roads in moderate or fair condition, a cape seal combines the benefits of two treatments, chip seal and micro surfacing, to give roads a fresh driving surface.

This summer the Department of Public Works is using a contractor to install a cape seal on selected neighborhood roads for pavement preservation. The specific roads are Lodi Drive, Silver Falls Lane, Lorraine Drive, Lorraine Circle, Lorraine Drive East, Charles Lane, Fieldstone Drive, Willowbrook Road, Oak Hill Road, and Old Schoolhouse Road.

A cape seal is a roadway surface treatment designed to extend the life of roads in fair to good condition, consisting first of a chip seal treatment, which is then covered by a slurry seal or micro surfacing treatment. Chip seal treatments should be familiar to anyone who has been in Mansfield for the last 15 years, as this was the method used on all roads. The last time chip seal was used in Mansfield was 2014.

Cape seals provide the benefits of both the chip seal and the slurry seal or micro surfacing treatment, namely sealing moderate cracks, providing skid resistance, sealing the pavement against moisture intrusion, protecting the structure from further oxidation and raveling, and restoring a uniform black appearance. Cape seals should add a decade of new life to a road and have minimal effects on traffic.



The process proceeds as follows. First any failed areas are patched and cracks are sealed. A chip seal is then applied to the existing pavement with the liquid asphalt binder filling any open cracks and providing a restorative new interlayer. After the chip seal has cured a few days, one or two lifts of micro surfacing are applied, locking in the chip seal aggregate (reducing stone loss) and providing a final driving surface with smooth, uniform texture.

Cape seals boast quick construction times and reasonable disruption to the traveling public. It reduces life cycle costs by 25% when compared to a hot mix asphalt (HMA) overlay. It reduces greenhouse gases by 30% and energy use by 15% when compared to HMA overlay.

As this is the Town's first attempt at cape sealing some of our roads, we will inspect the results and determine if this is a viable pavement preservation option for other neighborhood roads in the future.

## TAKE PART IN BUILDING OUR FUTURE

THREE MANSFIELD TOMORROW PLANNING PROJECTS MEANS SEVERAL OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED.

Mansfield Tomorrow is the banner under which the Town of Mansfield conducts all planning and community engagement projects. It is designed to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of community planning efforts in our town by breaking down silos and fostering collaboration.

One of its primary goals is to promote equity and meaningful public engagement. By consolidating public engagement activities under the Mansfield Tomorrow umbrella, we can build greater community awareness and involvement in the planning process.

Scan the QR code to get involved or learn more at [MansfieldTomorrow.org](https://MansfieldTomorrow.org)



## Mansfield Senior Center: Programs, Trips, Lunches, Classes, & More



The Mansfield Senior Center is in full swing this summer with a variety of enriching programs and events! Join us for some fun. Take one of our fabulous day trips, enjoy a delicious homemade Maple Road Lunch, try a new Fitness Class or come in for any one of our fantastic programs. There's something for everyone, and we hope to see you soon!

### **History for Fun: Babe Ruth Wednesday, August 23rd at 1:00pm**

The Babe swung the heaviest bat, earned the most money, and incurred the biggest fines. He lived in a surreal world, surrounded by fans with enormous admiration, spurred on by his crucial partnership with Christy Walsh his business manager, spin-doctor, damage control magician and surrogate father. All this while hitting 60 home runs in 1927, a record that would hold until 1961. Please call 860-429-0262 to register.

### **Stonewall Speakers Thursday, August 24 at 1:00pm**

Stonewall Speakers is a program of the Connecticut Stonewall Foundation. It is made up of volunteers who share stories of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, non-binary, pansexual, queer people and their allies. Speakers give their time and speak from the heart to help eliminate hate and promote understanding. Please call 860-429-0262 to register.

