

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

VOL. 3, ISSUE 5

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2023

Look for these stories in this newsletter



Municipal Election
November 7
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Celebrates 20 Years
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All Ages
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Message from the Town Manager

Celebrating Commitment, Community, and the Future

Greetings Fellow Residents!



I hope this newsletter finds you doing well at the onset of fall. It is unfortunate that the much anticipated seasonal emergence of brilliant fall color is being a bit stifled due in large part to the extensive amount of rain our region has received in recent months, but, it is still a great time of year to live in New England and enjoy the emergence of another season.

20th Celebrate Mansfield Festival. In my opinion, there may not have been a better way to welcome the start of fall by gathering with friends and neighbors in Downtown Storrs for the 20th annual Celebrate Mansfield Festival that took place this past week. Our entire family enjoyed it! It was a truly great event, and I want to extend a sincere personal thank you to all the Mansfield Downtown Partnership staff, Town employees, and community volunteers for all the hard work that went into planning this year's event! This effort ensured that our local businesses, municipal departments, community organizations, vendors, and others were able to share their message and products with a robust turnout of Mansfield residents and visitors. The Festival is an important part of our community fabric, and I know that the individuals who lead the planning and organization of this event each year are always looking for ways to continue making it better and better.

Fire Leaders Honored. During a special recognition event in late-September, Council Chambers was filled as local officials, Town retirees, residents, family members, and personnel from mutual aid agencies from across the region gathered to honor and celebrate the incredible dedication and selfless service of Deputy Chief William "Chip" Jordan and Assistant Chief George Thompson, III. These two remarkable individuals were the backbone of our Town's fire department for many years before making the decision to step back from their roles as officers in the Mansfield Fire Department this past year.



Chief Jordan and Chief Thompson have exemplified the true spirit of volunteerism and community throughout their long and distinguished tenures. Their unwavering commitment to the safety and wellbeing of our Town and its residents with a

(Continued)



(Town Manager’s Message cont.)

combined 85-years of service is nothing short of extraordinary. Together, they have dedicated countless hours, sacrificed personal time, and faced numerous challenges to ensure that our community remains safe. And, we must remember that – as volunteers – they found a way to do all this while tending to the demands of work and family life.

Under their leadership, our fire department has grown stronger, more efficient, and more responsive to the needs of our community. Chief Jordan and Chief Thompson have not only been instrumental in enhancing our firefighting capabilities but have also played vital roles in emergency management, education, community outreach, and an organizational transition that saw the consolidation of two private fire companies into one consolidated Mansfield Fire Department comprised of career and volunteer firefighters. Their legacy extends beyond the fire station and into the hearts of the people they have served. They have been the calm presence in the face of chaos, the reassuring voice in times of crisis, and the embodiment of bravery when it mattered most. As they step down from their roles as fire officers in the Mansfield Fire Department, let us take a moment to express our deepest gratitude for their decades of exceptional service. Their dedication has made our Town a safer place to live, work, and raise families. The contributions Chip and George have made to our community are immeasurable, and their impact will be felt for generations to come.

Mansfield Local Government Academy 2023. It is hard to believe that, as of this writing, we are now officially one-third of the way through of the 12-session [Mansfield Local Government Academy](#). The third installment of the Mansfield Local Government Academy is off to a great start. This year’s group of 20 participants has been highly engaged week-to-week asking lots of great questions of our municipal leaders facilitating each session. Thus far, topics have included town governance and administration, including the Office of the Town Clerk and Elections, Inspection Services, Fire and Emergency Services (*shown right*), and Human Services. Later this week participants will be learning all about the inner workings of the Town’s Department of Public Works, and a lot more remains to be covered after that!



Library Director Interviews. In other personnel news, I am excited to report that after an in-depth interview process with many talented candidates, we are very close to publicly naming the next Director of the Mansfield Public Library. The retirement of long-time Director Leslie McDonough earlier this year certainly left some big shoes to fill as the library made considerable progress on many fronts during her decade of service to the Town, and I am excited that a new Director will soon be in place to help build on our past success and continue improving our ability to meet the needs of our patrons.

Concern About Off-Campus Student Services Support. Within the past few months, the Town has learned that the University of Connecticut has reorganized and dissolved the Office of Off-Campus and Commuter Student Services. The Director of the program, John Armstrong, has been assigned to a new role with Student Care and Concern. This is a very concerning action as this office has been an invaluable partner to both the Town and the Mansfield Resident Troopers Office for many years. Through proactive efforts, the Town and University had been able to significantly reduce the frequency and severity of disruptive off-campus student gathering and promote public safety and student accountability. UConn’s decision to eliminate this program in its entirety places this progress in real jeopardy. Town officials have conveyed these concerns to the university, including [through a letter from Mayor Antonia Moran](#) to UConn President Maric. The Town will continue to press about this change in the hopes that a better outcome can be achieved.

Mansfield Tomorrow Engagement. Finally, I want to remind everyone of the multiple important planning initiatives currently underway in our community (www.mansfieldtomorrow.org).



As I emphasized in the last newsletter, these initiatives are the blueprint for the future we aspire to build together, and extend to a number of different topics, including:

- The vision we want to shape and strategies we want to employ for future (re) development in Northwest Mansfield;
- Prioritizing investment in municipal facilities to ensure we meet existing and emerging community needs, and;

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(Town Manager’s Message cont.)

- Envisioning the future of Mansfield Parks and Recreation from the standpoint of program, service, and asset/amenity needs.

Some of you may have offered your input at Mansfield Tomorrow sessions this summer, or at the Celebrate Mansfield Festival. Read about updates and find links to new surveys on these projects on pages 7 and 8.

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, 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 Very Respectfully,

Ryan J. Aylesworth

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!

Voting by Absentee Ballot in Mansfield: Your Questions Answered



Election Day is November 7, 2023. Voting will be for municipal (local) offices and the polls will be open from 6AM – 8PM. If you need to vote by mail instead, absentee ballots are available starting October 6, 2023. 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), call 860-429-3302 ext. 4 to request an application, or email your application request along with your mailing address to TownClerk@mansfieldct.org. Completed applications must be returned with original ink signature either 1) to the Office of the Town Clerk, 2) by mail to: Town Clerk, 4 South Eagleville Road, Mansfield, CT 06268, or 3) 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, RT 275 side of the building).

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 6, 2023 will be mailed on October 6, 2023. Absentee ballots for applications received on or after October 6, 2023 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 10, 2023.

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.



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(FAQs About Absentee Ballots cont.)

What if I submit my absentee ballot but I change my mind and want to vote at the polls instead?

