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Mayor Toni Moran, Town Manager Ryan Aylesworth, and Chief of Shared Services and Administration Maria Capriola honored Town employees in December who achieved service milestones, including Virginal Walton who marked 35 years with the Town. (See story on page 21)

### Message from the Town Manager

### Advancing Initiatives. Setting Priorities in the New Year.

Greetings Fellow Residents!

As winter has been making its presence known during the start of the New Year, the Town of Mansfield has been actively advancing a wide range of initiatives and priorities across our municipal organization.

**Budget Planning Begins.** Beginning in late 2025, the municipal management has been engaged in the preparation of the FY 2026/27 operating budget and capital improvement program. This early stage of the process will conclude with the development of my formal budget and capital project recommendations, which I will first present to the Town Council on March 23, followed by a series of budget workshops scheduled throughout the month of April.

(Continued)



### Please Take the Senior Center Service Survey!

The Senior Center is currently conducting a service survey and is looking to hear from residents age 55+, whether they are currently members of the center or not. Share your interests for programs, trips and other services. Surveys are available [online here](#), scan the QR code at left, or in paper copy at the Senior Center.



2 Towns, 2 Weeks, 28 Restaurants to Discover at [taste2towns.com](http://taste2towns.com)

## Message from the Town Manager (cont.)

Consistent with prior budget cycles, the FY 2026/27 budget is focused on maintaining the strong level of municipal programs, services, and capital investments residents expect, while also emphasizing fiscal discipline. This includes identifying operational efficiencies, maximizing available state and other non-local funding sources, and limiting – or, where possible, avoiding – any increase to the property tax rate. At the core of this effort is a continued commitment to keeping Mansfield an inclusive, accessible, and affordable community for residents across the economic spectrum. Additional details regarding this year’s budget process are provided later in this newsletter on page 4.

### **Affirming Mansfield’s Policy on Undocumented Residents.**

We recognize that recent national developments and public discourse around immigration have created real uncertainty and anxiety for many families in our community. In response, the Town of Mansfield and Mansfield Public Schools want to clearly reaffirm the policies and practices that guide how we serve residents locally, with an emphasis on safety, dignity, and access to essential services.

Mansfield’s long-standing [policy resolution](#), adopted by the Town Council in 2017, affirms that all individuals are welcome to access Town services without fear of being questioned about immigration status or denied services on that basis. Consistent with state and federal law, Town staff and school personnel do not ask for, collect, or share information about a student’s or family’s immigration status. Families are encouraged to review the resources available on the [Mansfield Public Schools website](#), including guidance developed at the state level, to better understand their rights and to plan ahead in ways that feel appropriate for their circumstances.

**Municipal Services Campus Master Plan.** Work continues on the Town’s Municipal Services Campus Master Plan in partnership with EDM Studios. This effort is supported by a \$250,000 Community Investment Fund (CIF) grant from the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, which is helping fund enhanced architectural and design services as well as robust community engagement. The planning process is exploring long-term options for improving and potentially redeveloping the existing campus, including the possible integration of additional community functions such as senior services and the public library.

Over the past several months, the project team has worked closely with Town administration and department leaders to assess current building conditions, operational needs, and future space requirements. The project is now transitioning into a more focused schematic and conceptual design phase, along with broader community engagement intended to collect input from residents and other stakeholders about their long-term desires and preferences. A project update will be provided to the Town Council at its February 9 meeting, and this next phase of work will help inform preliminary project scopes, cost estimates, and tax impact analyses in advance of a potential bond referendum in November 2026.

### **Taste 2 Towns: Mansfield-Windham Restaurant Week.**

The Town of Mansfield, the Town of Windham, the Mansfield Downtown Partnership, and the Windham Downtown Neighborhood Association proudly kicked off Taste 2 Towns 2026 last week (Monday, January 26) and it will continue through Sunday, February 8. Now in its fifth year and featuring a record-breaking 28 participating restaurants, this popular regional event continues to showcase the diversity, creativity, and entrepreneurial spirit of our local dining community. Taste-2-Towns offers residents and visitors a unique opportunity to explore new restaurants, enjoy special menu offerings and deals, and support locally owned businesses during the winter season. The continued growth of this event reflects the strength of our partnerships and the important role local restaurants play in the economic vitality of both communities. Visit [www.Taste2Towns.com](http://www.Taste2Towns.com) to view participating restaurants, sponsors, and featured deals.

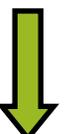


***...it shall be the policy of the Town of Mansfield that all people are free and welcome to use public services, including police, fire and EMS, without fear that they will be questioned about their immigration status or that services will be denied because of that status.***

Town of Mansfield Policy Regarding Undocumented Immigrants Approved by Council on February 14, 2017



**Mayor Tom DeVivo of Windham and Mayor Toni Moran of Mansfield dined at two Windham and two Mansfield restaurants during Taste 2 Towns this year. Here they enjoy Italian specialties at Mansfield’s Stix ‘n Stones Restaurant.**



*Message from the Town Manager (cont.)*

**Mansfield Tomorrow Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD).** Over the past 18 months, the Town of Mansfield has been engaged in a comprehensive update of the Mansfield Tomorrow: Plan of Conservation and Development, working closely with the consulting firm IMEG (formerly FHI). This important effort has been guided by an ad hoc working group made up of members of the Planning and Zoning Commission and Town Council, with ongoing support from Town staff.



