

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

VOL. 4, ISSUE 3

JUNE-JULY, 2024

### Look for these stories in this newsletter



New Human Services Director Welcomed (See page 8)



Pride Month in Mansfield (See page 13-14)



Moratorium Ends on Development in August (See page 12)



Free Summer Concerts Thursdays (See page 17)

## Message from the Town Manager Budget Approval Sets Town on Solid Ground for What's Ahead

Greetings Fellow Residents!



Summer is almost here and I hope everyone has been enjoying the warmer weather it brings!

On May 27, the Town of Mansfield convened its annual Memorial Day ceremony. Although the weather forecast resulted in the parade being foregone, the program that was convened in the Mansfield Middle School gymnasium was well-organized and well-attended. I want to start by conveying a note of sincere thanks to my Executive Assistant, Sharon

Biggie, for her tireless work in recent weeks organizing the Mansfield's annual Memorial Day ceremony. I would also like to thank Sara-Ann Chaine, Town Clerk, for all the assistance and support she extended. The hard work of these two individuals in particular ensured that this year's program was a success.

Thank you to Rep. Gregg Haddad for sharing Governor Lamont's Proclamation with us (photo above.) We greatly appreciate all the veterans, speakers, volunteer organizations, Mansfield Fire Department honor guard, school bands, and members of the general public who came together to honor and recognize the ultimate sacrifice that so many members of the armed services gave during times of conflict to protect the freedoms we enjoy.

**FY 2024/2025 Budget Approved at Annual Town Meeting.** After months of careful planning and development, and thorough examination and deliberation by the Town Council, the Town's proposed Fiscal Year 2024/2025 budget was ultimately ratified with overwhelming support at the Annual Town Meeting held at Mansfield Middle School on May 14. The adopted budget will maintain and enhance the exceptional level of municipal services we offer the public while providing additional funding to increase staffing capacity in the areas of public safety and public works, as well as infrastructure projects. We are projecting that increases in non-tax revenues will help fund these additional investments while still enabling a reduction in the mill rate of at least 1.0 mills for FY 2024/25. As such, in summary, municipal officials worked diligently to prepare an operating budget and Capital Improvement Program (CIP) designed to accomplish the following:

- Achieving desired service improvements
- Lowering the Town's mill rate and overall tax burden on residents
- Wisely using anticipated increases in state aid funding
- Maintaining pay-as-you-go capital plan
- Preserving/sustaining the General Fund's healthy fund balance
- Achieving efficiencies (cost savings, digital access/transactions, etc.)
- Promoting transparency and accessibility of local government
- Continuing to plan for needed upgrades several municipal facilities and infrastructure
- Advancing the priorities, goals and objectives of *Mansfield Tomorrow*.
- Promoting sustained local economic growth

Preparation of the budget requires a great deal of time and effort. I would like to extend a personal thank you to all members of the Town Council, our municipal management team, and Mansfield Board of Education for the collective diligence and

(Continued)



**(Town Manager’s Message cont.)**

thoughtful contributions over the last several months. Additional information on the FY 2024/2025 adopted budget is available for viewing on [the Budget/Financials page](#) of our website.

**New Director of Human Services:** Following the conclusion of a competitive selection process, Ms Jessica St. Louis was selected to serve as the Town of Mansfield’s next Director of Human Services and her first official day in the job was May 28th. A community open house to introduce Jessica was also held during the afternoon of May 30th at the Mansfield Senior Center.

Jessica has over 20 years of experience in the Human Services field. During her career, she has demonstrated a strong commitment to and passion for serving children and families. *(Please see the story on page 8.)*

Jessica holds a Bachelor’s in Social Work from Eastern Connecticut State University, a Master of Social Work from Springfield College in Social Work, and is a licensed clinical social worker (LCSW). Additionally, she has roots in Mansfield, and is a graduate of E.O. Smith High School. Welcome, Jessica!

**Thank You to Cynthia van Zelm:** After 22 years of dedicated and admirable service, Cynthia van Zelm recently departed her post as Executive Director of the Mansfield Downtown Partnership. Cynthia has served in that role for 22 years, and was the very first professional paid staff member of the Partnership. She was instrumental in the planning, development, and implementation of the Downtown Storrs project.



This June, her leadership contributions will be formally recognized at the annual awards ceremony of the CT Main Street Center, when she is bestowed the Quentin Williams Downtown Hero Award. Her tenacious advocacy assisted Town leadership in securing more than \$26 million in state and federal funds for the buildout of the various public infrastructure components of Downtown Storrs. Downtown Storrs has created a vibrant and transformational space for our community’s benefit. Cynthia’s work leaves a legacy that will benefit our community for generations to come. We want to thank Cynthia for her vision, hard work, and commitment to our community. She will be greatly missed.

**Mansfield Parks and Recreation Master Plan:** After nearly 18 months of in-depth study and careful collaboration, the Town will soon be publically unveiling a comprehensive master plan for Mansfield Parks and Recreation (MPR). This process was facilitated by an external consultant – 110%, Inc. – with extensive subject matter experience and expertise. A formal presentation of the plan to the Town Council is anticipated during its June 10 meeting, and this will be followed by a period of time where formal comments and recommendations will be solicited from several different municipal boards and committees before the plan is finalized and ultimately adopted by the Town Council later this summer. Mansfield is a community that deeply values its parks and recreation assets, and we are very excited to nearing completion of this very important planning effort that will shape the future of our recreational programming and associated facility upgrades.



**Renewing and Growing Our Commitment to Sustainability:** Local officials in the Town of Mansfield are deeply committed to achieving ambitious goals related to environmental, economic and sociocultural sustainability. This commitment has been demonstrated and reiterated in myriad ways over the years, including the Town’s active involvement in the Sustainable CT certification program. To this end, later this month, on Wednesday, June 12, 2024, a joint meeting of several Mansfield Committees and Commissions will be convened to initiate initial collaboration and communication among town committees in renewing Mansfield’s Sustainable CT certification in 2025, which we hope will culminate in the Town achieving Gold-level certification (we are presently certified at the Silver-level) as well as obtaining the Climate Leader designation. During the meeting, attendees of the Sustainable CT staff will work with each committee to determine which of their activities could qualify for points. More information about Sustainable CT is available at this [link](#).



Sustainable CT is a voluntary certification process where CT towns are recognized for their ongoing sustainability initiatives. It is our hope that Sustainable CT will serve as a unified sustainability focus for Mansfield and greater collaboration between committees/commissions. Further, certification through Sustainable CT moves the town closer to implementing many of the actions in the [Mansfield Tomorrow Plan of Conservation and Development](#).

(Continued)



**(Town Manager’s Message cont.)**

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

Please do not hesitate to contact the Town Manager’s Office, 860-429-3336 or [townmanager@mansfieldct.org](mailto:townmanager@mansfieldct.org), if you have constructive feedback on how the depth and breadth of information provided in the newsletter can be optimized to meet the needs of our residents.

In closing, I extend my deepest gratitude for your ongoing support and engagement. Together, we are building a future that reflects the shared vision of our community. My family and I look forward to seeing you on the Square for a concert or along our parks and trails as we all enjoy the resources of our great town!

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!

**Be a part of the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Celebrate Mansfield Festival!**



The [Mansfield Downtown Partnership](#) invites Mansfield businesses, community organizations, clubs, families, and residents and UConn departments, programs, and student groups to be a part of the largest community event in town by:

- Hosting an [Activity](#), [Craft](#), or [Food](#) Booth
- [Volunteering](#) at the event
- [Building puppets](#) in our free Community Puppet-Building Workshop
- [Sponsoring](#) the celebration

**Find more information about each opportunity on our website, [downtownstorrsfestival.org](http://downtownstorrsfestival.org).**

The 21<sup>st</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](#) on Saturday, September 28, 2024. 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 and Instagram or visit [downtownstorrsfestival.org](http://downtownstorrsfestival.org) for news and announcements as planning progress.



### Mansfield Remembers the Fallen at Memorial Day Ceremony



The Town of Mansfield held a ceremony for Memorial Day on Monday, May 27. Threatening weather caused the parade to be cancelled, but participants filled the gymnasium to standing room only at Mansfield Middle School.

U.S. Air Force Veteran Jeremiah Macht served as Master of Ceremonies for the program, with the Mansfield Fire Department Honor Guard presenting the colors. Rabbi Jeremy Schwartz of Temple Bnai Israel offered the Invocation and the Benediction. Mayor Antonia Moran offered the welcome, and acknowledged the organizers of the event. State Representative Gregory Haddad presented the Proclamation from Governor Lamont.

Mansfield youth were featured at the ceremony, with the Edwin O. Smith High School Band and the Mansfield Middle School Band and Color Guard performing multiple numbers, filling the gymnasium with sound. Representatives from Girl Scout Troop 67446 placed the memorial wreath at the flagpole, and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Boy Scout Troop 56, who had placed flags at the cemetery the previous week, read the poem, "Peace".



The featured speaker was Vietnam War Veteran, GMM1 David Litrico, U.S. Navy. Mr. Litrico is also a member of the Town Council, elected this past November. He offered his personal perspective on serving alongside fellow service members, and emphasized the peace that Mansfield enjoys because of those who serve.

The Town sincerely appreciates the efforts by all the volunteers and Town staff for the preparations for this meaningful ceremony.



### June is Dog Licensing Month—And Now You Can Register Online!



Connecticut dog license renewal is due during the month of June. Please go to [www.MansfieldCT.gov/dogs](http://www.MansfieldCT.gov/dogs) for licensing information.

Payments may be made online, by mail, or in person at the Town Clerk's Office.