### **Afternoon at the Movies - Book Club: The Next Chapter Wednesday, September 6 at 1:00pm**

Join us for a screening of this hilarious sequel when four best friends take their book club to Italy for the girls' trip they never had. When things don't quite go as planned, their relaxing vacation turns into a once-in-a-lifetime adventure. Light refreshments will be served. Please call 860-429-0262 to register.

### **Summer Night Series: Jeff Belanger Monday, August 28th at 4:30pm**

Join us for Dinner and a Show! Jeff Belanger, co-author of *The Nightmare Encyclopedia* who regaled us with his tales of New England Legends in June, returns with his take on Nightmares. We spend a third of our lives sleeping, with much of the night filled with dreams. Peculiarly vivid, disturbing dreams leave behind impressions that are hard to dismiss. But what are nightmares? And what significance do they have for the dreamer? Join us to find out!

Menu: Killer Spaghetti with Meatballs, Garden Salad, Garlic Bread & Dessert \$15.00 per person. Please register with payment by 8/24.

### **Summer Night Series: A JOURNEY Thursday, September 21st at 4:30pm**

Join us to close out our Summer Night Series with this incredible dinner and performance. A JOURNEY is an intricate look at the Black woman's experience performed by one woman, professional actor and singer Kimberly Wilson. Eight women present their stories through song, movement and dialogue. It's a story of how their faith, hope and courage ultimately shape the America we know today. This highly acclaimed performance brings to life seven historical African-American women, including an African Queen, Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth, Rosa Parks, Maya Angelou and more. Through soulful singing, character transformations, joyous celebrations and deep reflections, Kimberly Wilson brings their history to life.

Menu: Grilled Chicken, Baked Mac & Cheese, Salad, Corn Bread and Dessert \$15.00 per person. Please register with payment by 9/14.

### **Coming in September – The Aging Mastery Program**

The Aging Mastery Program® (AMP) will be running again at the Mansfield Senior Center this fall! This program encourages mastery—developing behaviors across many dimensions that will lead to improved health, stronger financial security, and overall well-being. Meet new friends and provide encouragement to one another as you take the Aging Mastery journey together. Spaces are limited. Please contact Yamil Figueroa at 860-487-9875 if you're interested in participating.

**SENIOR SPARKS**  
**MANSFIELD SENIOR CENTER NEWSLETTER**  
~ AUGUST 2023 ~

Keep up with all the programs, menus, and trips by reading the Senior Center's monthly newsletter, [Senior Sparks!](#)

## Summer Fun Continues at the Mansfield Public Library!



### Children's Summer Programs Top Up with the Annual Ice Cream Social! Saturday, August 12th from 11AM-1PM on the Library Lawn

It's not too late: Read and visit the library to earn raffle tickets and prizes! Families may register online or at the library. Build strong reading habits, have fun & win cool prizes!

Celebrate the end of this year's Summer Reading Challenge with a family-friendly Ice Cream Social on the Library Lawn!

### Apple-y Ever After Storytime: Saturday, September 30th at 10:30AM on the Library Lawn



Let's celebrate the beginning of the fall season with fall-themed stories and songs on the Library Lawn. After storytime, stay for outdoor play & a fun apple craft! Great for children aged 0-7, but all ages welcome.



## Summer Teen/Tween Nights

Calling all teens & tweens! Would you like to make candy sushi, pet cuddly animals, play video games, and create DIY tie-dye at the library? Join MPL's Youth Services on Thursday nights (through August 10) at 6:00 PM!

Visit the library's calendar online for all program details & updates or email [MPLYouth@MansfieldCT.org](mailto:MPLYouth@MansfieldCT.org) to contact our Youth Services librarians directly.

## Adult Programs: August 2023

Adult Summer Reading Challenge: through August 20

Join the Mansfield Public Library Adult Summer Reading Challenge! Read some great books, give each of them a very short review, and be entered to win a gift card to some local favorite stores and restaurants. All participants must register and log their book reviews online. See the Mansfield Public Library website for complete details: <https://mansfieldpubliclibraryct.org/>

## National Fire Prevention Week in October to Emphasize: Cooking Safety Starts with YOU



The Mansfield Fire Department is teaming up with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) — to promote this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, "Cooking safety starts with YOU. Pay attention to fire prevention." The campaign works to educate everyone about simple but important actions they can take when cooking to keep themselves and those around them safe.