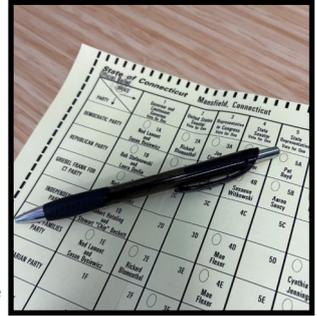
You **may** be able to cancel your absentee ballot and vote at the polls instead. Contact the Town Clerk to see if you are within the deadline to cancel your absentee ballot. Your absentee ballot will need to be properly cancelled in order to be allowed to vote at the polls. Absentee ballots received 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*. 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 ballot drop box or mail after 8PM on Election Day cannot be counted. *Do not return your absentee ballot to the polls.*

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 or contact the Registrars of Voters for a voter registration card at 860-429-3368 or 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 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 or contact the Registrars of Voters at 860-429-3368 or voterregistrars@mansfieldct.org.

What if I have more questions?

Office of the Town Clerk: 860-429-3302 ext. 4 or townclerk@mansfieldct.org
 Registrars of Voters: 860-429-3368 or voterregistrars@mansfieldct.org

Municipal Elections on November 7. Please Vote on Local Offices



Mansfield's municipal election will be held on Tuesday, November 7, 2023. The offices on the ballot will be: Town Council, Board of Education, Board of Assessment Appeals, Planning and Zoning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Zoning Board of Appeals Alternate, and Region 19 Board of Education.

Mansfield residents who are U.S. citizens, who will be 18 years or older on November 7, and who are not already registered to vote can do so online, by mail, or in person by October 31, 2023. Visit the Registrar of Voter's webpage at <https://www.mansfieldct.gov/309/Registrar-of-Voters> for more information.

Voting will take place from 6:00am to 8:00pm at the four Mansfield polling locations:

- Mansfield Community Center, 10 South Eagleville Rd.
- Eagleville Fire House, Station 107, 879 Stafford Rd. (Rte. 32)
- Mansfield Public Library, 54 Warrenville Rd.
- Former Vinton Elementary School, 306 Stafford Rd. (Rte. 32)

Last year, redistricting changed the voting location for many voters. **If you are not sure where you vote or whether you are registered**, call the Registrar of Voters office at 860-429-3368 or check myvote.ct.gov/lookup or the Registrar's webpage at <https://www.mansfieldct.gov/309/Registrar-of-Voters>

Absentee ballots will be available from the Town Clerk's office beginning on October 6.

Early voting will go into effect in 2024.

Important News from the Mansfield Assessor’s Office



Tax Relief Programs

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. Previously registered personal property account owner’s are able to file declarations online. The deadline to file the form with the Assessor’s office: November 1, 2023. Paper forms with 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.

Did you get rid of or have plans to, dispose of your motor vehicle? Keep a copy of your transaction records, cancel your CT registration and submit proof to the Assessor’s office. For more information check out the “Vehicle Prorate Policy” on the website: <https://www.mansfieldct.gov/221/Motor-Vehicles> .

To review the legal notice on these matters, please visit the Assessor’s web pages: <https://www.mansfieldct.gov/180/Assessor>

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](#)



**FAIR RENT
COMMISSION
MEMBERS NEEDED !**



The Town of Mansfield recently passed a Fair Rent Commission ordinance. The essence of the ordinance is to create a commission that has the power to restrict rental charges in residential housing that are “so excessive as to be harsh and unconscionable.” The Commission will hold hearings and make decisions in response to tenant complaints.

The Commission is to be comprised of town residents including landlords and tenants.

If you are interested in serving, please complete the following form: <https://www.mansfieldct.gov/FormCenter/TownWide-37/Boards-and-Committees-75>

Questions?
Contact Allison Maynard at 860-429-3314

MCC Open and Free to Mansfield Residents: Oct. 14 and Nov. 19!

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 FOR SCHEDULES MORE INFORMATION.

MANSFIELD YOUTH SERVICES

Early Childhood Play Group

DETAILS

- When: Tuesdays, 4:00-5:15pm, September 12th through October 17th
- Location: Mansfield Community Center Playground
- Parents must stay and are responsible for supervising their child/children on the playground.
- The Early Childhood Services Coordinator will bring additional materials for play!

Join us at the Mansfield Community Playground for a casual, drop-in, Early Childhood Play Group! Free and recommended for children ages 0-5. Snacks provided!

For more information contact Early Childhood Services Coordinator, Jocelyn Santiago:
860-429-3338 santiagoj@mansfieldct.org

Mansfield Tomorrow: Outreach to Community Members Continues

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



Mansfield’s Northwest Neighborhood Plan: New Survey Launched.

Many residents stopped by the Town Manager’s booth at Celebrate Mansfield to help shape the future of Mansfield’s NW Neighborhood! Planning and Development staff along with consultant FHI Studio [launched the survey](#) about



Mansfield’s Northwest Neighborhood and residents’ visions for this region.

The Northwest Neighborhood extends from Timber Drive and Four Corners, along Rte. 44 to Hunting Lodge Road and Separatist Road, including the former Goodwin School.

In early to mid-October, FHI Studio will be conducting ten small-group interviews in addition to five focus groups of up to 10-12 people to discuss direction for this area.

If you have not already done so, please take a moment to [review of relevant plans related to NW Mansfield](#) as well as the [recap of input from the Community Open House](#) held on July 11, 2023.

And, please, mark your calendars and spread the word about the Community Meeting regarding the [NW Mansfield Neighborhood Vision and Strategy Plan](#) on Thursday, November 9th at the new Mansfield Elementary School!



Northwest Mansfield Vision & Strategy Plan



PUBLIC WORKSHOP

**WHEN: Thursday, November 9th
6:30 - 8:30 PM**

**WHERE: Mansfield Elementary School Cafeteria
134 Warrenville Road,
Mansfield Center, CT 06250**

(Continued)



(Mansfield Tomorrow Planning cont.)

Parks & Rec Master Plan Update: [Please Take our Survey!](#)



On August 30, the project consultant group, 110% Inc., guided the Mansfield Town Council, Town Manager, Director of Finance, and Director of Parks and Recreation during a two hour work session regarding the Parks and Recreation Financial Sustainability Strategy work. The work session covered topics and discussion regarding the existing parks and recreation financial conditions, review of a sustainability strategy and beneficiary of service model, and the connection of the financial sustainability strategy to the overall Parks and Recreation Service Model.

Once a finalized Parks and Recreation Benefits of Service Model is completed it will help provide a robust guideline for the Town in making informed decisions regarding parks and recreation services. The 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 work sets the framework for a cost recovery/subsidy allocation goals based upon current performance, analysis insights, and budget projections. Ultimately, aligning the community's values with a financial philosophy and plan.