### Congratulations to Fire Chief John Roache and Welcome to Mansfield



Mansfield Town Clerk Sara-Ann Chaine swore in Mansfield's new Fire Chief at a ceremony held prior to the Town Council Meeting on May 13. In addition to family and staff members, the ceremony was attended by many firefighting professionals representing UConn and neighboring communities.

**Tax and Trash Bill Reminders from the Revenue Office**



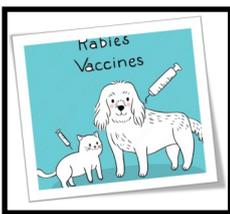
Tax bills, which encompass Motor Vehicle, Personal Property, and Real Estate will be mailed June 28, 2024 and are delinquent after August 1, 2024.

Trash/Recycle bills will also be mailed on June 28, 2024. These are the third quarter bills of 2024 and are due by August 1, 2024.

Payments may be paid in person during business hours, Monday to Wednesday 8:00 AM to 5:15 PM and Thursday 8:00 AM to 6:30 PM at the Revenue Collection office, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Offices, 4 South Eagleville Road, Mansfield. You can also mail a payment, or use the drop box outside after hours. Online payment options through the [Town of Mansfield's website](#) are available for a service fee. Credit or debit cards are charged 2.99%, and EFT bank account transfers are charged a flat fee of \$1.95.

Please contact the Revenue office if you have any questions at 860-429-3307.

**The Importance of Rabies Vaccines for Pets and Their Owners**



In honor of our yearly rabies clinic, the staff at Mansfield Animal Control wanted to express how important it is that pets are current on their rabies vaccinations. Although many people have heard of rabies, most are unfamiliar with the specifics of the disease.

Rabies is a viral disease that affects the central nervous system. It is also a zoonotic disease, which means it can be passed from animals to humans, and once clinical symptoms appear, rabies is virtually 100% fatal.

The good news is that the rabies virus is preventable by vaccine, which is why it is so important to keep your pets up to date. Although dogs are almost 99% responsible for all of the known rabies cases in humans worldwide, cats can also pose a risk of transmitting this virus. All cats, including indoor cats, and dogs are required by law to be up to date on rabies vaccines. Indoor cats can meet wildlife, such as bats, which can put them at risk for exposure. In the U.S., bats cause around 70% of rabies cases. Keeping your pets up to date on the Rabies vaccine not only protects them, but also the humans in the household. Some other things to note about Rabies:

- Rabies dies with the animal, so if you or your pet encounters deceased wildlife in the yard there is no risk for rabies exposure
- Most Animal Control Officers are vaccinated for rabies with a pre-exposure vaccine
- Opossums are extremely resistant to rabies due to their low body temperature
- Only 2% of bats carry the rabies virus
- Post-Exposure Vaccines are available for humans if they are exposed, or believe they have been exposed, to rabies.



**MANSFIELD RABIES CLINIC**

SATURDAY JUNE 8<sup>th</sup> 2024  
10 AM-12 Noon  
DRIVE-THROUGH STYLE

Location: Former Annie Vinton School,  
306 Stafford Rd., Mansfield CT



- In cooperation with NECTAR and East Brook Animal Hospital
- Cost: \$15 per vaccine (cash or check)
- Up to 2 vaccines free per household with proof of low income (Bring your SNAP Card)
- Dogs must be leashed
- One cat per carrier
- To receive a 3-year vaccine, please bring proof of prior rabies vaccination.

Please call Mansfield Animal Control with any questions at:  
860-487-0137

If you or your pet has an encounter with wildlife outside or inside the home, reach out to your Animal Control facility to find out the appropriate protocol.

### Mansfield Revaluation Property Inspections Continue



The Town of Mansfield Assessors' Office, in conjunction with Tyler Technologies, Inc. continues with the state-mandated revaluation project. The last revaluation was completed for the October 1, 2019 Grand List. The October 1, 2024 valuations will be reflected in the July 1, 2025 tax bills.

Residential Data Mailers were mailed to registered owners as of the last assessment date on February 1 and March 1, 2024. We have received a great number of signed returned forms. Thank you to the property owners who have already complied with this request to confirm or update information about your home. If you did not receive a form, or have not returned your sign form, not to worry — there is still time. Complete it, or please email [assessor@mansfieldct.org](mailto:assessor@mansfieldct.org) to obtain a replacement form or to file electronically.

For income-producing property owners, 2023 Income and Expense forms were mailed the week of March 25, 2024. The deadline to file these forms is on or before June 1, 2024. Failure to file by the prescribed deadline results in a 10% assessment penalty. Property owners needing an extension to file their forms should submit request in writing to [assessor@mansfieldct.org](mailto:assessor@mansfieldct.org) by May 1, 2024 to avoid penalty assessment for late filing. We are hoping for 100% compliance with this request to ensure accurate assessment valuations.

### Property Inspections Continue

Our dedicated team of Data Collectors and the Assessor continue inspecting properties within the Town of Mansfield. Rest assured, everyone involved will carry proper identification and have their vehicles registered with local authorities.

When our Assessor and/or Data Collectors arrive at your property, they will kindly request permission from the property owner, or authorized adult, to conduct the inspection. This may involve both an interior and exterior assessment, including measuring all improvements. If you happen to be away during our visit, don't worry! We will accurately measure the exterior of your home and any outbuildings. (Unless there is a clearly posted "no trespassing" sign or underage person at the property). For those, and for needed interior inspections, we will send notice to coordinate with you to schedule a mutually convenient time.

Additionally, if you prefer to be present during the exterior inspection of your home, please reach out to us via email at [assessor@mansfieldct.org](mailto:assessor@mansfieldct.org). We are more than happy to accommodate your request and make suitable arrangements.

Both the Assessor and Tyler Technologies, Inc. deeply appreciate your cooperation throughout this project. Our aim is to minimize any inconvenience and ensure a smooth process for everyone involved.

### Visit the Special Revaluation "Microsite" for More Information.

If you want to learn more about Revaluation in Mansfield, please [visit this special website](#) that has any forms you might need, plus a series of videos to answer questions you may have.

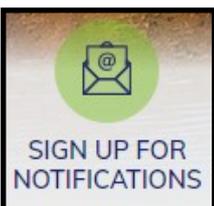
Please be on the lookout for future public presentations and updates pertaining to such topics as "Role of the Town", "Role of the Assessor", "Role of the Vendor", "Property Tax", "Benefits of Re-valuation", and much more!

If you have questions, another resource is to download [the FAQ's Revaluation Brochure](#).

Or you can also email your question(s) to [assessor@mansfieldct.org](mailto:assessor@mansfieldct.org). Questions and answers will be published in FAQ's Vol. 2. (Kindly note "Question or topic for 2024 Revaluation" in the subject line).



### Be Among the First to Know: Receive Notifications from Your Town



[This is where you sign up](#) to get notifications about Events, Town Meetings, Library Information, News, and other happenings in town. You can select which information that you wish to receive by selecting from available topics. Sign up and be informed!

### Plastic Bags Don't Belong in the Recycling Bins. Please Help Us Out!



The cost for the Town of Mansfield to recycle will rise significantly starting with a new contract July 1, 2024. One of the reasons for the spike in cost is the time and labor it takes at the Willimantic Waste Paper recycle sort facility to remove the trash included in recycle carts. Owner Casella Waste Systems reports removing up to 25% trash that is mixed in with recyclables.

The good news is that the new contract allows us to pay less for recyclables if we lower our contamination rate. One immediate way to reduce contamination is to put recyclables directly into the recycle container. Plastic bags – including trash bags holding recycle items – are not allowable in the recycle carts. When recyclables in plastic bags make their way onto the conveyor belt at the recycle facility, the person on the line has to remove that bag – either rip open the bag and empty the contents (which may contain trash!) or pull the whole bag off the conveyor belt. Watch our [video](#) on recycling to understand how this all works.

Recycle totes along our trash pick-up routes are going unemptied if the trash/recycle truck driver sees plastic bags in them. For repeat violations, the Town of Mansfield is issuing \$90 citations. The cleaner the carts, the lower the Town's bill, and that directly affects the trash bill for all of us!

Go Bag-less! If you're collecting recyclables in a plastic trash bags in your household, please remember to just empty it so recyclables are loose in your recycle cart before you put it out for collection.

Town of Mansfield

RECYCLING



**Rinsed Plastic Bottles,  
Cups & Containers**



**Rinsed Food & Beverage Cans,  
Aluminum Trays & Foil**

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**Paper**



**Cardboard & Paperboard**

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**Food & Beverage Cartons**



**Rinsed Glass Bottles & Jars**

Do NOT include:



**NO Food Waste**



**NO Plastic Bags**



**NO Foam Cups & Containers**

*To learn more, please visit [www.mansfieldct.gov/trash](http://www.mansfieldct.gov/trash)*

### 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 by replying 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 Welcomes Jessica St. Louis as Director of Human Services



The Town of Mansfield welcomes Jessica St. Louis as the community’s new Human Services Director. Ms St. Louis has more than 20 years of experience in the Human Services field with a demonstrated commitment and passion for serving children and families.

Most recently, Ms St. Louis served as the Manager of Clinical Social Work for Connecticut Children’s Medical Center (CCMC), where she supervised a unit of approximately 40 staff members. In this role she implemented a number of initiatives such as the family advisory council, a crisis outpatient treatment clinic, data collection dashboard, and clinical work procedures for the Emergency Department. She also created a specific mental health care coordination role to help with the mental health surge prior to and during the pandemic.