Unattended cooking is the leading cause of cooking fires and deaths, and cooking remains the leading cause of home fires by far, accounting for half (49 percent) of all U.S. home fires, according to Lorraine Carli, vice president of outreach and advocacy at NFPA. Therefore, there is still much work to do when it comes to help the public to learn about ways to stay safe when cooking.

"The Mansfield Fire Department encourages all residents to embrace the 2023 Fire Prevention Week theme, "Cooking safety start with YOU," said Fire Chief Fred Mitchell. "A cooking fire can grow quickly. I have seen many homes damaged and people injured by fires that could easily have been prevented."

Remember these key safety tips to help reduce the risk of a cooking fire.

- Turn pot handles toward the back of the stove.
- Always keep a lid nearby when cooking. If a small grease fire starts, slide the lid over the pan and turn off the burner.
- Have a "kid- and pet-free zone" of at least 3 feet around the stove or grill and anywhere else hot food or drink is prepared or carried.

# Moonlight Movies

08.04  
LIGHTYEAR

08.11  
THE PRINCESS BRIDE

08.18  
ANT-MAN & THE WASP: QUANTUMANIA

INFO: [DOWNTOWNSTORRS.ORG/MOVIES](http://DOWNTOWNSTORRS.ORG/MOVIES)



### Join us for Moonlight Movies!

The [Mansfield Downtown Partnership](http://MansfieldDowntownPartnership.org) will host free movies on Friday evenings in August. Everyone is welcome to attend these outdoor movie nights!

Moonlight Movies take place on Betsy Paterson Square. Activities begin at 7:30 PM; movies begin at dusk. The rain dates are the following Wednesday.

For more information, including movie trailers, please visit [downtownstorrs.org/movies](http://downtownstorrs.org/movies).

**Fall Brochure**  
Available online now!

**MANSFIELD PARKS & RECREATION**  
Family, Fitness, and Fun

CELEBRATING 20 years of Family, Fitness & Fun

Member Registration for Fitness & Aquatics programs opens August 21st

Resident registration opens August 24th

Registration open to all August 28th

**Mansfield Community Center Annual Shutdown**  
Monday, August 14–Sunday, August 20  
No public access.  
Staff will be available to answer questions by phone from 8am–4pm Monday–Friday.

10 S. EAGLEVILLE ROAD, STORRS, CT 06268  
[WWW.MANSFIELDCC.COM](http://WWW.MANSFIELDCC.COM) 860-429-3015



# Summer Garden Harvest Community Art Exhibit

Summer themed works may be visual or written

## Submission Deadline September 1, 2023



**Exhibit from September 15 - November 15**

Community Art Exhibit Applications can be found on the reverse side of this form, at the Mansfield Community Center, or on the Mansfield Arts Advisory website:  
[www.mansfieldct.gov/1502/Arts-Advisory-Committee](http://www.mansfieldct.gov/1502/Arts-Advisory-Committee)



Submit application by email to  
[artsadvisory@mansfieldct.org](mailto:artsadvisory@mansfieldct.org)



**Reception:  
Fri., September 22, 2023  
5:30-7:00 p.m.  
Community Room  
Mansfield Community Center  
10 S. Eagleville Road, Storrs, CT 06268  
860-429-3015**



Follow QR Code  
for Application

### Great Camps Make for Happy Children. Hurrah for MCC Camps!



Alice in Wonderland was performed by area youth after a two-week camp hosted at Lenard Hall, home to the Community School of the Arts.

**Great Camps Make for Happy Children. Hurrah for MCC Camps!**



### Hurricane Season is Here: Are you Prepared?



Just recently, residents of Mansfield and other local communities nearby were alerted to a possible tornado sighting in our area. Fortunately, authorities confirmed that it never touched down and no serious damage occurred.