As part of the Master Planning process the Town encourages residents to complete the "What Do You Think" survey regarding recreation needs and interests in the community. [The survey link is available by clicking here.](#) (or scan the QR code below.) The survey information will be distributed at various town facilities, programs, parks, events, and social media sites.

Another section of the Master Plan includes a comprehensive Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Compliance audit of parks and facilities by the WT Group (WTG). This work has been completed and a detailed report will be included in the final Master Plan and will include a transition plan identifying access barriers, and phases in recommended retrofit work over time.

Completion of the Master Plan report is anticipated in November of 2023.



As part of the Mansfield Parks & Recreation Master Planning process we want to understand the park and recreation needs and interests of our community.



*Please use the QR code above to access a brief survey and tell us what you think.
Thank you!*

Online Survey 9/22-10/30
WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Mansfield Community Center Marks 20 Years of Family, Fitness & Fun!



The Mansfield Community Center is celebrating a big birthday! We are 20 years young, and ready for fun. Join us this November as we explore our history, and look towards our future.

The event kicks off November 1st with cupcakes and giveaways, while supplies last. Moving into the weekend (November 4-5) we welcome everyone for a **free Open House event!** Free general entry to tour and explore the center, view and experience a little nostalgia, and hear about some recent updates and **exciting new gear** coming to the Center soon. Information on our special **Mansfield Resident membership discount** will be available and apply to membership purchases in November 2023 only.

Gearing up for the birthday month, **watch for a few special activities and events** that highlight community center services (detailed announcements available Oct. 24th):

- Croc-a-Thon!
- Mario Kart Tournament for Middle School age
- 3v3 Basketball Tournament for High School age
- Community Center Creations Contest (what will you invent?)
- Table-Games Contest for Adults
- Fitness Center Challenge
- MCC “Hidden Gems”
- Marlins Public Swim Meet & Meet the Swim Instructors
- Nov. 11 - Hero’s Day Family Fun Event (Veterans and their families welcome free of charge)
- Nov. 24 – Family Fun Event – Test Your Talents Day!
- Giving Week – Free fitness classes with monetary, non-perishable, or personal care item donation per class.
- Cyber Weekend sales and specials
- Nov. 19 - Additional Free Mansfield Day!
- Sign-up for December events:

Fall Book Donation Day: Saturday, October 7 from 9 to 12



Book sales hosted by the Friends of the Mansfield Library raise funds for our local library—\$3,995 was earned at the September book sale!

Saturday, October 7 from 9 AM to 12 noon, drop your unwanted books at the Mansfield Public Library, 54 Warrentville Road (Rte. 89).

Watch for the next sale dates. [Monetary donations](#) are always welcome, too, through the [Friends website](#).

Taste of Mansfield Partners Connect the Community with Local



With the local harvests at the height of their season, Taste of Mansfield partners are showcasing the best of local foods.

The Mansfield Senior Center featured local eggplant on the menu for Eggplant Parmesan in late September.

The Mansfield Public Library offered locally grown apples at its Walktober event, Apple-y Ever After Storytime. (The Library has also added soil-testing equipment to its Tool Library for home gardeners to improve their plots!)

Mansfield Public Schools continues its tradition of serving local apples and other fresh vegetables during lunches. Farm to School month will feature tastings of new treats.

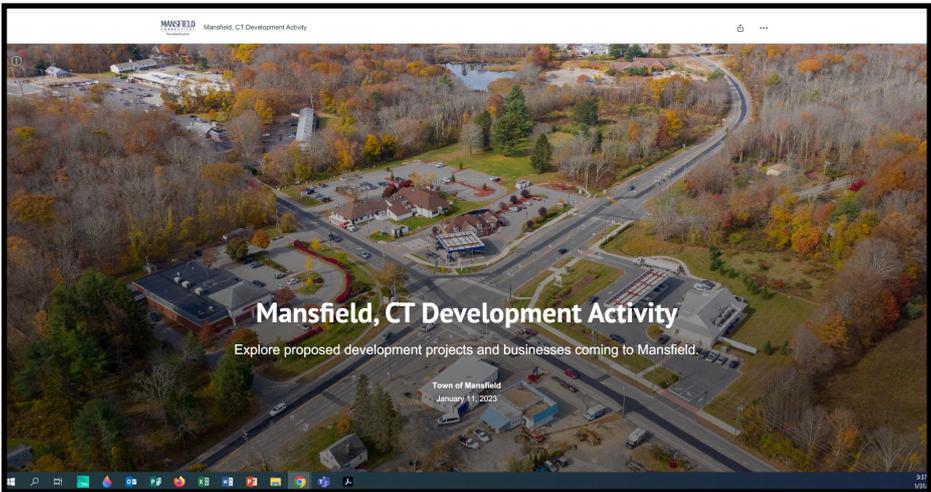
Mansfield Human Services continues its extraordinary Mansfield Farms to Families Program with more than 70 households receiving fresh, local foods for free.

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.



[Mansfield's Zoning Regulations](#) now have a new look. On June 28, 2023, the Planning and Zoning Commission adopted reorganized regulations. No major changes to the substance of the regulations were made. The regulations were amended to improve functionality and become consistent with recent case law and state statutes. The zoning regulations have now migrated over to eCode360. The regulations are now much easier to use. Check them out at the [Town's website](#) and let the Planning and Development Department know if you have questions.

Of particular note:

APPROVED- 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.

Upcoming Public Hearings:

CONTINUED PZC-October 2, 2023. Special Permit Application for the HUB at Mansfield (Wilhusky Housing, LLC, Applicant) for a mixed-use development with 1,183 beds and approximately 14,000 square feet of retail on four parcels located on North Eagleville and King Hill Roads.

IWA-October 2, 2023- Application of Benchmark Cascade, LLC for a permit to conduct regulated activities associated with a proposed multi-family housing project (approximately 84 units) located at 541 Middle Turnpike

IWA-October 2, 2023- Application of Benchmark Cascade, LLC for a permit to conduct regulated activities associated with a proposed mixed-use building (approximately 35 units) located at 555 Middle Turnpike

PZC/IWA-October 16, 2023 Subdivision Regulation Reorganization/ Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulation Reorganization. Two separate public hearings will be held to hear comments on proposed amendments and reorganization to the Subdivision and Inland Wetlands Regulations. The proposed changes include *improved functionality, necessary amendments pursuant to CT Public Act 21-29, changes to state statutes, identified case law, and enhanced consistency between terms.*

PZC-October 16, 2023 Retail Cannabis Establishment located at 123 Storrs Road. In December 2022, the Mansfield Planning and Zoning Commission enacted [regulations related to retail cannabis establishments](#). Such establishments are permitted in PB-1 (Eastbrook Mall Area) and PB-3 (Four Corners Area) by Special Permit. A public hearing will be held to hear comments on a special permit application for the first such establishment. The applicant is working through the State of CT license process.