Early in the process, residents and stakeholders played a meaningful role through a robust community engagement initiative that helped shape the plan's priorities and long-term vision. As the plan nears completion, the Town looks forward to sharing the updated Mansfield Tomorrow with the community in the very near future and continuing the conversation about Mansfield's future growth, preservation, and quality of life.



When a new Town Council is elected, it sets its goals. The Council is expected to discuss and vote on goals at the February 9 Town Council meeting.

**Town Council Goal-Setting for 2025-2027 Term.** Following the seating of the new Town Council after the November municipal elections, the Council began deliberating on its goals for the 2025–2027 term (Fiscal Years 2026/27 through 2027/28) during its December 8 meeting. In preparation, Council members reviewed a high level summary of the draft *Mansfield Tomorrow: Plan of Conservation and Development*, along with the Council's goals from the prior term. Based on the thoughtful and wide-ranging discussion at that meeting, Town staff drafted a proposed set of goals for Council consideration, which also helped inform the budget development guidance issued to municipal departments for the FY 2026/27 budget.

The draft goals were presented to the Council at its January 12 meeting, where members agreed by consensus to defer final action until February 9, 2026, allowing additional time for review and refinement. Once adopted, the Council's goals will be incorporated into the FY 2026/27 budget document and included in the Council Policy Index on the Town's website.

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!

Very respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Ryan J. Aylesworth'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Ryan J. Aylesworth

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

- Go to the page on the town's website to [Sign Up for Notifications](#)
- Enter your email 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!

## A Thoughtful, Responsible Budget for Mansfield's Future: Planning for FY 2026/27

As the Town of Mansfield begins development of the FY 2026/27 operating budget and capital improvement plan, Town leadership is focused on balancing fiscal responsibility with continued investment in the services, infrastructure, and facilities that make Mansfield a strong and welcoming community.



With the completion of The Standard at Four Corners in August, these residences are now at their full taxable value providing a meaningful addition to Mansfield's Grand List.

Over the past several years, Mansfield has benefitted from favorable financial conditions, including higher-than-anticipated state aid, strong permitting activity, and increased interest earnings. These resources have allowed the Town to make strategic one-time investments, strengthen emergency services and public works, and address long-deferred infrastructure needs—all while maintaining a relatively stable tax rate. While the Town's financial foundation remains solid, the FY 2026/27 budget will reflect a more cautious and disciplined approach as recent "windfall" revenues begin to level off.

A key factor shaping this budget cycle is the completion of the Town-wide property revaluation in 2024, which significantly expanded Mansfield's tax base and resulted in a lower mill rate. Going forward, revenue growth will depend less on revaluation effects and more on measured new development and modest appreciation. Notably, the full taxable value of The Standard at Four Corners will be

realized in FY 2026/27, providing a meaningful addition to the Grand List, while other major developments will contribute more gradually in future years.

Uncertainty at the state and national level also informs this year's planning. While Mansfield continues to benefit from enhanced state funding for education and municipal services, inflationary pressures and revenue volatility reinforce the importance of conservative forecasting and long-term financial planning. On the expenditure side, rising health insurance costs, workforce pressures, and significant capital needs—particularly for roads, municipal buildings, and school facilities—remain key drivers that must be addressed thoughtfully and sustainably.



(Above) Mansfield's Animal Control Shelter must be updated by January 2029 to meet State standards.

(Below) Additionally, the Town is making plans to also upgrade the bath house at Bicentennial Pond.

At the same time, the FY 2026/27 budget is being developed in alignment with the priorities of the newly seated Town Council and the community's long-term planning goals. These priorities include maintaining high-quality core services, advancing municipal facilities planning, improving pedestrian safety and infrastructure, expanding housing options, enhancing customer service, and ensuring Mansfield remains affordable for residents of all ages and income levels. Taken together, these considerations point toward a budget that emphasizes stability, efficiency, and alignment with community values—while continuing to plan responsibly for Mansfield's future.

The Town's budget is guided by the goals established by the Town Council and the shared values of our community. Public participation plays an important role in shaping decisions that reflect those priorities and ensure that Mansfield continues to evolve in a way that is thoughtful, inclusive, and true to its character.

More information about the FY 2026/27 budget process, including opportunities for public engagement, will be updated on the [Budget and Financials page](#) of the Town website.



Community involvement is a vital part of Mansfield's budget process, and residents are strongly encouraged to take part.

Throughout the month of April, the Town Council will hold a series of budget workshops that are open to the public, providing meaningful opportunities to learn more about the proposed budget and offer input on municipal services, infrastructure investments, community initiatives, and other priorities that will influence Mansfield's future.



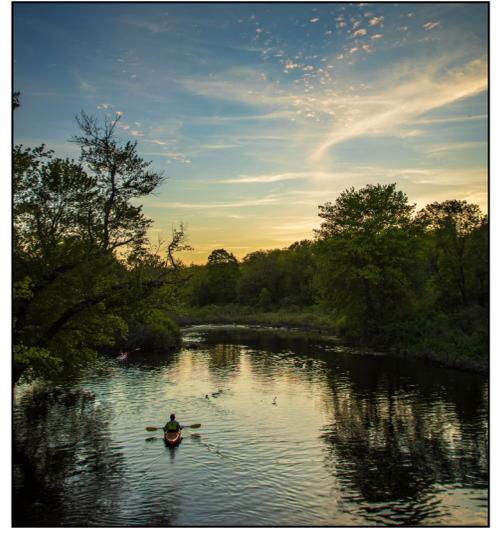
## What's your favorite part of Mansfield's Open Space? Please tell us!