August and September can also bring hurricanes. Is your household prepared if a serious weather event strikes your home? Storm and emergency preparedness is important because time is short once a storm is recognized.

Be aware of the alerts offered by the National Hurricane Center (NHC.) A Hurricane Watch is when hurricane conditions are possible within your area. These are called 48 hours before tropical-storm-force winds elevate to give you time to prepare. A Hurricane Warning means sustained winds of 74 mph or greater are expected in the specified area. The National Hurricane Center issues a warning 36 hours in advance of tropical-storm-force winds.

Take the time to make a Family Emergency Plan. How do you contact close family and friends? Where do you go if your shelter becomes unsafe? Write down the plan and key telephone numbers, and put it in your emergency supplies kit containing flashlights, batteries, and first aid supplies. Do not assume you can rely on your cellphone for vital information. For advice on your kit, go to [www.ready.gov/kit](http://www.ready.gov/kit)

The Town of Mansfield is prepared to help you in the aftermath of a storm, but you must be prepared to keep your family safe.

Learn more about Hurricane Safety at [www.weather.gov/hurricanesafety](http://www.weather.gov/hurricanesafety)





## Adult & Teen Program Calendar

### Fall 2023



**Pre-registration required for most programs.**  
**Fitness Programs**, pg. 28-29, available to ages 14+ unless otherwise indicated. **Private Music Lessons**, pg. 40, available to all teens and adults.

Days	Special Events
<b>Mondays</b>	
Adult Beginner Swim Lessons (Ages 14+) pg. 22 Beginner Belly Dance (Ages 16+) pg. 37 Beginner Knitting (Ages 18+) pg. 42 Open Studio Space for Artists: AM & PM (Ages 14+) pg. 43 Italian Intermediate (Ages 18+) pg. 45	<b>*Aug. 25</b> - Free Language Placement, pg. 44 <b>*Sept. 16</b> - Eagleville Guided Paddle, pg. 49 <b>*Sept. 16</b> - Mindfulness Based Stress-Reduction (14+), pg. 30 <b>*Sept. 18</b> - Foot & Shoe Assessments, pg. 30 <b>*Sept. 23</b> - Forest Bathing (Ages 18+), pg. 30 <b>*Sept. 29</b> - UConn PT Students Present (14+), pg. 31
<b>Tuesdays</b>	
Private Swim Lessons, pg. 25 Advanced Belly Dance (Ages 16+) pg. 37 Still Life Drawing (Ages 14+) pg. 43 Voila! French Level 1 (Ages 14+) pg. 45 Italian Advanced (Ages 18+) pg. 45	<b>*Oct. 1</b> - See the Forest through the Trees, pg. 51 <b>*Oct. 7</b> - Bird Search at Merrow Meadow, pg. 49 <b>*Oct. 14</b> - 250 Years - Mountain Dairy walk, pg. 50 <b>*Oct. 28</b> - Annual Halloween Party, pg. 13
<b>Wednesdays</b>	
Adult Intermediate Swim Lessons (Ages 14+) pg. 23 Adult Ballet (Ages 14+) pg. 37 French for Travel (Ages 14+) pg. 45 Italian Beginners (Ages 18+) pg. 45	<b>*Oct. 28</b> - Forest Bathing (Ages 18+), pg. 30 <b>*Oct. 28</b> - Fall at Bicentennial Pond, pg. 51 <b>Oct. 30</b> - Therapy Ball & Foam Roller Self Care Workshop (14+), pg. 30 <b>*Nov. 16</b> - Everesting (Ages 14+), pg. 31
<b>Thursdays</b>	
Private Swim Lessons, pg. 25 Weaving w/ Paper and Yarn (Ages 18+) pg. 42 Let's Gogh! (ages 14+) pg. 43	<b>Nov. 29</b> - Pilates Mat Tune Up Workshop (14+), pg. 30 <b>Dec. 2</b> - Holiday Fun Day - Craft Fair, Jingle Jog, & Fitness Challenge, pg. 14 <b>*Dec. 21</b> - Forest Bathing (Ages 18+), pg. 30
<b>Fridays</b>	
Try a Fitness Class today! pg. 28-29	
<b>Saturdays</b>	
Private Swim Lessons, pg. 25 Lifeguard Training (Ages 15+), Sat. & Sun. required pg. 27 Mindfulness Based Stress-Reduction (Ages 14+) pg. 30 & 31 Learn to Crochet (Beginners) (Ages 18+) pg. 42 *Plein Air Painting in the Parks, pg. 49	
<b>Sundays</b>	
Advanced Adult Swim Workout, pg. 23 Adult Swim Stroke Clinics, pg. 23 Private Swim Lessons, pg. 25 PADI Scuba Certification (Ages 14+) pg. 27 CPR Certification (Ages 14+), pg. 27 Lifeguard Recertification (Ages 15+) pg. 27 Circle Singing (Ages 12+) pg. 41	