“We are thrilled that Jessica brings such extensive professional experience and credentials to the Human Services Director position in Mansfield,” says Town Manager Ryan Aylesworth. “CCMC has an outstanding reputation for caring for children and their families facing challenging life situations. Jessica’s considerable experience as a practitioner and manager, as well as her compassion and care-focused approach, will be a tremendous asset to our community. The Human Services Department is on the front line of meeting needs and providing support to our residents, and it was imperative that the next Director be someone with the drive and capabilities to work collaboratively with other municipal departments, our public school districts, Town boards and committees, area social service agencies, and many other stakeholders to deliver the highest quality services and outcomes.”



The community hosted a “meet and greet” on Thursday, May 30 so that members of the Mansfield Senior Center, elected officials, fellow staff members from the Town of Mansfield, Mansfield Board of Education, and the community could meet Jessica and welcome her to Town. (photo above.)

During the recent staffing transition, retired Library Director Leslie McDonough has been serving as Interim Human Services Director since February 2024. “The Town is grateful to Ms McDonough for her continued service and commitment to our community,” says Town Manager Aylesworth. “Leslie’s willingness to step in and lead the department on an interim basis over the last several few months to ensure continuity of operations is sincerely appreciated.” Ms McDonough will assist through the upcoming transition.

### Important Notice from the Office of the Assessor



**Tax Credit and Veterans Relief Programs.** Biennial filing of Applications to the Assessor for Additional Veterans exemptions is ongoing until October 1, 2024.

Qualifying income for **2023** must not exceed **\$43,800** for an unmarried person and **\$53,400** for a married couple.

[Contact the Human Services Department](#) for assistance.

### Volunteer Service to Recreation for 42 Years—Thank You to Anne Rash



The Town of Mansfield extends a special thank you to Anne Rash for her ongoing compassion and commitment to supporting Recreation Services in the Town of Mansfield over the past 42 years! In addition to Anne serving on the Recreation Advisory Committee, she also led the Mansfield Community Center (MCC) Building Committee as Chairperson.

MCC celebrated its 20th anniversary last fall. Anne's enthusiasm, wisdom, and engaging personality were instrumental in supporting the construction of a community facility for residents in the greater Mansfield area. She was closely involved in the planning of the Center and enthusiastically advocated for amenities that would bring all ages and abilities together.

Anne's foresight and long-term commitment to the parks and recreation services have been extraordinary, and she continues to be active in organizing and promoting storybook walks at our local playgrounds and is a constant voice of advocacy for residents.

Thank you, Anne, for your 42 years of service on the Recreation Advisory Committee and to the Mansfield Community!



### Mansfield Fire Department and E.O. Smith Relaunch Explorers Program



The Mansfield Fire Department has successfully reintroduced the Explorer Program at E.O. Smith High School in 2024. It launched as a new after school program at E.O. Smith where nine interested students learned about fire, police, dispatch, and EMS public safety careers. The Fire Department staff who lead the program have invited guest speakers from Windham Hospital's paramedic program, our Resident Trooper program in Town, and coordinated a walking field trip to the UConn Public Safety building to tour their dispatch center. Many of these firefighters experienced Explorer programs and are committed to the impact the experience can bring to youth.

The week of May 27, students participated in a mock car accident with the State Police and Mansfield Fire Department at the Eastern Fire School in Windham, and then fought a mock house fire on Thursday. Parents were invited to come watch as part of their "capstone project". WFSB-TV 3 also came to the fire school to capture the students in action, and featured the program on the news May 29. ([View the video here.](#))

Students receive school credit for their participation in the program, along with CPR and First Aid certifications. Students receive information on Mansfield's Fire Department ride-along program, local Police Explorer programs, and information on the State Police and Fire Academy Youth Weeks. The fire department also plans on using this as a feeder program for our volunteer program, as the Explorer program is primarily open to seniors in high school.



### Repair Café July 13: Learn to Fix It, Not Toss It!



Do you have an item that needs a little fixing, but still has plenty of life?

Bring it to the next Repair Café on July 13, 2024 at the First Congregational Church, 199 Valley St., Willimantic from 10AM to 2PM. Meet some great neighbors who are willing to fix your item for free, or teach you how to fix it the next time!

**Progress Toward More Affordable Housing Options in Mansfield**



The Eagleville Green project at the corner of Maple and South Eagleville roads is scheduled to open late this year with some of Mansfield’s newest affordable housing units. This 42-unit mixed-income development will provide 34 units of affordable housing available to households earning less than 60% of the Area Median Income (AMI). In Mansfield, a family of four earning less than \$70,860/year would qualify.

The project is only the latest evidence that Mansfield is making meaningful progress toward alleviating eastern Connecticut’s affordable housing shortage. Having a good supply of housing for the employees of local businesses and their families is vital to building a strong local economy.

To meet Mansfield’s affordable housing regulations, recently approved private developments at Four Corners will provide an additional 89 affordable units to households earning less than 80% of AMI or \$94,480/year for a family of four. In addition, the regulations require that the developments include 5% (a total of 36 units) of their units as workforce units. These will be available to households earning 120% of AMI, or \$141,720/ year for a family of four. The developers are required to file deed restrictions on these units to ensure they remain affordable for 40 years.



- Mix of 1, 2, & 3 bedrooms
- 34 Affordable Units
    - 22 at 50% Area Median Income
    - 12 at 60% Area Median Income
  - 8 Market Rate

The Town’s Affordable Housing Trust Fund is also in line to receive nearly \$5 million from private developers who pay a fee instead of building affordable units. The state goal for all Connecticut municipalities is that 10 % of their housing stock be affordable. In Mansfield currently just over 6% of housing units are deemed affordable.



## Recently Approved Development

• 9.8% of the new units constructed are affordable.

Approved Multi-Family Development Since 2020										
Project	Total	Bedrooms					Affordable Housing			Status
		Total BR	Studio	1 BR	2 BR	3 BR	Affordable (80% AMI)	Workforce (120% AMI)	Fee in Lieu	
Eagleville Green	42 units	73	0	18	17	7	34	0	\$ -	approved & under construction
Standard at Four Corners	382 units	891	31	52	119	190	35	17	\$ 1,696,015	approved & under construction
497 Middle Tpke (not including 1 SFD)	261 units	457	64	64	70	83	39	13	\$ -	approved 9/5/2023
The Villages at Four Corners	116 units	194	0	55	44	17	17	6	\$ -	approved 9/18/2023
The HUB@Mansfield BR	1165 BR	1165					0	0	\$ 3,291,248	approved 10/16/2023
<b>Total Units</b>	<b>811</b>	<b>2,780</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>\$ 4,987,263</b>	
<b>Total BR in Group Dwelling</b>	<b>1165</b>	<i>Total balance in the Affordable Housing Trust Fund:</i>							<b>\$ 5,837,263</b>	Includes 500K from FY23 surplus and \$350K in ARPA
		<i>Total Funds Accessible as of November 1, 2023</i>							<b>\$ 2,546,015</b>	

**There are Great Things Happening at the Mansfield Senior Center!**

Check out the monthly newsletter for June, “Senior Sparks”, and read about all the great programs we have going on in the coming month: [Click here.](#)



**Presidential Primary Elections Coming August 13, 2024**



Primary day is Tuesday, August 13. This year the State plans to include seven days of Early Voting opportunities leading up to the Primary Election day.

[Learn more about Early Voting](#) from the Secretary of the State’s website.

If you need to register with a party, or have questions, please contact the [Registrars of Voters.](#)

**Mansfield ARPA Funding Supports Free Outdoor Public Wi-Fi Access**



Many of us will be spending time outside in the summer months enjoying Mansfield’s public spaces. While much of this time will be intentionally “disconnected” from technology, sometimes we still want Internet access whether that is for family communication, trail maps, exercise music, or personal interests.

Through the support of Mansfield’s Federal ARPA grant funding, many of Mansfield’s outside public spaces now have expanded free public Wi-Fi access. If you are outside enjoying the new pavilion and playground at Bicentennial Pond Park (below), watching a Little League game at Southeast Park, outside of the Mansfield Public Library, the Community Center, the Senior Center, the Elementary and Middle Schools, the Town Hall, or the Downtown Transportation Center, you can access the free “MnsfldGuest” public Wi-Fi network.



Additionally, all of Mansfield’s Town and School facilities also have free indoor public Wi-Fi as well.

For more information, including a list of not only our free public Wi-Fi sites, but also locations with public access computers as well, please visit <http://mansfieldct.gov/InternetAccess>.

**Time to Sign up for Fun: Camp Mansfield is Ready for Campers!**

**Summer Camps Snapshot!**

WE MAKE HAPPY CAMPERS!  
NON-RESIDENTS WELCOME

1 Art Exploration Week Day-By-Day Camp

28 Creative Kids-Nature & Abstraction Camp,  
Girls Basketball,  
CIT for Girls Basketball Camp

Minds In Motion, Incredifix Film Camp

Playwell Teknologies Lego Camp,  
Rag Rug Weaving-Upcycle,  
Co-Ed Basketball

6 Theater Camp-Snow White & The Seven Dwarves with Miss Kelly

Creative Kids-I Can Decoupage That!-Plus Paper Making,  
Chess Wizards!,  
Ray Reid Soccer School Young Stars,  
TWO WEEKS! Theater Camp-The Emperor’s New Clothes with Miss Kelly

9 Recycled Art Camp,  
TWO WEEKS! Theater Camp-The Emperor’s New Clothes with Miss Kelly

0 Youth Football Clinic (New Date, Sat. only)

2-16 Storybook Ballet,  
Broadway Musical Theater Program

**Registration is open!**

www.mansfieldcc.com 860-429-3015

OF  
MANSFIELD  
MP!  
AUG. 16

### Learn About Mansfield’s Revised Regulations and How to Give Input

Planning & Development



**Please Join us for a Virtual Question and Answer Session**

**Draft Multi-Family Housing Regulations**

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

In August 2023, the Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) implemented a temporary moratorium on high-density housing, which will end on August 31, 2024. Since then, the PZC, in collaboration with Tyche Planning and Policy Group and staff, has been developing new regulations to address the community’s needs for this type of housing. We hope you will participate in this virtual session to learn more about the proposed regulations.