Mansfield is embarking on an ecological inventory of our forest lands and open spaces as part of the Urban and Community Forestry Grant received from DEEP in 2025.

We want to hear from you about what you value in our parks, and any concerns you have about our forests and natural preserves. Take our quick five-minute survey to guide the town's work to reflect what you value!

Click here: <https://mansfieldct.jotform.com/260196328372056>

Or scan this QR code:



## Big News Mansfield! The Fee Waiver Program Has Expanded Eligibility!

**The Town's Fee Waiver Program helps residents participate, connect, and thrive by offering 25%, 50%, or 75% reductions on select services based on HUD income guidelines and at least six months of residency. Reduced fees open the door for more households to access town services, recreation, community programs. Learn more online.**

Learn more by visiting our webpage:

[Fee Waiver website](#)

OR

Scan the QR code below



Eligibility Requirements:  
Must be a Mansfield resident  
Must meet income guidelines  
Must complete application



## Mansfield's Fire and Emergency Services Gains Capacity and Honors Service

The community is invited to join Mansfield Fire and Emergency Services and Town leaders in celebrating the promotion of Captain Rick Landry on Thursday, February 5.

The ceremony will be held at the Mansfield Middle School Auditorium starting at 6:00 PM.

The department is also hosting a Swearing-In Ceremony for eight firefighters. Last July Mansfield applied for a funding application for the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant program, which is administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), to hire four additional full-time Firefighter/EMTs.

Mansfield received this grant funding, and in combination with budgeted staff increases, has hired seven new firefighters total to strengthen staffing on every shift.

Five of those firefighters are attending Fire Training School for several weeks, and will be ready for service in early summer.



*Mansfield Fire and Emergency Cordially Invites You to the Promotional Ceremony for*

**Captain Rick Landry**

*and the Swearing-In Ceremony for*

**Kevin Ecsedy  
Casey Berryman  
Nathaniel Foulk**

**Andrew Hart  
Hannah Lee  
Paul Penezic**

**Damien Tyler  
Daniel Murphy**

*Officially Recognizing the Commencement of Their Service as Mansfield Firefighters*



**Thursday, February 5, 2026  
6:00pm**

Mansfield Middle School Auditorium  
205 Spring Hill Road

*Light refreshments will be served*



## Tech. Savvy

### Device Back-up and Storage



LOADING ...



**Friday, February 20  
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM  
Mansfield Public Library**

Join our digital navigator to learn back-up and storage strategies. No registration needed, all experience levels welcome



**NEWS & UPDATES**

## Mansfield’s Support of E.O. Smith Cafeteria Recycling Efforts Gets Results

Over the past few years, E. O. Smith High School has made incremental changes in its food service practices to reduce waste. With school year 2023/24, the high school, along with Mansfield Middle and Elementary Schools, began donating its unserved leftovers to the Covenant Soup Kitchen. In 2024/25, the school began composting its kitchen prep food scraps.

In spring 2025, E. O. Smith participated in a Sustainable CT community match fundraiser to purchase carts and bins needed to begin lunchtime composting and replace disposable food service ware with washable trays, cups and utensils. The community showed their support by meeting the fundraising goal, which was matched by Sustainable CT. With the start of school year 2025/26, E. O. Smith is composting and washing dishes. The data below reveals some of the value of these new practices.



- On average, EO Smith has separated about 31% of its discards for recycling (data taken from school years 2017/18 through 2024/25 trash and recycle truck weight tickets).
- With the start of 2025/26 school year (when the use of washable trays and silverware and lunchtime composting began) EO Smith thus far has separated 40% of its discards for either recycling or composting.
- The average amount of food scraps from lunches is 43 pounds per day. That translates into 7,740 pounds (3.87 tons) per year that no longer goes into the trash.
- The cost to dispose trash is \$126.53/ton. The School’s trash disposal savings just from composting will be around \$490 this year.
- Replacing disposable plates and plastic cutlery with the one-time purchase of washable items further reduces EO Smith’s trash.
- Washable trays and silverware should save the school \$16,901 in disposable food service ware purchases per year (taken from food service Return on Investment Project for EO Smith High School).
- Using reusable compartment trays can significantly lower greenhouse gas emissions when compared to disposable items.
- E. O. Smith donates around 18 pounds of delicious, nutritious leftovers per day to the Soup Kitchen. About 3,240 pounds of leftovers per year are helping to feed hungry people in the community instead of going in the trash or compost pile.

This initiative is a great example of Mansfield’s Gold-Certification in action!

## The Gameday Shuttle Continues Through UConn’s Basketball Season

# GAMEDAY SHUTTLE

## Hop on, Huskies Fans!

**Get to the game the easy way:  
Skip the campus traffic & hop on the free Gameday Shuttle!**

- Starts 1 hour before the game
- Runs on a continuous loop, takes about 10 minutes
- Picks up in Downtown Storrs
- Drops off on-campus, close to Gampel Pavilion
- Return loop continues for about 1 hour after the game

**Learn more at [downtownstorrs.org/gameday](https://downtownstorrs.org/gameday)**

Brought to you by  
**MANSFIELD DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP, INC.**  
with support from:

The Mansfield Downtown Partnership is offering free shuttles this basketball season for home games at Gampel Pavilion with the support of its “Champ” Sponsors: Gansett Wraps; Huskies Restaurant & Bar; LAZ Parking; and Nikki’s Dog House.