\*Free to Mansfield Community Center members

WWW.MANSFIELDCC.COM    860-429-3015

### The Medical Reserve Corps: A Valuable Asset of Public Health



One of the resources that support public health officials, in their mission to care for the community, is the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC). Comprised of dedicated healthcare professionals and community volunteers, the MRC serves as an important part of the emergency response.

Established in 2002, as a response to train the many volunteers who stepped forward after the

September 11, 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center, the MRC is a national network of local units organized and managed by state and local authorities. These units recruit, train, and deploy medical and non-medical volunteers to support public health emergency response capabilities. The MRC's primary objective is to strengthen local community resilience. The Eastern Highlands Health District (EHHD), which serves Mansfield among its ten-town region, receives support from the EHHD MRC unit, which was established October 8, 2003.

MRC volunteers work alongside public health professionals, bridging the gap between healthcare providers and the community in times of crisis. During public health emergencies, such as the Covid-19 pandemic, MRC units actively participate to support local public health efforts. These services may include setting up and operating emergency vaccine clinics, providing medical care and triage services, assisting with contact tracing efforts, and distributing essential supplies. The EHHD MRC volunteers helped to provide more than 13,000 Covid-19 vaccines to local communities.

The Medical Reserve Corps offer training and preparedness information to the volunteers. This training equips them with the knowledge and skills needed to respond effectively to emergencies. Training may cover areas including disaster response, infection control, mass casualty management, mental health support, and active shooter response.

The MRC serves as an invaluable asset to local health agencies, offering vital support during emergencies and helping bolster community resilience. The dedication and expertise of MRC volunteers enhance the effectiveness of response efforts, ensuring that healthcare services reach those who need them most.

If you, or someone you know is interested in becoming a Medical Reserve Corps volunteer, you can apply at [CTresponds.ct.gov](http://CTresponds.ct.gov). If you have questions, please don't hesitate to contact Cecile Serazo, EHHD MRC Unit Coordinator at [serazocc@ehhd.org](mailto:serazocc@ehhd.org)



**SAVE THE DATE!!**

**Recognition of Service for  
Deputy Chief William A. Jordan  
and  
Assistant Chief George M. Thompson III**

**On Tuesday, September 26, 2023  
6:30pm  
Mansfield Town Hall, Council Chambers  
4 So. Eagleville Road  
Mansfield, CT 06268**

**We will be honoring their many years of  
service to the Fire Department  
and our community.**

### Mansfield Tomorrow: Parks & Recreation Planning Progresses

Thank you to all the residents who attended the July 11 Community Open House and provided input to our Mansfield Parks & Recreation Master Plan, as well as the other major initiatives within Mansfield Tomorrow.