[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.

Mansfield Volunteers Help to Deliver Unserved Food and Cut Waste



Beginning September 6, the unserved food leftovers from Pre-K to 12 school lunches are being “rescued” and shared with the Covenant Soup Kitchen in Windham. This arrangement is a collaboration between Mansfield School Food Services, Mansfield Public Works and the Covenant Soup Kitchen.

Mansfield Recycling Coordinator Virginia Walton has recruited community volunteers who pick up the leftovers daily at Mansfield Elementary School, Mansfield Middle School and E.O. Smith High School Monday through Friday. Mansfield Food Services Director Mariah Popeleski-Tilley and her staff at all three schools are working to minimize any food waste, and to rescue what isn’t consumed by students each day. Examples of items that are being taken to the soup kitchen include leftover items from the school share tables (packaged applesauce, juice in cartons, raisins, apples, bananas, oranges), and unserved portions of meals from the food service kitchens. Cold foods are transported in insulated bags to ensure they remain safe for reheating and serving.



This effort could not be successful without people committed to transporting food daily. Volunteers include members of Mansfield’s Solid Waste Advisory Committee Rita Kornblum and Nikki Pedersen. Additionally, Virginia reached out to members of the faith community including First Church of Christ and Storrs Congregational Church. Volunteers include Julie Menard, David Darnell, Marie McCain, Jean Bell, Jan Hoyle and Linda Abt. The UConn chapter of United Against Inequities in Disease will also be joining the volunteer effort in October with Eashwar Krishna and Justin Aydin assisting.



The Covenant Soup Kitchen has expressed deep gratitude for the donations. Executive Director Kimberly Clark sent a special message recently that said, “I just wanted to let you know that you saved the day yesterday! Our lunch count was over 300 for the first time ever and had we not had your prepared food at the ready, we would have run out! Thank you to your entire team from ours!”

Previously, leftover unserved meals were composted in Mansfield’s Pre-K through 8 schools. Although composting is a good option, delivering food to hungry people is the best option all around – socially and environmentally.

If you are interested in volunteering to keep this program strong, please email waltonvd@mansfieldct.org.

Bus Trips

Trips are coordinated with Ashford, Bolton, Coventry, Mansfield, Tolland, and Willington. Please register with the recreation department in the town in which you live. If you do not live in any of the listed towns, you may register with any department. The pick-up location for everyone is the commuter lot at I-84 exit 68.



A Day on Your Own in Boston, MA

Join us for an exciting trip to Boston, Massachusetts this October, just in time to check out all the Autumn charm this historic city has to offer! We provide transportation, and you are free to explore the streets of Boston as you wish! Just make sure you meet us back at the bus station by 5:45pm for the bus ride home.

Date: Sat., Oct. 14
 Reg. Deadline: Fri., Sept. 29
 Departure Time: 7 a.m.
 Departs From: Tolland Commuter Parking Lot, Exit 68 off of I-84 (Near Dunkin Donuts)
 Arrival: Approximately 8:30-9:00 a.m., Boston-South Station, 700 Atlantic Ave.
 Depart: 6:00pm- Boston-South Station, 700 Atlantic Ave, Boston, MA 02110
 Return Time: Approximately 7:30 -8:00 p.m.
 Cost: \$60.00 (fee includes bus transportation only)
 Activity #: 280001-A

A Day on Your Own in New York City

Enjoy a day in the “Big Apple” with friends and family. Get a jump start on your holiday shopping, visit the museums, see a Broadway show or just enjoy the sights of the city. Bus will drop off & pick up at Rockefeller Center.

Date: Sat., Dec. 2
 Reg. Deadline: Wed., Nov. 15
 Departure Time: 7 a.m.
 Departs From: Tolland Commuter Lot, Exit 68 off of I-84 (Near Dunkin Donuts)
 Return Time: Approx. 10:30 p.m.
 Fee: \$90 (fee includes bus transportation only)
 Activity #: 280008-A

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



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 Human Services Season of Giving Campaign 2023

The Mansfield Human Services Department is welcoming donations for various assistance programs that benefit our community.

Season of Giving focuses on several ways in which you can help your neighbors in need.

We are grateful for your support!

All donations can be sent to: Mansfield Human Services, 303 Maple Road, Mansfield, CT 06268.

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

This fund assists low-income families with basic needs in emergency situations. Residents are able to utilize the fund for heat, electricity, rent, or any number of other extenuating circumstances. This fund is used throughout the entire year, but especially during the winter season. Checks can be made payable to: Mansfield Neighbors Helping Neighbors Fund.

HOLIDAY FUND

The Holiday Fund assists low-income families by providing gifts for their children for the holidays. Donors can contribute monetary or gift card donations. The Holiday Fund works in conjunction with our Stuff-a-Cruiser event to provide toys and other support for children in our community. Checks can be made payable to: Mansfield Holiday Fund.

STUFF-A-CRUISER

Stuff-a-Cruiser is an annual event where we team up with the Mansfield Resident State Trooper's office to collect toys and gift cards for the holidays. You can drop off new, unwrapped toys or gift cards to the Resident Trooper's office in Town Hall. The Stuff-a-Cruiser event takes place at the Winter Welcome in early December. All items collected are distributed to families in need.

BACK TO SCHOOL

This fund assists low-income families with assistance to purchase back-to-school necessities, such as back packs and school supplies. Checks can be made payable to: Mansfield Back to School.

CAMPERSHIP FUND

Our Campership Fund helps send children in town to summer camp. Children can attend Camp Mansfield, or other private eligible camps, and receive a subsidy amount to offset the costs. This year, the Campership Fund helped over 30 children attend camp. Checks can be made payable to: Town of Mansfield/The Betsy Hamill Memorial Campership Fund.



Repair Café October 14 on Valley St. in Willimantic from 10 AM to 2 PM



Don't toss those broken items—try to repair them! Or learn how to repair them yourself! Come to the Repair Café October 14!

**First Congregational Church, Arnold Auditorium
199 Valley Street, Willimantic**

Volunteers will offer free repairs for bicycles, toasters and other small appliances, vacuum cleaners, lamps, plus wood and mechanical repair. Additionally, you can have mending done on clothing. Knife sharpening is also available.

Please be sure you can carry the item in and out of the Repair Café yourself, and if spare parts are needed you will be asked to cover the cost (or bring parts along!)