Fans are invited to park in the Downtown Storrs Parking Garage and hop on the shuttle across the street from the Nash-Zimmer Transportation Center. The shuttle will start approximately 60 minutes prior to tip-off and continue through the game until approximately 60 minutes after the final buzzer.

Fans can choose from over twenty restaurants in Downtown Storrs to grab a bite to eat before or after the games. To see a full directory of dining options, please visit [downtownstorrs.org/dine](https://downtownstorrs.org/dine). Parking in the Downtown Storrs Parking Garage (33 Royce Circle) is free for the first two hours and just \$1/hour thereafter during daytime hours (6AM – midnight). The Nash-Zimmer Transportation Center (23 Royce Circle) adjoins the garage.

## Old Town Hall Renovations Complete—Historical Society Aims to Reopen in Summer

After extensive renovation to improve the systems and stability of the Old Mansfield Town Hall buildings on Spring Hill, the project is nearly complete. Groundbreaking on the project took place last January 2025, and contractors along with the Mansfield Facilities Department and Public Works are buttoning up the project.

The 1842 Old Town Hall and the 1935 Town Office Building (954 Storrs Road) on Spring Hill are leased by the Town to the Mansfield Historical Society. In March of 2022, State Representative Gregg Haddad and State Senator Mae Flexer announced to the Town and the Mansfield Historical Society Board that the State included \$834,000 in bond funds to finance major restoration to the historic buildings, based on preliminary estimates for completing priority work as identified in a conditions assessment performed in 2017. The Mansfield Town Council committed additional funding of \$1.004 million toward the project over and above the State funding.

Chief among the repairs addressed were longstanding drainage issues which contributed to water damage posing a risk to the integrity of both buildings as well as the collections housed within.

Renovations addressed critical structural components as well as improvements to both building's ADA accessibility. Building insulation was upgraded to reduce future energy costs and the cupola of the stone office building was completely rebuilt back to its former glory. Sarazin Construction was the general contractor, with many local subcontractors supporting their effort to complete the project.

In a recent announcement the Mansfield Historical Society shared, "The renovation work on both buildings was completed in December, and we could not be happier with the result. Many thanks to the Town of Mansfield for prioritizing the future of these two architectural gems, which have been home to so much of our community's history. We are excited to get all the pieces back together and get ready for a grand reopening this summer. Thank you also to Sarazin Contracting, all the talented subcontractors, and the project manager Mark Kiefer for a job well done."

The work of bringing the valuable collections out of storage and back to the buildings will take place in phases. In the 250th anniversary year of the Declaration of Independence, the Historical Society is eager to feature Mansfield's history. Priority will be placed on setting up the museum and collections that will be included in new exhibits. One exhibit will feature Mansfield during the 18th century and the Town's involvement in the Revolutionary War. This exhibit will include period artifacts, including products made by local craftsman, according to the [Mansfield Historical Society](#) newsletter.

The Connecticut State Library and the Archives & Special Collections at UConn donated surplus shelving units to the museum which will be helpful in storing and exhibiting items. Volunteers are invited to participate in the long-term plan to return collections to the renovated spaces throughout the summer and fall. Please contact the Mansfield Historical Society if you and your family or organization are able to assist: (860) 429-6575

For photos of the renovation process, [visit their website](#)



The exteriors of the newly renovated 1842 Old Town Hall and 1935 Town Office Building on Spring Hill. The Mansfield Historical Society will be moving back in to the buildings, and plans to stage exhibits and a reopening for early summer.

*(Photo courtesy of Mansfield Historical Society)*

## Mansfield Human Services Adds Satellite Food Pantry at Public Library

When the Mansfield Public Library shut down for its annual winter cleaning and refresh, it reopened with a new feature: a food pantry station. In partnership with the Town of Mansfield's Human Services Department, which operates a larger pantry at its location on Maple Road, the library now welcomes families and individuals to pick up necessities they might need while also visiting the library.

Mansfield Public Library is located in a different part of the community and near the Mansfield Elementary School, so providing an additional pickup spot for shelf-stable food provides a convenient service for residents.

"Libraries have a rich history of meeting the needs of their communities beyond just offering books," says Library Director Devon Andrews. "Our library visitors have long been able to borrow cake pans, power tools, and toys as well as books, movies, and music. Serving as a satellite food pantry location is just a natural extension of the resources available to patrons. It is our hope that community members visiting the library's pantry space will also be connected with the myriad of additional ways that the library can offer support, including technology assistance through our Digital Navigator program and lendable hotspots and Chromebooks," she adds.



Located close to the Mansfield Public Library's Tool section are shelves with food essentials, free for the taking for Mansfield residents. Mansfield Human Services staff member Kathy Pomerlau joined the Library's Assistant Director Kaithlin Epling, Library Director Devon Andrews and Human Services Outreach Worker Amanda Gardiner to help set up the new satellite food pantry.

The Human Services Department under Director Jessica St. Louis has made a concerted effort to battle food insecurity in Mansfield. Department staff promote access to basics by offering a Food Pantry at their offices and by hosting the Food Share Mobile Van every other Thursday. The departments collaborated to launch a Summer Fun Bus program last June which dropped bags of food, books, and fun activities to qualifying families and individuals around Town.