While our partner consultant 110% was here in Mansfield, they also hosted some small-group sessions about the future of our services.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Compliance: There was an in-person meeting opportunity prior to the public open house event for the public and key stakeholders regarding feedback on accessibility of Mansfield Parks and Recreation facilities. In addition, the Town ADA consultant group was available to the public during the open house event for community members to meet to learn more about the Master Planning project.

The Town retained the WT Group (WTG) Accessibility Practice to develop a transition plan for parks and facilities, as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). A transition plan identifies access barriers, and phases the retrofit work over time. The WTG reviewed key ADA requirements for parks and facilities, discuss the importance of community feedback in establishing retrofit priorities, shared observations of access barriers viewed at Town sites, asked for the access preferences and priorities of the members of the public in attendance, and discussed next steps for the Town.

The Town Council and Town Committees also participated in focus groups and work sessions on next steps in the Parks & Rec Master Plan in July.

Since July 10-11, the Town Council, Town Committees, and Town Staff are developing a Parks and Recreation Benefits of Service Model including multiple service categories that reflect services with the most common community value to a more individualized service value. The final Benefits of Service Model will help provide a robust guideline for the Town in making informed decisions regarding parks and recreation services.

Work on a Cost of Service Analysis is about 75% complete as of late July. In part, this Cost of Service Analysis includes revenues and expenditures data collection and a review regarding parks, trails, open space, facilities, programs, events, and other related parks and recreation services. Once the Cost of Service Analysis is completed, work will begin on determining a cost recovery/subsidy allocation goals based upon current performance, analysis insights, and budget projections. Ultimately, the goal is to align the community's values with a financial philosophy and plan.

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### Input on the Northwest Neighborhood Plan Encouraged

The July 11 Community Open House was the launch of soliciting input from residents regarding the Northwest Mansfield Vision and Strategy Plan. Attendees were asked to identify attributes they like or dislike about Northwest Mansfield. They were also asked to provide comments about what they would like to see more of in Northwest



Mansfield. To get an understanding of how much change residents believe is appropriate for the area, residents were asked to provide feedback on whether they think Northwest Mansfield should, (1) remain as it is, (2) continue to grow and change, but incrementally, or (3) be open to significant growth and change.

Several participants expressed concern that the NW Neighborhood Plan would promote increased development in the area, specifically for housing designed for students. Facilitators explained that the role of the plan is to create a vision and guide for the Town to plan for and manage future growth with input from town residents. Participants were engaged about the opportunity to participate in the planning process and to add their voice regarding how to address the issues facing the NW area of town.

In addition to the Virtual Community Forum, which is available at [mansfieldtomorrow.org](http://mansfieldtomorrow.org), the process will include small group interviews, focus groups, a public meeting, and other engagement through the fall.

**What do you value around Parks & Recreation, the Northwest Mansfield Neighborhood, and other Town facilities and services? Please go to [mansfieldtomorrow.org](http://mansfieldtomorrow.org) and complete the survey, and participate in the Virtual Community Forum.**

### Bunnies are Moving Inside



Many people are familiar with owning a bunny, or may have even had one growing up. What many rabbit owners do not know is that bunnies are happy to live inside with their human, feline and even canine companions. Rabbits are social animals and will continue to be social with their families if they are kept where their family members interact.

You can keep a rabbit inside in many different ways; they can even have free range of your home. However you choose to keep your rabbit indoors, you have to start small. Rabbits do well starting with a space of their own. This does not have to be a specially designed rabbit hutch- a large dog crate or exercise pen will work just as well. Once your bunny is comfortable in their new space and using the litter box consistently, this space can be expanded to a full room or even your whole home.

**Litter Box Training your Bunny.** For urinating, bunnies will naturally choose a location for their bathroom- so litter box training is as simple as placing a litterbox where they choose to go. Litter boxes should be filled with natural or organic litter (make sure it is bunny safe). On top of the litter place layer of newspaper to soak up urine, (this will also keep your litter lasting longer). The last addition to the litter box should be a layer of hay. Bunnies like to eat and use the litter box at the same time, so added hay will promote good litter box habits as well as increasing hay consumption (which is good for a rabbit's health). Hay, newspaper, and soiled litter should be replaced daily. As far as all the rabbit manure, bunnies prefer a place that they know will not be invaded, so a few litter boxes placed in safe corners of their area will provide them with the necessary places to go.