Volunteers and donations are welcomed! Contact organizer Virginia Walton at waldonvd@mansfieldct.org or 860.429.3333 for questions.

Happy to Say Hello: Mansfield as a Welcoming Community



Conversations that occur between people in random public settings have beneficial effects on everybody’s mental health. Just saying hello or smiling at another person, whether you know them or not, makes you feel connected.

Mansfield’s Human Rights Commission (HRC) is launching a long-term effort to encourage people to say hello to each other as part of our effort to support human rights in Mansfield. The more we speak with each other, the better we will get to know each other. Human rights are most likely to be valued if empathy is a significant element in our relationships. Empathy involves understanding other people and treating them with respect. In most faith traditions, this is considered the “Golden Rule.” Without empathy, human rights struggle to become a community value.

Members of the commission invited families to write how they say Hello in their home language at the HRC table at Celebrate Mansfield, and many community members stopped to add their own Hello to the poster or to point with children what was familiar to them.



HRC is planning several programs for this fall to support community conversations and encourage empathy, including a multicultural story hour for children and families and a multi-faith panel discussion with opportunities for participants to ask questions and explore their own views on faith. HRC is happy to accept suggestions for additional community conversations from any members of our community.

Please be Happy to Say Hello—this simple act can make a big impact in a community!

-Submitted by Jane Fried, Chair, Mansfield Human Rights Commission

Tiger Strong!

What is Tiger Strong?

Tiger Strong is an after school program for 3rd and 4th grade students to learn and practice social emotional skills through joyous movement and play with their peers. The focus is on being strong and balanced in all areas of life!

When and where does Tiger Strong meet?

Tiger Strong meets at Mansfield Elementary School every Thursday after school from 3:40 pm – 4:40 pm with the exception of school closings and half-days.

How do I sign up?

We’re glad you asked! Tiger Strong registration forms are available through the MES Main office, or from Mansfield Youth Services at your request. Registration forms can be completed and submitted to Mansfield Youth Services directly or to the MES Main Office.

We look forward to a great year of building new relationships and exciting activities!

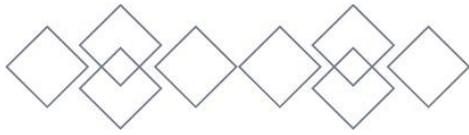
For questions regarding Tiger Strong, please contact Youth Services:
 (860) 429-3318 or YSB@mansfieldct.org



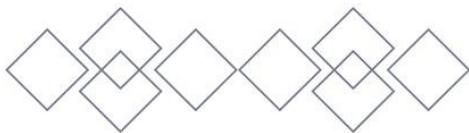

Mansfield Elementary School



*Interested
in showing
your
artwork?*



**APPLY NOW TO
DISPLAY YOUR
ARTWORK AT THE
COMMUNITY CENTER
OR LENARD HALL!**



Applications can be found at the Community Center, Lenard Hall, or on the Arts Advisory Committee website: www.mansfieldct.gov/1502/Arts-Advisory-Committee



Submit applications by email to artsadvisory@mansfieldct.org or hard copy at the Community Center to: Arts Advisory Committee, Attention: Bethany Burns.

Obsolete Signage: Why You Don't See These Signs Anymore



Did you know there is a manual for traffic signs and symbols called the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices or MUTCD? A Federal Highway Administration document, it is the law governing all traffic control devices, including road markings, highway signs, and traffic signals.

Non-compliance with the MUTCD ultimately can result in the loss of federal-aid funds as well as a significant increase in Town liability.

Residents occasionally ask the Department of Public Works (DPW) about two signs that are no longer in the MUTCD. These signs are the "CHILDREN AT PLAY" or "SLOW CHILDREN AT PLAY" or "SLOW CHILDREN" and the "BLIND DRIVEWAY" OR "HIDDEN DRIVEWAY". DPW no longer installs these signs or replaces faded or stolen ones, as the signs do not conform to the MUTCD. Use of these two signs may also provide a false sense of security to specific individuals.

The Connecticut Transportation Institute's Training and Technical Assistance Center provides the following reasons for the MUTCD not allowing "CHILDREN AT PLAY"

1. They look like warning signs, with a black legend on a yellow background. Other warning signs provide information on specific locations of the hazard (intersection, pedestrian crossing, curve, etc.). "CHILDREN AT PLAY" signs merely inform a driver that children may be in or near the road.

2. If you install "CHILDREN AT PLAY" signs in one neighborhood and do not install them in others, a driver may believe that there are no children in the areas without the signs, making children or other residents more vulnerable. Motorists should always assume that children could be in the area of a residence.

3. "CHILDREN AT PLAY" signs could give a false sense of security in letting children play in the roads.

4. Studies have shown that "CHILDREN AT PLAY" signs do not reduce the speed of traffic or make drivers more observant.



For the "BLIND DRIVEWAY" signs:

1. These signs may give motorists using the driveway a false sense of security as they assume the motorists using the road will read and comply with the sign.

2. Hidden driveways are common in Connecticut and Mansfield, so motorists should always operate their vehicle with the possibility of blind driveways.

3. If there is a sight line restriction from a roadway or driveway, the responsibility of achieving adequate sight lines lies with the owner of the intersecting road or drive.

Building Business Connections in Mansfield



On September 6, business and property owners from the Spring Hill and Mansfield Center neighborhoods met at the office of State Farm agent Anthony Raggi. Arranged by Mansfield's Planning and Economic Development staff, the meeting provided business owners the opportunity to meet one another and discuss ideas for this important business corridor.

Director of Planning and Development Jennifer Kaufman and Planner/Code Enforcement Officer Jillene Woodmansee reviewed the zoning and future land use goals for the area, and Mansfield Downtown Partnership Executive Director Cynthia van Zelm reviewed Town economic development projects.

As next steps, this group will meet regularly to keep the dialogue open and work on some possible initiatives to continue to highlight the businesses in Spring Hill and Mansfield Center.

Thank you to the State Farm staff for hosting this gathering on behalf of the Town of Mansfield.



The Important Updates from the Local Health District, EHHD



COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics Winding Down

As the fight against COVID-19 continues, our vaccination clinics are gradually winding down. We currently have the Novavax vaccine only.

We have made tremendous progress in getting our community vaccinated, but the journey isn't over yet. Vaccines are still readily available. You can now obtain your updated COVID-19 vaccine at your local large pharmacies. It's never been easier to protect yourself and your loved ones. Vaccine locations can be found at www.vaccine.gov. Don't forget to schedule your flu shot too!

Free Covid-19 Test Kits

Worried about whether you have COVID-19? EHHD is here to help. Free COVID-19 test kits are available at our office located in the Town Hall. Get peace of mind by testing from the comfort of your home. If you have questions or concerns about COVID-19 call the Eastern Highlands Health District office at 860.429.3325.