"The goal is to ensure that every member of our community has access to the most basic necessities, food being one of the most essential," says Human Services Director St. Louis. "We never want to see anyone go hungry. While this is a small satellite pantry, it reflects our commitment to making food accessible to all. We encourage anyone in need to reach out so we can support them through our food programs and the other resources we offer."

To learn more details about support programs that are offered through Mansfield Human Services or to apply for programs you can call 8660-429-3315, email [human.services@mansfieldct.org](mailto:human.services@mansfieldct.org) or visit the website at <https://www.mansfieldct.gov/1896/Food-Programs>

To support the food programs of the Mansfield Human Services Department with cash or food donations, call 860-429-3315 or visit <https://www.mansfieldct.gov/1896/Food-Programs>

**JOIN US FOR  
FREE MANSFIELD DAYS**

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2026 (FAMILY FUN DAY)  
THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2026  
SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2026  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2026

**PROOF OF MANSFIELD RESIDENCY REQUIRED**

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

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.

The advertisement features a large background image of the Mansfield Community Center building. Two circular inset photos show a woman and a child playing in a pool, and a group of people playing basketball in a gymnasium.

## Human Services Organizes First Fundraising Race for Summer Camperships

Do you love to run? Do you especially love to run for a great cause? Consider registering for the PJ Run for a Cause—providing all youth the chance at attending summer camp in Mansfield. This 5K Run (or Walk) and Kids Fun Run will start at Mansfield Middle School and take runners through Mansfield’s lovely roadways and trails. And runners will be in their pajamas—now that will be an interesting twist!

Help provide a summer camp experience for a child —participate in the PJ Run for a Cause, or support someone who is with a generous donation.



Human Services



# PJ Run For a Cause

## 5K Run/Walk & Kids Fun Run

Supporting the Betsy Hamill Campership Program.  
Providing the experience of summer camp to families in need.

**Saturday, March 28th, 12:30 Start**

**Mansfield Middle School**

(205 Spring Hill Road, Mansfield, CT)

Register by February 28<sup>th</sup> for lowest price.

First 100 registrants get a FREE T-shirt.

**Register Here**

Or by scanning the QR code

For more race information:

[www.runsignup.com/Race/CT/StorrsMansfield/PJRunForACause5K](http://www.runsignup.com/Race/CT/StorrsMansfield/PJRunForACause5K)

### **Contact Human Services**

Phone: 860-429-3315

Email: [human.services@mansfieldct.org](mailto:human.services@mansfieldct.org)

<https://www.mansfieldct.gov/2716/Giving-Donations>

Scan me



**NEWS&UPDATES**

## Repair Project Takes Just One Week to Complete; Adds 25 Years to Life of Culvert

The Town of Mansfield contracted with National Water Main Cleaning Company (NWMCC) for the relining of the culvert on Separatist Road between Hunting Lodge Road to North Eagleville Road. According to NWMCC's website, this project is classified as a no-dig Cured-in-Place-Pipe (CIPP) lining repair. It is a practical, fast and economical no-dig solution for pipes with partial structural deterioration and/or distortion, interior corrosion, settling, misalignment and cracking. It provides jointless renovation, improves flow characteristics, and adds to the structural integrity of the pipe.



**(Above and left)** Installing the liner, known as a no-dig Cured-in-Place-Pipe (CIPP) lining repair.



**(Above)** Existing condition of culvert prior to project.

The drainage along this busy road that runs along the edge of the UConn campus needed attention, and Public Works elected to employ this economical and efficient method for the repair.

The type of CIPP used here is a lining consisting of a reinforced glass fiber tubing that is pulled into the existing pipe. The tubing is then inflated to meet the existing pipe dimensions. The tubing then cures (hardens), with ultraviolet light, resulting in a resurfaced existing pipe.

The contract amount was awarded for \$188,500. Public Works estimates that this project increased the operational life of the existing culvert by approximately 25 years while increasing the strength of the pipe and maintaining the existing hydraulic capacity of the culvert. Repairs were also made to the entrance and exit of the pipe.

The entire project only took one week and the road was only closed during construction for a roughly 24-hour period to allow for bypass pumping of the brook. A traditional construction of a new pipe would have closed the road for many months and cost significantly more.



**(Above and right)** The finished project. Separatist Road was closed for only 24 hours for the CIPP, not the months a traditional culvert construction project would take.



## New Outreach Worker will Assist Veterans and Connect with Residents

The Town of Mansfield Human Services Department is pleased to welcome Amanda Gardiner as our new Human Services Outreach Worker. This part-time position was created to strengthen connection with residents, expand access to essential services, and enhance support for veterans throughout the community. Amanda will typically be available Tuesday through Thursday and will be based in the Social and Adult Services Division of Mansfield Human Services.

In her role, Amanda will lead several key initiatives that strengthen the town's connection to residents. A major focus of her work will be supporting Mansfield's veterans. She will begin by meeting with as many veterans as possible to better understand their needs and priorities. From there, she will help individuals access existing programs and services while also developing new, community-specific initiatives to address gaps in support.