**Thursday, June 13, 2024**

**5 pm via Zoom**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://mansfieldct.zoom.us/j/89477879402>

Meeting ID: 894 7787 9402

Passcode: 057491

**Topic to be Covered:**

1. Review of Draft Regulations Related to Multi-Family Housing
2. How to Provide Comments During the Public Hearing Process
3. Questions and Answers

*Please note that this session is for informational purposes only. PZC members will not be present. The public hearing will begin on **June 17, 2024, during the PZC’s regular hybrid meeting at 6 pm** and will remain open until at least **July 15, 2024**, to allow sufficient time for public input. All comments must be submitted before the hearing closes.*

Access the Draft Regulations

[HERE](#)

or

Scan the QR Code Below



# MANSFIELD 100 MILE CHALLENGE

Registration Code: 111007-A

Walk, hike, or run 100-Miles within the Mansfield area. Keep track on one of our tracking forms. When you complete the challenge, bring in your form for a commemorative item.

Show off your accomplishment!



[www.mansfieldcc.com](http://www.mansfieldcc.com)  
860.429.3015  
10 South Eagleville Road  
Mansfield, CT 06268

### Pride Month Kicks Off with Flag-Raising Ceremony

The Mansfield Town Council passed a resolution at its meeting on May 28 that June 2024 shall be designated as LGBTQIA2S+ Pride Month. There are celebrations and resources to mark this month.

On Thursday, May 30 the Town hosted its annual flag-raising ceremony of the Intersex-Inclusive Progress Pride Flag at the courtyard at the Audrey P. Beck Municipal Offices in recognition of Pride month. Mayor Antonia Moran led the ceremony, and Town Councilor Ron Schurin assisted with raising the flag.



The ceremony also featured students and staff from E.O. Smith describing the meaning of the flag colors and symbols. A "Chaos Poem" written by Mansfield Middle School's MY Pride group was also read by Youth Services Director Dr. Katie Bell and Human Rights Commission Chair Jane Fried. The ceremony was punctuated by a K-POP Dance Performance by E.O. Smith students.

**Celebrate Pride festival on Friday, June 7 starting at 7 PM at the Betsy Paterson Square in Downtown Storrs** will be hosted by Mansfield Youth Services, Downtown Storrs and the Town of Mansfield. Open to all towns, all ages, and all allies, the event will include music, games and selfie stations, a "Strut your Stuff" Dance-off, free flags, and pronoun pins. The Mansfield Human Rights Commission will assist with Voter Registration. UConn Dairy Bar ice cream and tie-dye-your Pride shirts are available for purchase (suggested donation \$10), and a Drag Queen Story Time kicks off at 8:00 PM. The evening will close with the screening of the movie, *The Prom* starting at dark. Exhibits will include resources for supports and local LGBTQIA2S+ organizations. (In case of rain, the festival will move indoors to the Mansfield Community Center.)

# CELEBRATE PRIDE

Friday June 7, 2024 @ 7 pm

Betsy Paterson Square - Downtown Storrs, CT

**DRAG QUEEN STORY TIME @ 8 PM**

**"THE PROM" MOVIE SCREENING AT DARK!**

LOCAL LGBTQIA2S+ ORGANIZATIONS AND SUPPORTS,  
 UCONN DAIRY BAR ICE-CREAM TRUCK,  
 MUSIC, STRUT YOUR STUFF DANCE-OFF,  
 SELFIE-STATIONS, FREE FLAGS & PRONOUN PINS,  
 PLUS CUSTOMIZE AND TIE-DYE-YOUR-PRIDE SHIRTS!  
 (suggested shirt donation \$10)

MANSFIELDCT.GOV/PRIDE
#MANSFIELDISPROUD



**HAPPY PRIDE 2024!**

**Free Pride flags starting May 31 at Mansfield's Town Hall (Storrs Road entrance), Community Center, Senior Center, and Public Library Main & Nash Zimmer Branches while they last!**

**Also available at the Flag Raising Ceremony #MansfieldIsProud (May 30 @ Town Hall, 4 pm) and Celebrate Pride (June 7 @ Betsy Paterson Square, 7 pm).**

**MANSFIELD CONNECTICUT**  
Your place to grow

**Pride Resources for the Community**

**Distribution of free Pride flags.** The Progress Pride flag will fly every day in June at Town Hall and other public buildings including the Mansfield Public Library and the Mansfield Senior Center. Mansfield Youth Services, Mansfield Public Library and the Mansfield Senior Center are also distributing free flags to the public while supplies last. Flags can be picked up at the north entrance to the municipal offices building facing (Storrs Road/Rte.195), at the Mansfield Public Library on Warrenville Road, and at the Mansfield Senior Center on Maple Road beginning June 1.

**Resources and Activities Listing.** The Town of Mansfield created a web page listing support resources and activities for Pride month across the community. These activities and other resources can be found on this page: [mansfieldct.gov/mypride](http://mansfieldct.gov/mypride). For example, the Mansfield Public Library is featuring a list of recommended book topics for residents to explore. The Mansfield Senior Center is hosting a special event that also includes showing of the movie, *Bohemian Rhapsody*.

Additionally, a list of local and national resources is available there, and contact information for local Mansfield organizations for LGBTQIAS2+ youth.

**Pride Movement Challenge this June!** The Mansfield Community Center encourages everyone to be active – visit an outdoor park, playground, the skate park, do some laps in the Community Center pool, take a fitness class, walk the Community Center indoor track, enjoy a free concert at Lenard Hall – your action helps build the rainbow.

SCAN TO RECORD YOUR VISIT TODAY

INCLUDE YOUR NAME FOR A CHANCE AT A PRIZE

LET'S SHOW WE'RE PROUD HELP BUILD OUR RAINBOW!

**PRIDE MOVEMENT**

HAPPY PRIDE MONTH! EVERY VISIT ADDS TO A STRIPE

**JUNE 2024**

- CC TEEN CENTER OR CHILD CARE (SPIRIT)
- CC POOL OR LENARD HALL (HARMONY)
- MANSFIELD PARK/TRAIL (NATURE)
- MANSFIELD PLAY-GROUND OR SKATEPARK (SUNLIGHT)
- CC GYM OR MANSFIELD COURTS & FIELDS (HEALING)
- CC FITNESS CENTER (LIFE)

MANSFIELD CONNECTICUT  
Parks & Recreation

### Help Fire and Emergency Services Help You with a File of Life



Things can get very hectic very quickly in the event of a medical emergency. When the men and women of the Mansfield Fire Department arrive at your door, we will ask many questions so we know how to treat you or your loved one best. A great way to be prepared for these situations is to maintain a File of Life.

The File of Life is free to all residents and can be obtained at any fire station, the Senior Center, or at Town Hall. The form enclosed in the kit helps us know what you might have for medical conditions, any allergies, and if you are taking any medications. It also includes who we might need to contact if you can't speak for yourself. These should be updated regularly and left in a visible location inside your house – typically on your refrigerator.

### Teen Summer Volunteer Program with the Mansfield Public Library



Are you a Mansfield teen who loves science experiments or arts & crafts? Are you looking for a volunteer opportunity to gain experience working with young kids or learn about library work? Join the Mansfield Public Library's Teen Summer Volunteer Program! Any high school students and middle school students who are 12 or older can join. Email [MPLYouth@MansfieldCT.org](mailto:MPLYouth@MansfieldCT.org) to sign up or get more information!

### Internet Safety Course at the Mansfield Library with a Digital Navigator

Friday, June 7 and Friday, June 21, 10 AM in the Program Room



Are you looking to navigate the digital world with confidence? Concerned about online security and privacy? This course is designed with you in mind!

Mansfield Public Library's Digital Access Navigator, Paul Velazquez, will be offering free internet safety courses for the community. The first two courses are scheduled for Fridays, June 7<sup>th</sup> and June 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 AM in the Library's Program Room. Topics will include identifying secure websites, creating and remembering strong passwords, and avoiding scams and fraud. Participants will also have an opportunity to ask questions and discuss internet safety.

Whether you're a seasoned internet user or just starting to explore the online realm, this presentation will empower you to make informed decisions and safeguard your digital presence.

Attendees are encouraged to bring their own laptops or other mobile devices for hands-on practice. The library does have devices available to lend if needed. No registration is required.

### What is a Digital Navigator?

The ARPA-funded Digital Navigator program at the Mansfield Public Library has been a wonderful addition to the resources that the library has available to the community. In addition to providing one-on-one help to library patrons through both appointments and walk-ins, our two Digital Navigators, Paul and John conduct regular outreach to residents of Juniper Hill and at the Mansfield Community Center, and have offered technology classes at the Senior Center. So far they have conducted more than 140 help sessions! They are ready to assist with any and all technology needs and questions.

## COMMIT TO BE FIT SELECT CLASSES INCLUDED IN YOUR MEMBERSHIP THIS SUMMER:

MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.
4PM HIIT 7/1-8/5	8:45AM FUNCTIONAL STRENGTH	8:45AM WATER FITNESS *no 6/19, 6/26, 7/24	12PM TRX *no 7/4	8:45AM FUNCTIONAL STRENGTH
SAT.		SUN.		
8AM OUTDOOR BOOTCAMP 7/6-8/10		8:15AM RESTORE YOGA		

**SUMMER MEMBERSHIP SPECIAL**

**SIGN-UP BY JUNE 17**

In lieu of FULL redemption of FREE summer fitness class options. Registrations after June 17 will be eligible for free class participation through end of August 2024.