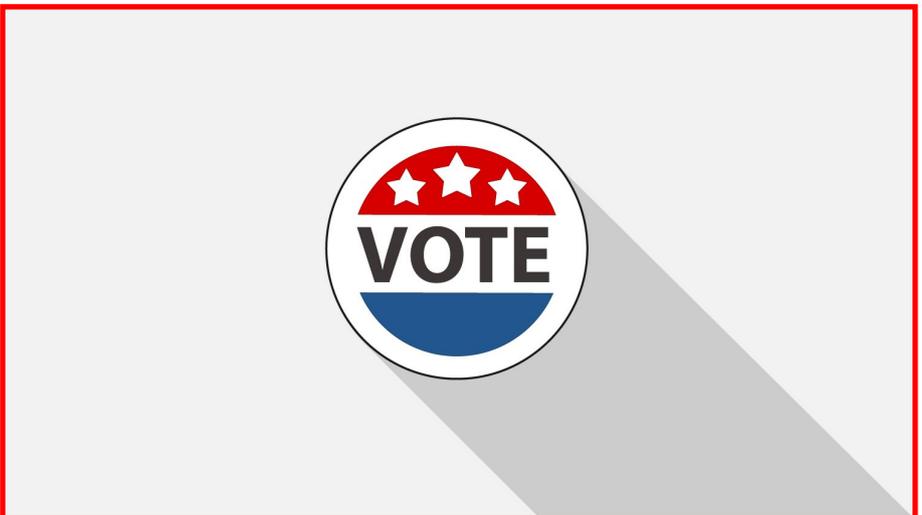
**Bunny Proofing.** Once your rabbit is ready to roam, you will want to make sure your house is ready too. Bunnies are curious and will often chew on things like furniture, rugs and electric cords. Make sure that cords that can harm your rabbit are covered or concealed. Providing your bunny with safe toys can entertain them and keep them from chewing things they should not.

With appropriate vaccinations, the great outdoors is not off limits to your house bunny either. A safe and secure playpen can be placed outside so you can your bunny can enjoy time during the nice weather together, and when those cold grey days arrive, as they are bound to do in Connecticut, you and your bunny will be happy and warm indoors.

The Mansfield shelter currently has many nice bunnies waiting for a new home. Check out [Mansfield.petfinder.com](http://Mansfield.petfinder.com) for details.

### A Reminder from the Registrars of Voters:

**Tuesday, November 7 is Election Day. Be Sure to SAVE THE DATE!**



# YOUTH PROGRAMS CALENDAR

FALL 2023 AGES 13 & UNDER  
Pre-registration required for most programs.

**Mondays**

Child Care: 8:30am-1pm; 4:30-8pm (Ages 1-7)  
Micro & Itty Bitty Sports (Age 3-Grade 2) pg. 18  
Swim Lessons (Age 6 mo.-Teen) pg. 24

**Tuesdays**

Child Care: 8:30am-1pm; 4:30-8pm (Ages 1-7)  
Trick Shot Tuesdays (Ages 8-13) pg. 17  
Marlins Swim Team (Age 8-Grade 12) pg. 22  
Private Swim Lessons, pg. 25

**Wednesdays**

Child Care: 8:30am-1pm; 4:30-8pm (Age 1-7)  
Archery (Grades 5-8) pg. 17  
Swim Lessons (Age 6 mo.-Teen) pg. 24

**Thursdays**

Child Care: 8:30am-1pm; 4:30-8pm (Ages 1-7)  
I Dig Dinos (Grades K-2) pg. 17  
Exploring Winter Holidays (Grades 1-5) pg. 17  
Marlins Swim Team (Age 8-Grade 12) pg. 22  
Trick-a-Trunk Squad (Ages 10-13) pg. 17  
Private Swim Lessons, pg. 25