Community outreach will be another significant part of this role. She will work to identify and engage with residents who face barriers such as limited resources or transportation issues, leaving these individuals more isolated. By collaborating closely with departments across town, she will help expand access to services and improve the overall coordination of support. As a part of this effort, Amanda will also take the lead in overseeing our Food Assistance programs. She will work alongside the adult/social services team to ensure these resources are responsive to the community needs and accessible.

Amanda brings a warm, community-focused approach to her work. A mother of two and devoted animal lover, she enjoys exploring Mansfield's scenic hiking trails and occasionally finds time to crochet, a hobby she picked up long ago. Above all, Amanda is eager to get to know Mansfield residents, listen to their stories, and support the meaningful work happening across our community.



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## Join the Veterans Roundtable with Mansfield Human Services



### Calling All Veterans: We Want to Hear From You

**Wed. Feb. 4th @ 12:45pm**, Mansfield Human Services is hosting a Veterans Round Table Discussion. This is an open conversation designed to learn what resources, services, and supports our local veterans need and what you wish our community offered.

This gathering is also a great chance to have your voices heard. Meet with the new Human Services Outreach Worker and the Human Services Director to help shape what the future of Veterans Services looks like in our community.

Join us, share your experiences, and help us build the support network our veterans deserve.

RSVP preferred by 2/3/26  
Phone: 860-487-9871  
Email: [GardinerA@mansfieldct.org](mailto:GardinerA@mansfieldct.org)



**NEWS & UPDATES**



# ZONING Zone

## Let's Talk Junkyards in Mansfield

The zoning regulations related to junkyards are outlined in Article 3, §190-13 of the Mansfield Zoning Regulations. Junkyards are not allowed in Mansfield.

### What is a junkyard?

A property may be considered a junkyard if it has:

- Two (2) or more unregistered vehicles, or
- Vehicles or equipment being dismantled, abandoned, or stored for parts, or Accumulated junk or discarded materials equal in bulk to two vehicles.

### What is *not* a junkyard?

- Registered, operable vehicles
- Farm vehicles associated with an active farm
- Interior storage (inside a garage or building)
- Approved auto dealerships or PZC-approved storage uses



### Questions?

Mansfield Planning & Development Department

☎ 860-429-3330

✉ [PlanZoneDept@mansfieldct.org](mailto:PlanZoneDept@mansfieldct.org)

## Like to Make Things Happen? Volunteer for a Mansfield Board or Commission!



**The Solid Waste Advisory Committee includes education in its mission, teaching frequently about recycling.**

The Town of Mansfield is enriched by volunteer residents who serve on Mansfield's many boards and commissions. If you have interest, skill, and the capacity to volunteer, consider attending a few meetings and meet other members.

Apply to these commissions by [completing the application form](#). The Town Council's Committee on Committees interviews applicants and recommends appointments each month. Links to a description or "charge" for each committee can be [found here](#). Thank you for considering service to Mansfield!



### These Committees Need Volunteers Like You!

Affordable Housing Committee – 3 vacancies

Agriculture Committee – 3 alternate vacancies

Arts Advisory Committee – 4 vacancies

Cemetery Advisory Board – 2 vacancies

Conservation Commission – 1 regular vacancy, 1 alternate

Economic Development Commission – 1 vacancy

Board of Ethics – 1 alternate vacancy

Historic District Commission – 1 regular vacancy, 2 alternates

Housing Code Board of Appeals – 2 alternate vacancies

Human Rights Commission – 2 regular vacancies, 2 alternates

Human Services Advisory Committee – 1 Faith Leader vacancy

Parks and Natural Resources Committee – 1 alternate vacancy

Recreation Advisory Committee – 1 vacancy

Solid Waste Advisory Committee – 1 vacancy

Sustainability Committee – 1 alternate vacancy

Transportation Advisory Committee – 1 vacancy



## Invasive Species Control Project to begin at Whetten Woods



Whetten Woods, nestled behind Downtown Storrs and Farrell Ball Fields, is a popular trail for residents and students who live nearby in Mansfield. This park will benefit from aggressive control over invasive species which are threatening many wooded trails across the state. Later phases of this grant project will include experimental Chestnut plantings to impact long-term forest health.

In collaboration with Joshua's Trust and USDA NRCS, the Town of Mansfield is engaging ArborActive LLC to assist in Invasive Species Management efforts at Whetten Woods Preserve.

Over the course of February and March 2026, you can expect to see forestry workers with handheld tools removing Japanese Barberry, Multiflora Rose, and other problematic invasive plants throughout the forest.

This is the first phase of a three-year forestry management project that will also feature limited timber removal operations and potential experimental Chestnut plantings as part of a broader effort to ensure long-term forest health on public land.

Further information about our efforts at Whetten Woods is available on request in the Mansfield Planning Office or by

emailing [PlanZoneDept@mansfieldct.org](mailto:PlanZoneDept@mansfieldct.org). To learn more about parks and trails in Mansfield, [visit our website](#).



# Free ANNUAL Valentine's DANCE

**Saturday, February 7  
6:00-8:00 pm**  
Mansfield Community Center  
Gymnasium

This dance is for a guardian/special adult & child pairing, to have a fun filled night out!