**JOIN AS A MONTH-TO-MONTH MEMBER TODAY & GAIN ACCESS TO:**

TWO POOLS, \*FITNESS CLASSES, DISCOUNTED SWIM LESSONS, PRIORITY REGISTRATION, AIR-CONDITIONED TRACK, FITNESS CENTER, GYMNASIUM, AND MORE!



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



Classes held June 17- Aug. 18  
See summer 2024 brochure pg. 31-35 for more info.

📍 10 S. Eagleville Road, Storrs, CT 06268    📞 860-429-3015    🌐 [mansfieldcc.com](http://mansfieldcc.com)

**Free, Live Music in Downtown Storrs! Summer Concerts start June 6.**



The Mansfield Downtown Partnership is pleased to announce its 2024 [Summer Concerts on the Square!](#)

The Partnership and the Town of Mansfield will host free concerts every Thursday in June and July\* on Betsy Paterson Square in Downtown Storrs. All performances will take place from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM. All of the concerts are free and open to the public. The rain dates are on the following Tuesday, unless otherwise noted. (\*There will be no concert July 4.)

Mansfield residents and friends will enjoy a diverse line-up of musical entertainment for all ages. Visitors are welcome to bring a blanket or a lawn chair and enjoy the music with their friends and neighbors.

The 2024 Summer Concerts on the Square are made possible with the generous support of M&T Charitable Foundation; National Institute of Clinical Application of Behavioral Medicine (NICABM); and Wilcox & Reynolds Insurance.

For more information, please visit [mansfieldmusic.org](http://mansfieldmusic.org). For weather updates and other announcements, please follow @DowntownStorrs on Facebook and Instagram.

**SUMMER CONCERTS on the SQUARE**  
Thursdays  
June & July\*  
6:30-8:00 PM  
Betsy Paterson Square  
\*No concert July 4

**06.06 THE KINGPINS**  
Jump Blues // Connecticut

**06.13 ALL NIGHT BOOGIE BAND**  
Blue/Rock/Soul // Vermont

**06.20 THE MIDNIGHT ANTHEM**  
Country/Americana // Connecticut

**06.25 THE PROFESSORS OF SWEET, SWEET MUSIC**  
Indie Rock // Connecticut

**07.11 LOVEWHIP**  
Dance/Rock // Massachusetts

**07.18 MR. P'S BRIT POP PERSUASION**  
Alt Rock // Connecticut

**07.25 FUNKY DAWGZ BRASS BAND**  
Funk/Jazz/Soul/R&B // Connecticut

MANSFIELD DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP  
DOWNTOWN STORRS  
Eat • Explore • Enjoy

**Fire Station 207 at Four Corners is Renovated to Prepare for Service**



While the new apartment complex known as the Standard at Four Corners, has been emerging, Mansfield has quietly been making some upgrades of our own in that area. When some utilities infrastructure had to be relocated to support the new apartment complex across the street, we opted to temporarily close Mansfield Fire Station 207 located at 1722 Storrs Road.

The Town has used this opportunity to make some much-needed repairs to this Station, inside and out. The main living quarters have been upgraded, including new flooring, bunk rooms, and remodeled bathrooms. This was long overdue as the station had not been updated in more than 30 years.

When our Fire and EMS personnel move back in later this summer, this station will be well-situated to effectively serve the Northwest Mansfield neighborhood within our community.



### Electronic Reuse Now an Option at the Transfer Station



At the Transfer Station, the routine has been to recycle all electronic items. Some of these items must be recycled as Connecticut enacted an electronic waste (e-waste) recycling law in July 2007 which allows Connecticut residents to properly recycle certain covered electronic devices (CEDs) such as computers, monitors, printers and televisions for free.

CEDs are defined as devices with video displays larger than four inches when measured diagonally, including desktop and laptop computers, and their central processing units; cathode ray tube (CRT) and other types of computer monitors that do not contain tuners; CRT and other types of televisions; and similar or peripheral electronic devices.

This 2007 law requires Mansfield to provide a free drop-off location for residents to recycle CEDs. In addition to this recycling program, since January 1, 2011, CEDs are banned from the trash. You cannot simply throw these items in the trash; it is illegal.

Now reuse is a new option at the Mansfield transfer station for electronics, especially CEDs, in lieu of recycling. Similar to our Swap Shop, if you are disposing of electronics and you feel the item may still be of use to someone, you now have the option of donating it for reuse. Even though the item you are disposing no longer fits your needs, this fact does not mean someone else could get some use from it. Some of the benefits of reusing items are preventing pollution by reducing the need to harvest new raw materials, saving energy, reducing the amount of waste that will need to be recycled or incinerated, and saving money.

If your electronic item is a computer or something that stores personal data that you are concerned about placing in the reuse area, you can just recycle it instead of donating for reuse. You are encouraged to use the reuse area, but it is not a requirement. It is YOUR decision on how to dispose of your item.



## The Community School of the Arts and Arazzo Music Festival Presents



### FROM SEA TO SHINING SEA

Join us for the season opener of the Arazzo Music Festival in an exciting program of all-American composers! Led by cellist Samuel DeCaprio, Artistic Director of Arazzo, this program centers around the genre of the piano trio, and will include works by Amy Beach, David Ludwig, Paul Schoenfeld, and UConn's own Kenneth Fuchs. DeCaprio will be joined by violinist Jeffrey Myers (Calidore String Quartet) and pianist Tomomi Sato.

**Performers:** Jeffrey Myers, violin  
Samuel DeCaprio, cello  
Tomomi Sato, piano  
**Location:** Lenard Hall  
**Date:** Sun., June 9  
**Time:** 4-5:30 p.m.  
**Fees:** FREE! Registration required.  
Space and parking are limited.  
**Activity #:** 136000-A

### LOVE, LOSS, EXILE

Join us for a riveting program of music for soprano, cello, and piano! This program centers around Juhi Bansal's song cycle, Love, Loss, Exile, which utilizes poetry written anonymously by women in Afghanistan in order to tell their own personal stories without fear of retribution. The program is complemented by other cycles that follow aspects of that theme, including works by Ravel, André Previn, Bartók, and Strauss. DeCaprio will be joined by fellow UConn alumnus and soprano Anastasia Rege and pianist Minyoung Kang.

**Performers:** Anastasia Rege, soprano  
Samuel DeCaprio, cello  
Minyoung Kang, piano  
**Location:** Lenard Hall  
**Date:** Sat., June 15  
**Time:** 4-5:30 p.m.  
**Fees:** FREE! Registration required.  
Space and parking are limited.  
**Activity #:** 136001-A

**Registration Open Now!**



Community School of the Arts Lenard Hall  
450 S. Eagleville Rd. Storrs/Mansfield, CT 06268

[www.mansfieldct.gov/csa](http://www.mansfieldct.gov/csa)  
860-429-3015

### Mansfield 2024 Summer Kick-Off Pizza Party for Families



Take-And-Make-Your-Own Pizza Kits are back again! Mansfield Youth Services is teaming up with Pizza 101 in Pomfret again to deliver some fun to families with Make-Your-Own Pizza Kits!

Pizza kit pick up will be Thursday June 13, 2024 from 3pm-6pm at the Mansfield Senior Center (303 Maple Road, Storrs, CT 06268).

Sign-ups will open on May 28, 2024 on our [Mansfield Youth Services Eventbrite Page!](#)

**Youth Services has great programs planned for Mansfield Kids!** Please [visit our website](#) for all the details, and to apply to participate.



**MANSFIELD**  
YOUTH SERVICES

# 2024 Summer Programs



**MANSFIELD**  
ADVOCATES for CHILDREN

**Mansfield Mustangs**  
The Mansfield Mustangs are a youth-driven service learning group for Mansfield youth entering grades 5-9. Members will participate in community service projects in-and-around Mansfield with a focus on nature, animals, and supporting sustainability. Group meets on Mondays and Wednesdays and will be held as two sessions for summer 2024.

**Covenant Soup Kitchen**  
Mansfield youth entering grades 9-12 are invited to participate in some community service to help out the Covenant Soup Kitchen. Tasks will include assisting with deliveries, helping to prepare and serve lunch, and overall cleaning and organization of CSK. All volunteers will receive documentation of their hours. Group meets Thursdays.

**Teen Nights**  
New this summer! Open to Mansfield and EO Smith students entering 9th-12th grade. Events will happen on Thursday's starting July 11th-August 8th. Registration required.

**Early Childhood Nature Walks**  
Families are invited to join a short 30-45 minute trail walk. Trails will be fairly easy for littles to maneuver. Breaks will be taken as needed. Nature Walks will happen on Wednesdays, July 10th-31st!

**GOAL**  
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 a variety of community and character building activities to develop self-confidence, social connectedness, and resilient responses to new adventures and situations. GOAL meets on Tuesdays!

Questions? Contact Us at [ysb@mansfieldct.org](mailto:ysb@mansfieldct.org)  
or  
Check out the details and registration forms on our website:  
<https://www.mansfieldct.gov/2197/Youth-Services-Summer-Programs>

As always, there is no cost to families for Mansfield Youth Services summer programs.

Crafts,  
Pizza, Playtime,  
Movie Time &  
Freeze-pops!