Coming Soon: Free Radon Test Kits

Your health is our priority. Stay tuned for the upcoming launch of our free Radon test kits. Radon is a hidden danger that can affect your home, and we're committed to ensuring your safety.

Stay informed, stay safe, and let's keep our community strong!

For more information, visit our website EHHD.org or contact EHHD at 860.429.3325. Together, we can make Mansfield a healthier place to live.

DO YOU NEED ACCESS TO FOOD?

Food Pantries

- Mansfield Human Services
860-429-3315
- Storrs Congregational Church
860-429-9382
- Husky Harvest Food Pantry
860-486-3918
- Covenant Soup Kitchen
860-423-4603

Additional Assistance

Connecticut FoodShare
A mobile food pantry that stops in Mansfield. <https://ctfoodshare.org/>

2-1-1
Dial 2-1-1 or go to www.211ct.org for free connections to critical health and human services within the community.

Mansfield Farms to Family Program
Partially sponsored CSA shares from local farms. Please contact MFFP@mansfieldct.org

Mansfield Public Schools Free and Reduced Lunch
If you believe you qualify, please contact foodserve@mansfieldct.org



Human Services

LOCAL ASSISTANCE



Mansfield Human Services
860-429-3315
Case management, referrals, public assistance programs, crisis intervention, food pantry, seasonal programs



Mansfield Youth Services
860-429-3319
Clinical services, prevention, youth programs, parenting support, truancy and attendance support



Mansfield Senior Center
860-429-0262
Daily programming, transportation services, meal programs, outreach, and volunteer services



Fee Waiver Program
Eligible residents can receive a reduction in fees for designated Town services



Food Programs
FoodShare Mobile Food Pantry, Mansfield Farms to Family



R.A.RE Program
Rent, mortgage, utility and emergency assistance for eligible residents affected by COVID-19



Seasonal Programs
Back to School, Campership, and Holiday Program

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 Friday, October 6 (typically the first Friday of the month live at 7:40 AM.)

Listen to the show from [Friday, September 1](#).

New State Livestock Law Goes Into Effect



Nothing beats a picturesque fall drive in New England. Picture it: green rolling hills with an abundance of fall foliage and livestock soaking up the sun. Mansfield residents are lucky enough to experience this just by driving around town.

But when farm animals escape fencing and start wandering into properties, destroying landscaping, and eating gardens, they become a nuisance to neighbors.

Homeowners want to know what can be done. Initially owners of livestock were liable for the damage their animals cause to property. As of August 2023, however, a new CT Animal Control law has gone into effect relating to this violation. ([CT General Statute 22-364](#))

The law, originally written about wandering dogs, has been expanded to include livestock. Livestock constitutes any hoofed animal and does not include poultry or rabbits. The fine is \$92 per animal per day. With the periods of daylight getting shorter, large animals on roadways can be a serious risk to drivers. With the addition of livestock to Statute 22-364, this regulation change is an extra incentive to check your fences if you have goats, cattle, horses, or sheep.



MANSFIELD COMMUNITY CENTER
Family, Fitness & Fun!

FAMILY FUN EVENTS

FALL 2023

- SUN., SEPT. 10 – 12:30-3:30
- FRI., SEPT. 22 – 4:30-7:30
- FRI., OCT. 13 – 4:30-7:30
- SAT., NOV. 11 – 12:30-3:30
- FRI., NOV. 24 – 4:30-7:30

ACTIVITIES:

- Pool Floats or WIBIT
- Giant Gym Slide
- Big Blue Blocks & Tot Toys
- Family Track Hours
- Games in Teen Center
- Special Themed Activities!

Always Free to members!
Non-members from all towns welcome with daily admission.

860-429-3015
mansfieldcc.com

10 S. Eagleville Road, Storrs, CT 06268

Mansfield Library: Always Something Fun. Always Something New!



Children's Weekly Events:

Toddler Time: Tuesdays at 10:30AM in MPL's Program Room

Learn, dance and play through stories and songs! After storytime, families are invited to stay and play with friends. This program is best for toddlers ages 1-3, but all families are welcome.

Wonder Workshop: Thursdays from 3-5PM (Drop-in!) in MPL's Buchanan Auditorium

Families are invited to drop in between 3-5PM for STEAM activities, crafts, and tactile play. This program is best for preschool and elementary-school age children, but all families are welcome.

Music and Movement: Fridays at 10:30AM in MPL's Buchanan Auditorium

Let's move! Sing, dance and move your bodies in this interactive, music-based program, followed by group playtime. This program is best for ages 0-4, but all families are welcome.

Saturday Storytime: Saturdays at 10:30AM in MPL's Program Room

Join us for Saturday morning stories & songs at the library! After storytime, families are invited to stay and play with friends. This program is best for ages 0-7, but all families are welcome.

Special Events Coming Up:

Annual Family Halloween Party: Saturday, October 28th from 11AM-1PM

Come one, come all to the greatest Halloween party on earth! Families are invited to the library for some not-so-scary carnival-inspired fun & games. Costumes encouraged!

Teen Video Game Night: Thursday, October 5th from 6-7:30PM in MPL's Buchanan Auditorium, **Open to Middle School & High School students only!**

Play video games, make cool crafts, & hang out with friends. Free pizza!

Tellabration! Celebrating Storytelling with Carolyn Stearns: Saturday, November 18th @ 10:30AM in MPL's Buchanan Auditorium

Tellabration is a storytelling phenomenon offered in collaboration with The Connecticut Storytelling Center and local storyteller, Carolyn Stearns!

Adult Programs

Inner and Outer Peace Through Meditation Virtual Workshop

Tuesday, October 10, 2023 @ 6:00 pm

Meditation is the key to reducing stress and living a life of peace and love. Learn how to achieve a state of tranquility during this informative and educational program. There will be a short meditation sitting too! Join Nirav Sheth, long-time meditator, for this virtual workshop. Register for the Zoom link by filling out a quick form here: <https://mansfieldct.jotform.com/library/inner-outer-peace>

Warren Legacy Foundation for Paranormal Research presentation

Saturday, October 14, 2023 @ 1:00 pm **Intended Audience: Adults**

Joseph Franke, Chairman of the Board of Directors and Chief Investigative Officer for the Warren Legacy Foundation for Paranormal Research, is a veteran in the paranormal community. He began his journey in 1986 as an apprentice working alongside his mentors, world-renowned psychic researchers Ed and Lorraine Warren. Joe is an accomplished investigator with over 37 years of experience in paranormal research and exploration. He currently lectures throughout the United States discussing past and current cases of real-life hauntings and poltergeist activity. Through his many public appearances, Joe thoroughly enjoys educating the public on the serious dangers and misconceptions of the paranormal realm.