**REGISTRATION IS OPEN!**  
Limited Availability  
Registration Deadline is Jan. 31  
Walk-ins permitted based on space.

[www.mansfieldcc.com](http://www.mansfieldcc.com)  
Act. # 390214



Mansfield Community Center, 10 S. Eagleville Road, Storrs, CT 06268

860-429-3015



**NEWS & UPDATES**

## Warm Up to Fun and Learning at The Mansfield Public Library

At the Mansfield Public Library, the staff is always planning new and exciting programs for adults, for families, for teens, and tots! Here's a quick snapshot of what's happening at the library in February and March. Want to find all the details, plus more events? [Check out our website!](#)

**Coming Soon : Plant Propagation Station at the Mansfield Library!** Donate, swap and adopt rooted household plant cuttings for free.

We are excited to announce that coming this spring the Mansfield Library will have a new addition to our seed library - a plant propagation station! Our propagation station will be open to everyone in the community, and you will not need a library card to participate.

If you are interested in helping get our propagation station started, please email Kaithlin Epling at [EplingKM@mansfieldct.org](mailto:EplingKM@mansfieldct.org).

**Winter Reading Bingo Challenge** Winter is a great time to cozy up with some good books and take part in Mansfield Public Library's Winter Reading Bingo Challenge!



Stop by the library to register and pick up one of our bingo cards. Bring your bingo card to the circulation desk each time you stop by the library. For each square that you complete anywhere on your card, receive a drawing ticket for a chance to win one of our larger prizes!

Complete five squares in a row--up, down, across, or diagonal--to automatically win a small prize (limit of one small prize per person). Good luck and Happy Reading!

### Special Family Events:

[Cuddly Critters Meet & Greet \(Take Your Child to the Library Day\)](#), February 5

[Read with Sophie the Therapy Dog](#), February 7

[Valentine's CRAFT-ernoon!](#), February 13

[Creating Collages for Black History Month](#), February 17

[Lunar New Year Celebration: Chinese Martial Arts Performances w/ Ju Long Wushu](#), February 21

[Big Kid Book Club](#), February 21

[Read with Rogue the Therapy Dog](#), February 24

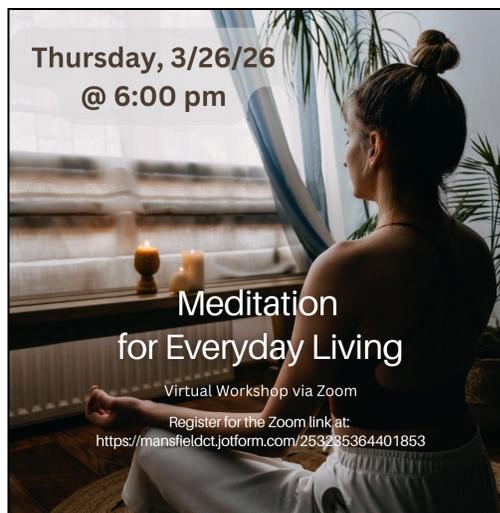
[Read with Sophie the Therapy Dog](#), March 7

[Make-Your-Own Slime](#), March 11

[Extended Wondershop](#), March 12

[Pokemon Party!](#), March 13

[Read with Rogue the Therapy Dog](#), March 24



### Teen Nights\*:

[February Teen/Tween Night: Valentine's Party](#), February 19

[March Teen/Tween Night: March Madness!](#), March 19

*\*Teen Night programs are open only to middle school and high school students!*



## NEWS & UPDATES

### Virtual Author Talks:

*More Great Programs from the Mansfield Public Library! (cont.)*

**Adults**

[Tech Savvy: Device Back-up and Storage](#), February 20

[Gardening 101](#), February 24

[A Practical Approach to Meditation](#), February 26 (virtual)

[History of Huskies Hoops](#), March 3

Spring Bunnies Adult Craft, March 24 (registration required)

[Meditation for Everyday Living](#), March 26 (virtual)

Women of the American Revolution, March 31

**Recurring Adult Programs**

Current Events and Politics Weekly Discussion Group, every Wednesday

Weekly Friday Films at the Library, every Friday

Mansfield Library Monthly Book Discussion Group, February 10 and March 10

Craft & Chat Social Group, February 12 and March 12

Adults 18+ Only Monthly Game Night, February 17 and March 17

Matt's Monthly Zoom Movie Discussions, February 18 and March 18

Mansfield Library Monthly Knitting Group, February 19 and March 19

Cookbook Club, February 19 and March 19

**Virtual Author Talks:**

[Swashbuckling Heroines and High Seas Adventures with Novelist Vanessa Riley](#), February 5