## KID'S NIGHT OUT SUMMER KICKOFF!



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

**COME PLAY!**  
8PM PICK-UP  
PJ'S WELCOME

Friday, June 21, 2024, 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, 6/19  
[Register Starting June 6th!](#) Activity # 190095-A



MANSFIELD COMMUNITY CENTER 860.429.3015

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

Summer Fun at Bicentennial Pond Recreation Area!



Bicentennial Pond is a true hidden gem in Mansfield. The summer beach season will kick off on Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, providing lifeguarded swimming access and kayaking opportunities, all free to the public!

The pond was created for the 1976 U.S. Bicentennial. It is the site of recreational activities, including summer swimming, picnicking, fishing, universal access trail use, hiking, playground play and the Parks & Recreation-led "Camp Mansfield" summer day camp. The Pavilion spaces at BCP are for rent. The summer 2024 brochure features a photo from the BCP playground! Here are some details on how to access our wonderful pond.

**Kayak Use:** In season only, during designated times, MPRD has kayaks available on site for use at no charge for ages 8+ (waiver required; guardian signature required for minors). Knowledge of basic kayaking paddle strokes and rescue techniques, along with wearing a PFD is required. Areas outside the designated swim areas are not a primary area of supervision by lifeguards and you may not be visible at all times to lifeguards. Boaters are participating in kayak use at their own risk.

**MPRD Kayak Hours:** Monday-Friday, 3 p.m.-6:30 p.m., Saturdays & Sundays 12:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

**Fishing:** (Individuals age 16 and over need a valid CT Fishing License which can be obtained at your Town Clerk's office OR at [ct.gov/DEEP/sportsman/licensing](http://ct.gov/DEEP/sportsman/licensing)). Fishing access is available dawn to dusk. Some areas may be unavailable during Camp Mansfield operational hours.

**Pavilion Rentals:** Two pavilions are now available at BCP! One by the pond, one by the playground. Rentals are available on a seasonal basis, approximately April-October. \$20 for a 4 hour block of time for residents. Rental applications are available at [www.mansfieldcc.com](http://www.mansfieldcc.com) or in person at the Mansfield Community Center Reception Desk.

**Save the date for the FREE Family Fun Day at Bicentennial Pond!**  
**Day:** Saturday, August 10 from 3-5:30 p.m.

**2024 Beach Season**  
**Sat., June 22th -**  
**Sun., August 25th**

**Swim Hours:**  
**Monday-Friday,**  
**noon-7 p.m., Saturdays**  
**& Sundays, noon-6 p.m.**

**Lifeguards on Duty**

**BCP will be open Thurs.,**  
**July 4th from noon-6 p.m.**



*Free! Community Paint Days!*

**1 Day Workshops (Families-Adults)**  
 Put your own spin on a famous artwork in this beginner friendly class with step-by-step instructions. Each participant receives one canvas. An adult and child pair can work together.  
**Preregistration is required.**  
 Maximum of one registration per season, space is limited.

LOCATION: LENARD HALL    TIME: 5-7 P.M.    FEES: FREE



Sunflowers, 1888  
-Vincent van Gogh  
Date: Thurs., July 11  
Act. # 190053-A



Henri Matisse and  
the Cat with Red Fish  
Date: Thurs., Aug. 8  
Act. # 190053-B

COMMUNITY SCHOOL OF THE ARTS LENARD HALL  
 450 S EAGLEVILLE ROAD STORRS, CT 06268  
 860-429-3015 EXT. 6 WWW.MANSFIELDCC.COM/CSA      **Summer 2024**

**Make Music Day-Related Concerts & Activities Return to Lenard Hall**



Join us in the world-wide celebration of music! This year offers two free concerts, free violin and cello lessons, and a cello masterclass.

The first concert will be held Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m. *From Sea to Shining Sea*, features works from American composers, including UConn's own Kenneth Fuchs!

Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup> brings *Love, Loss, Exile*, a riveting program of music for soprano, cello, and piano, presenting poetry written anonymously by women in Afghanistan in order to tell their own personal stories without fear of retribution, and complemented by other cycles following aspects of that theme. Concert begins at 4 p.m. (See details on page 15.)

Educational opportunities arrive on June 17<sup>th</sup>! *Free one-time lessons* are available to those interested in cello and violin study. A *Cello Masterclass* follows for local cellists.

All Make-Music Day events are free and available to the public, but require pre-registration. Spaces are limited.



**FREE! MAKE MUSIC DAY EVENTS**

Join us in celebrating Make Music Day with the Community School of the Arts! Registration is required for each event, and space as well as parking are limited, so be sure to secure your spot soon.

**Registration Open Now!**

**Location: Lenard Hall**  
**Date: Mon., June 17**

**Cello and Violin Music Lessons**

The Arazzo Music Festival is collaborating with the Mansfield Community School of the Arts to offer free one time music lessons in cello and violin to local students. Space is limited, registration required. Register online using the activity number below or stop by the Community Center to sign up.

- Instructors:** Samuel DeCaprio, cellist; Kayla DeCaprio, violinist
- Time:** 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
- Fee:** FREE! Registration required. Space & parking are limited.
- Activity #:** 135001-A

**Cello Masterclass**

Cellist Samuel DeCaprio is collaborating with the Mansfield Community School of the Arts to conduct a free masterclass for local Connecticut cellists. Space is limited, registration required. Register online using the activity number below or stop by the Community Center to sign up.

- Instructor:** Samuel DeCaprio, cellist
- Time:** 1 p.m.- 3 p.m.
- Fee:** FREE! Registration required. Space & parking are limited.
- Activity #:** 135000-A

Community School of the Arts Lenard Hall  
450 S. Eagleville Rd.  
Storrs/Mansfield, CT 06268



[www.mansfieldct.gov/csa](http://www.mansfieldct.gov/csa)  
860-429-3015

**PICKLEBALL**  
**Instructor**  
**Wanted**

**\$23-\$24.40/hr**

WITH THE SOON TO BE COMPLETED ADDITION OF SIX OUTDOOR PICKLEBALL COURTS, WE ARE LOOKING EXPAND PICKLEBALL LESSONS!

**MANSFIELD**  
CONNECTICUT  
Parks & Recreation

[Apply Now! Click Here!](#)

Mansfield Community Center [www.Mansfieldcc.com](http://www.Mansfieldcc.com) 10 S Eagleville Road, Storrs, Mansfield CT, 06268  
860-429-3015 x 0

### Spring is the ideal time to Adopt a Road and Pick Up Litter!



Is there a particularly littered section of road in your neighborhood? Join residents or organizations who have committed to keep Mansfield clean by Adopting a Road.

Those who adopt a portion of a Mansfield road pick up litter at their convenience during the course of a year. By participating, you will not be subject to a charge at the Transfer Station for the litter. Bagged litter can be placed out with trash collection service. Contact the Public Works

Department at 860-429-3333 or go to [www.mansfieldct.gov/litter](http://www.mansfieldct.gov/litter).

### Parks and Rec is *Where You Belong!*



July is National Parks and Recreation Month! This year's Park and Recreation Month theme — "Where You Belong" — celebrates the many ways park and recreation programs and professionals across the country foster a sense of belonging in each community, by providing welcoming and inclusive programs, essential services for all ages and abilities, and safe, accessible spaces to build meaningful connections.

Mansfield's Parks and Recreation's professional team members are all members of local and national field-related professional organizations, and many hold specialized certifications requiring continuing education to stay up to date, engaged, and on top of trends. The department is proud to offer over 500 programs annually for all ages and abilities, and continues to offer a wide array of recreational opportunities this summer to help make your summer unforgettable.

**Creative and Artistic Opportunities:** The Community School of the Arts is a vibrant hub of creativity, offering a diverse array of art and theater camps, classes, private individual music lessons, **private individual art lessons** (new this summer!), free concert events, and free Make Music Day programs designed to inspire and engage individuals of all ages and skill levels.

**Fitness Classes:** Stay active and healthy this summer with our diverse range of fitness classes. From yoga to boot camps, there's a class for every interest and fitness level. As a bonus this summer, the Mansfield Community Center is offering select classes to members at no additional charge!

**Outdoor Recreation:** Get ready to explore the great outdoors with our lineup of hiking trips, kayaking adventures, and adventure camps. Whether you are a seasoned outdoor enthusiast or pushing to get outdoors more this summer, our guided outings will provide unforgettable experiences. Don't miss out on swimming, hiking, fishing, kayaking, grilling, and playground access at **Bicentennial Pond Recreation Area**, open for the season on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Access is free!

Check out the celebratory calendar for July, highlighting services and activities for every date in July. We would love for you to share your experiences by tagging @MansfieldCommunityCenter on Facebook or Instagram, or by emailing a photo or narrative to [parksandrec@mansfieldct.org](mailto:parksandrec@mansfieldct.org).

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

**JOIN US FOR**  
**FREE MANSFIELD DAYS**

FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2024  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 2024  
FRIDAY, JULY 5, 2024  
SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 2024

PROOF OF MANSFIELD RESIDENCY REQUIRED

MANSFIELD RESIDENTS RECEIVE 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.