Burlap Pumpkin Craft for Adults

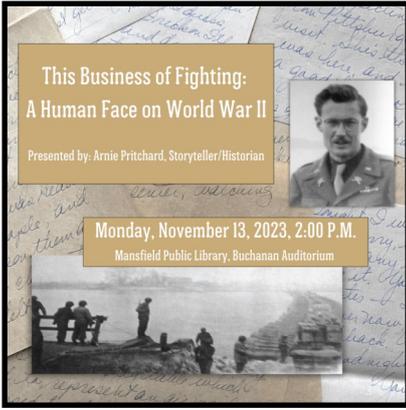
Tuesday, October 17, 2023 @ 6:00 pm

Come join us for a fun night of crafting! We will use burlap material, ribbon, and flowers to create this festive door wreath to celebrate Autumn! This craft is FREE! Space is limited and spots go fast! Sign-up begins on Tuesday 10/3/23. Please sign up at the library circulation desk or call the library at: 860-423-2501 to register.

(Continued)



(Mansfield Public Library Events cont.)



This Business of Fighting: A Human Face on World War II

Monday, November 13, 2023 @ 2:00 pm

A few years ago, Arnie Pritchard inherited the World War II Army footlocker of his father, Tony Pritchard with hundreds of letters and other family papers. From these letters Arnie has created a story focused on the time spent by Tony on the front lines of the war in Europe. Questions and discussion will follow the story.

Presenter Arnie Pritchard has a Ph.D. in History from Yale University and has been

telling stories for about twenty years.

Winter Gnome Table Arrangement Craft for Adults

Tuesday, November 14, 2023 @ 6:00 pm

Celebrate the coming of winter by crafting a small decorative centerpiece made of artificial greens and berries. We will add in some wood roses and finish it off with a happy winter gnome to welcome in the season! This craft is FREE! Space is limited and spots go fast! Sign-up begins on Tuesday 10/31/23. Please sign up at the library circulation desk or call the library at: 860-423-2501 to register.

Beyond Death, Medical Facts, Mysticism and Meditation Virtual Workshop

Tuesday, November 28, 2023 @ 6:00 pm

Since the 1980s when near death experiences became part of the public consciousness, they have held endless attraction for people. Why do they resonate so powerfully within us? Join Dr. Matthew Raider, hear the latest medical research, and discover a simple, natural way to connect with the inner light talked about by those who have experienced an NDE. Through a simple time-honored method of meditation, you too can explore those realms of peace within you.

Presenter Dr. Raider graduated from the University of Michigan Medical School with honors in 1979. He maintains a clinical practice in geriatric medicine. He is currently medical director of four Connecticut health care facilities.

Register for the Zoom link by filling out a quick form here: <https://mansfieldct.jotform.com/library/mysticism-and-meditation>

As always, all library programs are FREE and no registration is necessary.

Current Events and Politics Discussion Group

Meets Every Wednesday @ 1:00 pm in the small program room

Do we live in a democracy? How does the election system work? What is next for our country? How is our government structured? How can we work together? We will be talking about all of this and more at this drop-in, weekly adult discussion led by Warren Murphy, retired teacher of Government and Macroeconomics. All are welcome to attend these discussions as your schedule allows.

Jingle Jog

Saturday, December 2nd 9-10 am
Pre-Register by November 28th
FREE!!! #270086-A

Prance, dance or jog your distance of choice.
Event located at MCC Track
Hot Chocolate, Candy Canes and Jingle Bells provided. Stay and shop at the Craft Fair!

**Family Friendly
All are welcome!**

10 South Eagleville Road,
Mansfield, CT 06268
www.mansfieldcc.com or
860.4298.3015

Cooking Safety Starts with YOU: Mansfield Fire Department Reminds Families How to Stay Safe



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. [\(See cooking fire data from NFPA\)](#)

“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.
- Stay in the kitchen, use a timer, and avoiding distractions that remove your focus from what’s on the stove.

Fire Prevention Week is celebrated throughout North American every October, and is the oldest public health observance on record in the U.S. Entering its 101st year, Fire Prevention Week works to educate people about the leading risks to home fires and ways they can better protect themselves and their loved ones. Local fire departments and schools, including here in Mansfield, play a key role in bringing Fire Prevention Week to life in their communities each year and spreading basic but critical fire safety messages.

To learn more about Fire Prevention Week and this year’s theme, “Cooking safety starts with YOU! Pay attention to fire prevention,” visit www.fpw.org. You can also find resources and tools to use at home to keep your family safe, such as a “kid-free zone” marking kit.



The Suzuki philosophy emphasizes how learning music in the early years is crucial for developing mental processes and muscle coordination, the method allows for the learning of skills through musicianship starting at a very young age. Currently accepting Suzuki Violin Book 1 and 2 students. Those beyond Suzuki Violin Book 2 are welcome to register for traditional private lessons until group lessons become available for Books 3 and 4. Suzuki Violin Groups will be held on Fridays 5-5:45pm (10 weeks), with 10- 30 minute private lessons offered on Wednesday afternoons/evenings and Friday afternoons.



Please register for Suzuki using the activity number below. You will be contacted to arrange your private lesson time. Parent participation in lessons is required. Instrument rental and book materials are not included.

INSTRUCTOR: BOBBY LUAN
 LOCATION: LENARD HALL
 GROUP CLASS DATES:
 FRI., OCT. 6 - DEC. 15
 (10 CLASSES)
 *NO LESSONS THANKSGIVING WEEK
 GROUP CLASS TIME: 5-5:45 P.M.,
 INDIVIDUAL LESSON TIMES
 ARRANGED AFTER REGISTRATION.
 FEE: \$430 FOR RESIDENTS,
 \$440 FOR NON-RESIDENTS
 *FEE INCLUDES WEEKLY 30-MINUTE
 INDIVIDUAL LESSONS
 & WEEKLY 45 MINUTE GROUP CLASS.
 ACTIVITY #: 230105-A





MANSFIELD COMMUNITY CENTER
Family, Fitness & Fun!

PUMPKIN Painting CHALLENGE

WIN THE PRIZE

Fee: FREE
ACTIVITY #: 290333-A
REGISTER BY SUN. OCT. 8TH
FOR ALL AGES!

LOCATED AT
MANSFIELD COMMUNITY CENTER

SUNDAY OCTOBER 15TH **Time 10AM-12PM**

REGISTER NOW!