**Fridays**

Child Care: 8:30am-1pm (Ages 1-7)  
Suzuki Violin (Ages 4+) pg. 41

**Saturdays**

Child Care: 8:30am-12pm (Ages 1-7)  
Youth Basketball (Grades K-8) pg. 18  
Swim Lessons (Age 6 mo.-Teen) pg. 24  
Private Swim Lessons, pg. 25

**Sundays**

Child Care: 9am-12pm (Ages 1-7)  
Tennis (Ages 4-13) pg. 19  
Marlins Swim Team (Ages 8-Grade 12) pg. 22  
Private Swim Lessons, pg. 25  
Dance & Tumbling (Ages 3-10) pg. 38



Before & Afterschool Friends (Grades K-4), pg. 16  
Teen Center (Grades 5+), pg. 20  
Private Music Lessons, pg. 40

**WWW.MANSFIELDCC.COM**  
**860-429-3015**

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

Family Fun Events - pg. 12

**Sept. 26** - pg. 31  
Youth Resistance  
Training Orientation

**Oct. 3** - pg. 12  
Family Paint Night

**Oct. 7** - pg. 49  
Bird Search at  
Merrow Meadow

**Oct. 9** - pg. 11  
Family Play Day

**Oct. 10** - pg. 17  
Rec. Rescue

**Oct. 13** - pg. 12  
Kid's Night Out!

**Oct. 13** - pg. 31  
Youth Resistance  
Training Orientation

**Oct. 15** - pg. 13  
Pumpkin Painting!

**Oct. 22** - pg. 49  
Fifty Foot w/ a View

**Oct. 28** - pg. 13  
Halloween Party!

**Oct. 28** - pg. 49  
Fall at Bicentennial Pond

**Nov. 7** - pg. 17  
Rec. Rescue

**Nov. 7** - pg. 12  
Family Paint Night

**Nov. 18** - pg. 31,  
Youth Resistance  
Training Orientation

**Dec. 2** - pg. 14  
Jingle Jog!

**Dec. 5** - pg. 12  
Family Paint Night

**Dec. 8** - pg. 12  
Kid's Night Out!

**Dec. 28** - pg. 11  
Family Play Day

## Mansfield Fire Department Hosts Blood Drives this Summer



The Mansfield Fire Department consistently hosts blood drives here in Mansfield to ensure there is a supply for those who need it when they need it most. Won't you consider rolling up your sleeve?

**Friday, August 18, 2023 12:00 PM —6:00 PM**

**Friday, September 1, 2023 12:00 PM — 6:00 PM**

**Wednesday, September 27, 2023 12:00 PM—6:00 PM**

at Reynolds Hall at Station 107, 879 Stafford Road, Storrs

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit:

[RedCrossBlood.org](https://www.redcrossblood.org) and enter: *Eagleville* to schedule an appointment.

## UConn's Red Cross Club Also Hosting a Blood Drive

UConn is hosting one more opportunity to donate blood this summer. Please schedule a time that fits into your schedule!

**Wednesday, August 9th** between 11:00 AM—4:45 PM

Alumni Building - Great Hall, 2384 Alumni Drive, Unit 3053, Storrs, CT

Please use this sign-up link:

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=1200>



### 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 District	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	Amanda Backhaus, Finance Director	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 Authori- ty	Rebecca Fields, Housing Authority Executive Director	860-487-0693 rfields@mansfieldhousingct.org
Shared Services	Maria Capriola, Chief of Shared Services	860-429-3380 HR@MansfieldCT.org
Human Services	Allison Maynard, Director of Human Services	860-429-3315 HumanServ@MansfieldCT.org
Information Technology	Jaime Russell, Information Technology Director	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	Kaithlin Epling, Interim Library Director	860-423-2501 MansfieldLibrary@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