**More Parks & Recreation Fun for You and Your Family**

**Check out these Special Events:**

- **John. E. Jackman Tour de Mansfield** on June 8<sup>th</sup> (rain date June 9<sup>th</sup>)
- **Free Concerts, Community Paint Days, and more at Lenard Hall**, Community School of the Arts (registration required). [Click here for CSA events.](#)
- **[Kid's Night Out Kickoff to Summer](#)**, Friday, June 21<sup>st</sup>. Registration closes June 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Join the **100 Mile Challenge** and log your pedestrian miles in Mansfield this summer. Watch for more info on the **Mansfield Kids Summer Bucket List**, coming to you by the last day of school!
- Stop by a **[Life-Sized Board Game](#)**, **[Family Fun](#)**, or **Family Play Day Event!** Admission rates apply.
- **[Drop-in Daily Socials and Drop-in Sports](#)** at the Community Center (daily admission rates may apply).
- **[Free Mansfield Days](#)** on June 19<sup>th</sup>, July 5<sup>th</sup>, and August 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Community Center



Stay up to date with special events at activities at [www.mansfieldcc.com](http://www.mansfieldcc.com)

Here's where you belong! Let's make this summer one to remember!

**MANSFIELD CONNECTICUT**  
Parks & Recreation

**MON.**  
7:18-7:29  
6:30-7:30PM

## KID OLYMPICS

OLYMPICS ARE COMING THIS SUMMER! DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS CHANCE TO ENGAGE IN SOME MODIFIED CLASSIC OLYMPIC GAMES! TRACK AND FIELD, CURLING, AND MORE!

LOCATION: CC GYM  
AGES: 7-8 YEARS OLD  
FEE: \$25 RESIDENT, \$35 NON-RESIDENT  
ACTIVITY #: 120052-A

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

## Thurs., July 4th BUS TRIP: JAMES TAYLOR AT TANGLEWOOD! LENNOX, MA

Beloved singer, songwriter James Taylor will make this a 4th of July to remember as you enjoy his music and the beautiful grounds known as Tanglewood! The Coach Bus departs from the Tolland Commuter Lot at exit #68 at 3:30 p.m. & returns a little after midnight. Concert begins at 8 p.m. Price: \$95 pp includes bus and lawn ticket. Fireworks are planned after the show. You may purchase food there or bring in food, coolers, wine, etc. (no cooking). **Register early, trip and concert are often a sell out.**

**Date:** Thurs., July 4  
**Departure Time:** 3:30 p.m.  
**Departs From:** Tolland Commuter Lot, Exit 68 off of I-84 (Near Dunkin Donuts)  
**Return Time:** Approx. midnight  
**Fee:** \$95 (fee includes bus transportation & lawn ticket)  
**Activity #:** 180001-A

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

**Are You Interested in Learning about Mansfield Local Government ?**



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 Mansfield Local Government Academy is a multi-session program intended to help residents understand more about their Town. The Town Manager’s Office is asking those who are interested in attending to reach out with their contact information.

Town Manager Ryan 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 to provide the challenges and opportunities they face each day. Throughout the sessions you will learn about the Fire and Police Departments, the Public Libraries, the Town’s IT Operations, Parks & Recreation, the role of citizen committees, and much more! More than 50 fellow citizens have completed the course, and many are now serving in volunteer committee and elected positions.

If there is sufficient interest to launch another session in the fall, 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. To express your interest, please email [TownMgr@mansfieldct.org](mailto:TownMgr@mansfieldct.org) or call 860.429.3373.

**Juneteenth: June 19, 1865 Independence Day**



Juneteenth is a state holiday which Connecticut now celebrates in commemoration of the end of chattel slavery in the United States. The Town Council approved this year’s Proclamation in late May. The history of this holiday is important for all of us to understand.

On June 19, 1865, Union troops entered Galveston Bay, Texas, and announced to the 250,000 enslaved residents that they had been liberated by the Emancipation Proclamation. Although it was two and a half years since President Abraham Lincoln had decreed freedom for all enslaved people held in the South, this date when the news finally reached the western-most state in the Confederacy became known as “Juneteenth” and has been celebrated by the African American community as a “second independence day” ever since.

The date is symbolic, coming between the official enactment of the Emancipation Proclamation and the ratification of the Thirteenth Amendment of the Constitution, which outlawed slavery nationally, on December 6, 1865. Even so, Juneteenth, also known as Emancipation Day, Juneteenth Independence Day, or Black Independence Day, has come to represent the triumph of the African American community over the crime of slavery and the long, ongoing struggle for real freedom in the United States.

Community-based celebrations of Juneteenth began as early as 1866, when free black communities marked the day with cookouts, speeches, music, parades and prayers. Statewide governmental recognition only came beginning in 1980, when Texas adopted the holiday. Since then, most states have observed the holiday in some form.

In Mansfield we have a Witness Stone in front of the Library, originally placed by middle school students in 2022. The stone honors Titus, an enslaved person who lived in Mansfield and fought in the Revolution, and this year students added Witness Stones to his parents Pegg and Tobijah. ([Read more about the students’ project here.](#)) We continue to celebrate Juneteenth in recognition of the end of the degrading and painful institution of chattel slavery as part of our continuing pursuit of justice and equity.

Sources: <https://nmaahc.si.edu/blog-post/historical-legacy-juneteenth>  
<https://fas.org/sqp/crs/misc/R44865.pdf>

*What is your experience with human rights in Mansfield? Mansfield Human Rights Commission has just begun our work and we welcome anyone who wants to be involved with us to look at [our page on the Town website](#). We have placed suggestion boxes in several public buildings for anyone who wants to let us know something about a human rights concern in town. You can [send us a message](#)— or just scan this QR Code.*



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

Image by <a href="https://www.freepik.com/free-vector/flat-illustration-juneteenth-celebration\_41688383.htm#query=juneteenth&position=15&from\_view=keyword&track=sph&uuiid=d6499650-ad32-4356-a1b6-ae69e677264">Freepik</a>

## Mansfield Library: Summer Reading Fun for All! And Events, Too!



### Summer Reading at the Library! Saturday, June 22- Saturday, August 17

Visit the Mansfield Public Library all summer long for FREE family fun, sweet treats, and cool prizes! All families are invited to dozens of free programs, including weekly storytimes, science experiments, visiting animals, magicians, bubbles & more. Kids and teens can easily sign up for our Summer Reading Challenge to earn awesome prizes while keeping their reading streaks going all summer long!

Don't worry, adults, there is plenty of fun for you, too! Complete a series of reading challenges to be entered to win a grand prize.

### Summer Reading Kickoff for Kids, Teens, and Adults!

**Saturday, June 22 from 11:00AM- 2:00PM on the MPL Lawn (Rain Location: MPL's Buchanan Auditorium)**

Bring your own picnic and have lunch on the library lawn while enjoying games and activities, and listening to music by the Hosmer Mountain Boys. Register for Summer Reading and get a free book courtesy of the Friends of the Mansfield Library!

### And Here's the Lineup of Special Summer Events at Mansfield Public Library

#### Summer Children's Programs:

Summer Picnic with the Hosmer Mountain Boys  
Saturday, June 22 from 11AM-2PM

Donkey Show  
Saturday, June 29 at 11AM

Family Movie Night: Wall-E  
Tuesday, July 2 at 6PM

EcoMagic! With Mike Bent  
Wednesday, July 17 at 2:30PM

Submarine Serenade with Michelle Urban  
Friday, July 19 at 10:30AM

Living Dragons with Riverside Reptiles  
Tuesday, July 23 at 4PM

Mr. Magic's Magic Show  
Monday 7/29 at 11:30AM

BubbleMania with Casey Carle  
Wednesday 7/31 at 3PM

Family Movie Night: Moana  
Tuesday, August 6 at 6PM

Science Heroes' "Adventure of the Lost Treasure"  
Saturday, August 10 at 3PM

Ice Cream Social Party  
Saturday, August 17 from 11AM-1PM

The Library also offers weekly programs and storytimes! Join us for:

Stories on the Lawn  
Tuesdays at 10:30 \*Outdoors when possible\*

Summer Science Fun  
Thursdays from 3-5PM (Drop-in!) \*Outdoors when possible\*

Music & Movement  
Fridays at 10:30AM

**A Visit to Deckawoo Drive with Mercy Watson and Kate DiCamillo (PreK-2nd Grade) *Newbery Medal Winner for The Tale of Despereaux and New York Times bestselling author of over 30 books for children*** Tuesday, July 9th at 2:00 PM, **Virtual** Join us for a visit to Deckawoo Drive with everyone's favorite adventure loving pig, Mercy Watson! Newbery Medal winning author Kate DiCamillo will be sharing the stories behind the creation of her early chapter book series, the original *Mercy Watson*, and the follow up series, *Tales from Deckawoo Drive*. We will also be celebrating the publication of the final book in the *Mercy Watson* series!

Register for the link by clicking on this event on the Mansfield Public Library website calendar: <https://mansfieldpubliclibraryct.org/>

(Continued)



## Mansfield Library is the Spot for Special Teen Nights All Summer



Summer Teen Nights run every Thursday starting June 27th through August 15th! Any Middle School or High School student can join for fun with friends, cool activities, and free pizza.

Teen Night programs are open only to middle school and high school students! As always, all library programs are FREE and no registration is necessary.\*

Thursdays at 6PM, stop by :

- June 27: Ice Cream Sundae Bar
- July 11: Farm Friends Petting Zoo with Xen's Critters
- July 18: Tiny Art Show feat. Recycled Art
- July 25: Game Night: Board Game Night + Minute-to-Win It Games
- August 1: DIY Tie Dye
- August 8: Movie Night with Popcorn
- August 15: Video Game Night & Crafts with Matthew Yanarella

**Learning the Power of Poetry with Bestselling Author Elizabeth Acevedo (9th-12th) *National Book Award Winner and New York Times Bestselling Author of The Poet X and Clap When you Land*, Tuesday, July 23rd at 2:00 PM, Virtual**  
You're invited to learn about the power of poetry with Elizabeth Acevedo! In this exciting author conversation and Q&A, Acevedo will provide a short reading from her National Book Award winning and *New York Times* bestselling novel-in-verse, *The Poet X* serving as the backdrop to this amazing chat!