WWW.MANSFIELDDCC.COM 860-429-3015
10 S. Eagleville Rd., Storrs, CT 06268

Mansfield Public Library Hosts its Annual Family Halloween Party

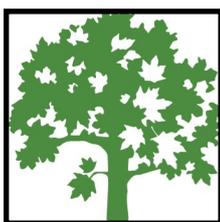


OCTOBER **Annual Family Halloween Party** WEAR YOUR COSTUMES!

Saturday 10/28 11AM-1PM

Come one, come all to the greatest Halloween party on earth!
Families are invited to the library for some not-so-scary carnival-inspired fun & games, candy & more!

Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein: Classic Halloween Flick



The Mansfield Senior Center is hosting its Halloween Party with a spooky lunch and goblin-friends on Monday, October 31.

All friends 55+ are welcome to join in on a lunch featuring Halloween Ghoulish, Graveyard Salad and Spooky Dessert, all homemade in the Senior Center kitchen. (Please reserve your lunch by October 27 by calling 860.487.9876. Cost just \$5.)

Stick around for the classic Halloween movie, *Abbott and Costello meet Frankenstein*, an homage to old horror films and Abbott and Costello’s brand of humor.

Don’t miss out on the Halloween fun! Throw on your favorite costume or spooky garb and join in!

This is just one of the many, many, MANY programs offered at the Mansfield Senior Center.

If you are 55+, The Mansfield Senior Center encourages you to read through our monthly newsletter, *Senior Sparks*, and see all the services and fun we offer to our community. You can find the October issue here: <https://www.mansfieldct.gov/DocumentCenter/View/17785/October-2023-Sparks?bid1>

SENIOR SPARKS
MANSFIELD SENIOR CENTER NEWSLETTER
~ OCTOBER 2023 ~

DO YOU LOVE HALLOWEEN?

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



SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, October 28th, 3-5 p.m.*

WHERE: Wilbur Cross Way

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 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.

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

Mansfield Parks and Recreation 10 South Eagleville Rd Mansfield CT 06268 www.mansfieldcc.com

Join in on Trick-A-Trunk—A Spook-tacular Combined Event This Year in Downtown Storrs

Mansfield Parks & Recreation is partnering with Mansfield Downtown Partnership to offer a combined Trick A Trunk event. Activities and trunks will be set up all around Downtown Storrs. The fun will take place from 3 to 5 PM on Saturday, October 28.

Watch for details soon on our [Discover Mansfield](#) web page!

Sponsors and donors are welcomed! Please contact Mansfield Community Center.

Crafts,
Pizza, Playtime,
Movie Time &
Hot Cocoa!

KID'S NIGHT OUT



AGES 5 TO 12
NO PARENTS
ALLOWED!
;) ENJOY A
NIGHT OUT
YOURSELF!

IT'S A
HALLOWEEN
PJ PARTY!

Friday, October 13, 2023, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.
at the Mansfield Community Center
\$22 per resident child, \$32 per non-resident child.
Limited Spaces! Registration Closes Wednesday, 10/12
Register Today! Activity # 290095-A

MANSFIELD COMMUNITY CENTER 10 S. EAGLEVILLE ROAD, STORRS, CT 06268
860.429.305 WWW.MANSFIELDCC.COM



Mansfield Historical Society Awarded Collections Assessment Grant



The Mansfield Historical Society recently received a Collections Assessment Grant for its library and archives. The Collections Assessment Grant is a program of Conservation ConneCTion and funded through a partnership grant between CT Humanities and the Connecticut Heritage Foundation of the Connecticut State Library. The grant funds a visit by a specialist who assesses an organization's collections and makes recommendations for improved organization, storage and preservation.

Amy Hietala, Librarian at Old Sturbridge Village, served as the assessor for the Mansfield Historical Society's library and archives. She visited the site on August 5 and met with Museum Director Ann Galonska and some board members. She examined the library and archive collection and reviewed how the materials are organized and stored. The Society's collection management policy and accessioning process were also reviewed and discussed. Ms. Hietala will provide the board with a written report containing her observations and recommendations, as well as many useful resources. Her professional guidance and advice were extremely helpful.

Although the Society's library and archives are comparatively small, it contains many gems. There are about 1,000 cataloged books, pamphlets, and periodicals in the library. Most of the library holdings are books pertaining to local history and genealogies of Mansfield families. A series of 30 children's books written by local author Catharine Marie Trowbridge (1818-1866) is an interesting highlight of the library collection.

The archives include about 3,400 cataloged personal papers, diaries, genealogy records, and scrapbooks, along with account books and other records associated with local businesses and industries.

Among its treasures is a small leather bound book containing two hundred and twenty-two eighteenth century secular tunes that were compiled by Luther Kingsley (1774 -1834). The book contains English, French, Scottish, Irish and American tunes popular during that time, including T "Green Grows the Rushes", "Blast you Bob's a dying!", "The Wilks' Riggle", "Sailor Jack", "The Country Frolick" and "Yankey Doodle."



The account books of master builder-architect Edwin S. Fitch (1812-1875) are another highlight of the archive collection. Fitch designed and built numerous Greek Revival style residences and churches in Mansfield and the surrounding area.

Another treasure is the superintendent's day book for the Connecticut Soldiers' Orphans' Home (1866-1875). It records daily activities at this state institution that cared for the orphans of Connecticut's Civil War soldiers.

Also of special interest are the diaries of Edwina Maud Whitney, who was librarian at the Connecticut Agricultural College from 1900 to 1934. Her diaries span from 1901 to 1952 and document both college and community happenings.

The Mansfield Historical Society's library and archives are open year round by appointment. Contact the Society at mansfield.historical@snet.net or 860.429.6575 to make an appointment.

Walktober is in Full Swing with 12 More Hikes in Mansfield!



The Last Green Valley is celebrating Walktober. And what a great time it is to explore our region, and our hometown!

Check out the [online Walktober Guide](#) to find great hikes and events in Mansfield and all over throughout October.

Buy Local

HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR

December 2, 2022
9AM - 3PM

10 South Eagleville Road,
Mansfield CT, 06268
www.mansfieldcc.com or
860.429.3015

Vendors Register by November 15
270085-A \$30 Residents
\$40 Non-Residents

Support Artists

Therapy Ball and Foam Roller Self Care Workshop



Are you interested in learning self-care that you can do at home? In this class you will learn techniques to find your body's blind spots. You will learn how to locate and release tight muscles and tight tissues.



Monday, October 30
5:15-6:15 pm 270010-A
\$10 for members/\$20 for non-members



www.mansfieldcc.com
(860)429-3015
10 South Eagleville Road Mansfield,
CT 06268

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

Watch for postings 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](#).

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 it to open, and it will list 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 EMERGENCY: 911
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 EMERGENCY: 911
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