Register for the link by clicking on this event on the Mansfield Public Library website calendar: <https://mansfieldpubliclibraryct.org/>

**Graphic Novels are Life! Telling Your Own Story in a Graphic Novel with Dan Santat (5th-8th Grade) *Caldecott Medal Winner, National Book Award Winner, and New York Times Bestselling Author and Illustrator of Over 100 Books* Tuesday, July 30th at 2:00 PM, Virtual**

Join this year's winner of the National Book Award for Young People's Literature, Dan Santat, as he inspires tweens and teens to tell their own stories through graphic novels. His winning book, *A First Time for Everything*, is a graphic memoir based on his own awkward middle school years and the trip to Europe that changed his life.

Register for the link by clicking on this event on the Mansfield Public Library website calendar: <https://mansfieldpubliclibraryct.org/>

## Adult Programs at Mansfield Library for June and July

**Meditation Workshops, Virtual via Zoom  
Tuesdays, June 4, July 2 and August 6 at 6:00PM**

Learn about many of the benefits of meditation and practice some meditation techniques for overall wellness. Registration Required. Register for the Zoom links via the library events calendar.

**Patriotic Pizza Pan Wreath Craft  
Tuesday, June 11 at 6:00PM in MPL's Buchanan Auditorium**

Join us for a fun night of crafting! We will use pizza pans and adorn them with patriotic fabric, beads, and bows to create a wreath for your front door this summer! Space is limited and registration is required beginning 6/5/24. One registrant per phone call; adults only please.

**Psychological Thrillers and the Queen of Twists— An Author Talk with Freida McFadden. *New York Times* Bestselling Author of *The Housemaid*, *The Housemaid's Secret* and *The Housemaid Is Watching*, Thursday, June 13th at 8:00 PM, Virtual**

Get your popcorn and take a seat as we pick the brain of the queen of twists herself, Freida McFadden! McFadden will join us to chat about writing psychological thrillers, her mega-bestselling hit *The Housemaid* series, in particular her forthcoming (June 11, 2024) third installment, *The Housemaid Is Watching*.

Register for the link by clicking on this event on the Mansfield Public Library website calendar: <https://mansfieldpubliclibraryct.org/>

**Unpacking a History of Systemic Racism in the American Education System with Tiffany Jewell, *New York Times* Bestselling Author of *This Book is Anti-Racist* and *Everything I Learned About Racism I Learned in School* Thursday, June 20th at 2:00 PM, Virtual**

Join us as #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Tiffany Jewell highlights the inequities Black and Brown students face from preschool through college as she presents lessons and knowledge from her new book *Everything I Learned About Racism I Learned in School*.  
(Continued)



### ***(More Adult Programming at Mansfield Public Library)***



Register for the link by clicking on this event on the Mansfield Public Library website calendar:

<https://mansfieldpubliclibraryct.org/>

#### **Summer Reading Kickoff for Kids, Teens, and Adults! Saturday, June 22 from 11:00AM- 2:00PM on the MPL Lawn (Rain Location: MPL's Buchanan Auditorium)**

Bring your own picnic and have lunch on the library lawn while enjoying games and activities, and listening to music by the Hosmer Mountain Boys. Register for Summer Reading and get a free book courtesy of the Friends of the Mansfield Library!

#### **Karaoke & Mocktails**

**Tuesday, June 25 at 6:00PM in MPL's Buchanan Auditorium**

Sing along to your favorite songs and sip some non-alcoholic fruity mocktails!

#### **A Perky Pairing: Coffee & Fine Chocolates**

**Tuesday, July 9 at 6:00PM in MPL's Buchanan Auditorium**

In this fun, educational workshop presented by Kim Larkin of Klassic Kreation, participants will hear about the health benefits of both dark chocolate and coffee, and where they come from. We will pair decaf coffee provided with different chocolate varieties throughout the class. Each person will receive a coffee-chocolate tasting wheel to help throughout the tasting.

Space is limited, so registration is required starting 6/24/24. One registrant per phone call. Please note that all chocolates come from a licensed facility that also uses tree nuts.

#### **Adults 18+ Only Game Night**

**Tuesdays, June 18, July 16, and August 20 from 5:00PM- 8:00PM in MPL's Buchanan Auditorium**

Join us at the Mansfield Public Library for our monthly Game Nights for adults 18+! Drop in to the auditorium for Magic the Gathering casual commander play or try one of our specially selected board games!

All experience levels welcome. No registration required.

#### **The Buzz on Beekeeping: A Beginner's Guide**

**Tuesday, July 23 at 6:00PM in MPL's Buchanan Auditorium**

Join us for an immersive and hands-on experience in sustainable, organic beekeeping! Our expert instructor, Mark Gostkiewicz of Tri Gable Lea Farm, will guide you through the basics of keeping bees.



#### **A Funny Program About Funny Programs: The Greatest Sitcoms of All Time**

**Tuesday, July 30 at 6:00PM in MPL's Buchanan Auditorium**

Award-winning author and pop culture historian Martin Gitlin hosts this fun and enlightening presentation based on his book, The Greatest Sitcoms of All Time. He is the only author to actually rank the best of the best, including I Love Lucy, The Honeymooners, The Andy Griffith Show, Get Smart, All in the Family, The Mary Tyler Moore Show, M\*A\*S\*H, Cheers, The Golden Girls, Seinfeld, Frasier, Everybody Loves Raymond and The Big Bang Theory. He will show funny snippets from those shows and others, challenge patrons with sitcom trivia (including identifying cool theme songs!), discuss the criteria he used to rank 70 years of sitcoms and talk about how they have evolved over the decades in humor, presentation and content. This program is really entertaining so join in on the fun!

#### **Harvesting Hacks**

**Wednesday, July 31 at 10:00AM in MPL's Buchanan Auditorium**

Join local farmer Kelly Caisse from KDCROP FARMS as she guides you into making the most from your backyard garden harvest! Enjoy a tasty treat and learn about harvesting/storing techniques, recipe hacks, and more!



### **Taste of Mansfield Draws Shooks Apiary Honey Basket Winner**



Congratulations to Mansfield's Sue Harrington who was the winner of the Shooks Apiary Honey Product Basket from the Taste of Mansfield. Visitors to the recent Earth Day event at Mansfield Community Center and the Summer Stroll on Paterson Square entered to win this collection of honey, beeswax candles, and lip balms.

Sue was presented her basket by Michael Stankov, Planning and Development Department, who oversees Agricultural programs of the Town.

### Mansfield Town Clerks: Documenting Milestones of the Community



The 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Professional Municipal Clerks Week was May 5-11, 2024 and we would like to take this opportunity to highlight the Mansfield Office of the Town Clerk.

Among the most burning questions the Clerks in the Town of Mansfield are faced with is: "What is it exactly that you do?" Many folks have a generalized understanding that the Town Clerk oversees the Town Records, which include, but are not limited to Land Records, Vital Records, Military Service Records, Burial Records and Dog Licenses.

The role of a Town Clerk can be traced back to ancient Greece, in which city secretaries would read documents publically. At the opening of a city meeting, one of their first duties was to decree a curse upon anyone who should seek to deceive the people.

The Clerks have left curses staunchly in the past, though. In more modern history, the role of the American municipal clerk would be shaped during the inception of our country hundreds of years ago. Many of the records that Clerks keep currently were kept during the 1700s at our country's origin. The scope and purview of the Town Clerk has grown and shifted with the times, but there are many key service areas that remain relatively unchanged.

In truth, over 500 Connecticut State Statutes dictate the role and purview of the Office of the Town Clerk. In addition to the records above, the Town Clerk is the Administrator of the Absentee Ballot Program and the Clerk for the governing legislative body of the town: the Town Council.

The Town Clerk is present for many milestone life events. When you have a child, the Clerk registers their birth certificate. When you get married, the Town Clerk issues your Marriage License. When you buy a house, the conveyance is recorded with the clerk in the Land Records. When a beloved family member passes away, the Clerk is from whom you obtain Death Certificates.

Quietly and fairly, the role of the Town Clerk is to remain an impartial office of professionals dedicated to keeping the Town's records. The Town of Mansfield's Town Clerk's Office uses the guided principles of four Core Values: Records Accessibility, Records Preservation, Outstanding Customer Service and Knowledge. Using these Core Values, the Town Clerk's Office is always innovating new resources and methodologies to help customers access the information they seek.



The Town of Mansfield's Town Clerk is Sara-Ann Chaine (shown above with the Mansfield Local Government Academy members.) Assistant Clerks are Monica Ferrara and Stephanie Huber. All three Clerks are Certified Connecticut Town Clerks through the Connecticut Town Clerks Association. Certification requires two years of continuous studies and a passing final exam grade.

### Keep Up on the Latest Development Activity on the Town's Website



Planning and Development Department staff continues to update the [Development Activity portion](#) of the Planning and Development website with information on pending applications.

To keep up on the latest decisions or proposals, this "story map" provides you all the details!



### 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	Kathleen Paterson, Acting 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	Bill Trietch, Acting 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	John Roache, Fire Chief	860-429-3323 firedept@mansfieldct.org  <b>EMERGENCY: 911</b>
Housing Authority	Rebecca Fields, Housing Authority Executive Director	860-487-0693 rfields@mansfieldhousingct.org
Shared Services	Maria Capriola, Chief of Shared Services	860-429-3380 HR@MansfieldCT.org
Human Services	Jessica St. Louis 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	Devon Andrews, 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	Jessica Tracy, Senior Center Supervisor	860-429-0262 TracyJA@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