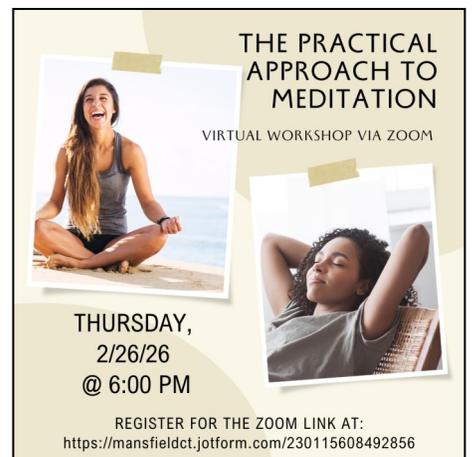
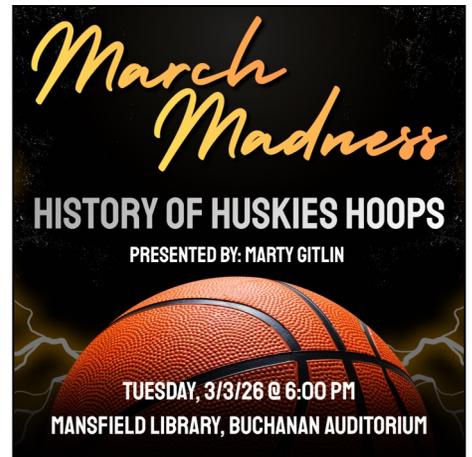
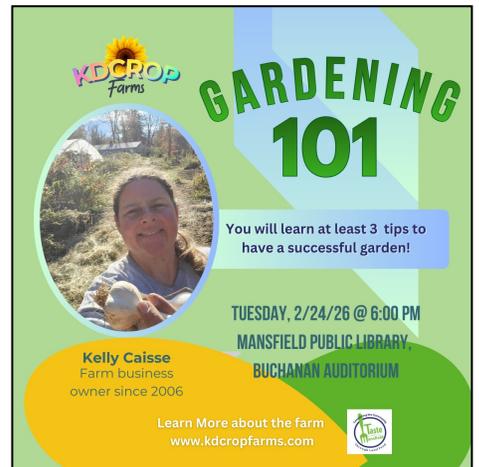
[Mojos, Mermaids, Medicine, and 400 Years of Black Women's Magic with Dr. Lindsey Stewart](#), February 12

[Smithson's Gamble: The Incredible History Behind the World's Largest Museum with Smithsonian Curator Emeritus Tom Crouch](#), February 24

[How to Make Healthy Living Effortless and Fun - In Conversation with Jenn Lueke](#), March 5

[Book Portals and Journeys of Literary Magic with Kate Quinn](#), March 12

[America's Failed Response to the Opioid Crisis with Author Shoshana Walter](#), March 24



**Visit the William Benton Museum of Art Exhibit on the UConn Campus:**

***Encounters with the Collection: Exploring America at 250***

**Special President's Day Guided Tour and Discussion February 15, 2 - 3pm**

Are you engaged with a committee, an organization, a faith-based community, or a business that would like to help Mansfield celebrate? The Town of Mansfield is willing to help promote lectures, tours, workshops, exhibits—whatever the community creates to mark and commemorate the ideals and values of America's 250th year. Mansfield's commission has formed that includes UConn, Town staff, and Mansfield Historical Society members who are here to help. Read about Connecticut celebrations at the [Connecticut 250 Commission!](#)

For details, and to indicate your group's interest in organizing a local tribute to this year-long celebration, please visit this special web page we have created and complete the form: [mansfieldct.gov/america250](https://mansfieldct.gov/america250)



## Mansfield Senior Center Selected to Partner with the Big Y Bag Program!

Big Y has selected Mansfield Senior Center to benefit from the Community Bag Program throughout February. The Big Y Community Bag Program makes it easy for shoppers to contribute to their local communities.

Every time a \$2.50 reusable Community Bag is purchased at the Big Y located at Mansfield, CT in February, \$1 will be donated to the Mansfield Senior Center. This is a great way to support programs for seniors in our community.

Let's get started! Share the news with friends and family. Text, send an email, and share in a post on social media. The more people who purchase a Community Bag in February, the greater the donation we will receive from Big Y!

For more information about this program, please visit [bigy.2givelocal.com](http://bigy.2givelocal.com).



## AARP Tax Preparation at the Senior Center

The Senior Center is set to participate for its 51<sup>st</sup> year with AARP Foundation's Tax-Aide.

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide provides tax assistance to those who qualify, free of charge, with a special focus on taxpayers who are over 50 and have low to moderate income. You don't need to be an AARP member to use the service, but you must have an appointment. Appointments fill quickly!

Call 860-429-0262 for availability at the Mansfield Senior Center.

Visit <https://www.aarp.org/money/taxes/aarp-taxaide/locations/> for additional locations.

More information is also available at <https://www.aarp.org/money/taxes/aarp-taxaide/>

## Check Out ALL the Events Coming Up at the Mansfield Senior Center!

Cafes – February 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, and 20<sup>th</sup>

February 4<sup>th</sup> – [Veterans Roundtable](#)

February 9<sup>th</sup> – Commission on Aging Meeting

February 9<sup>th</sup> – Lunch & Learn

February 10<sup>th</sup> – [Birthday Lunch](#)

February 10<sup>th</sup> – Caregiver Support Group

February 12<sup>th</sup> – Stroke Awareness Seminar

February 12<sup>th</sup> – Bereavement Support Group

February 13<sup>th</sup> - [Mr. Magic's Magic Show — Grandkids welcome free with a grandparent!](#)

February 17<sup>th</sup> – Mardi Gras Celebration – Lunch & Music Entertainment

February 18<sup>th</sup> – [Armchair Travel: Italy](#)

February 19<sup>th</sup> – Paint Night

February 20<sup>th</sup> – Hearing Clinic

February 22<sup>nd</sup> – Tailgate Party

February 23<sup>rd</sup> – Book Club

February 23<sup>rd</sup> – PTSD Support Group

February 26<sup>th</sup> – Lunar New Year Activity

February 26<sup>th</sup> – Type 2 Diabetes Presentation

February 27<sup>th</sup> – Lunch & Learn

## So Many Services to Enjoy at the Mansfield Senior Center!

**SENIOR SPARKS**  
MANSFIELD SENIOR CENTER  
NEWSLETTER

February 2026



It's a LOVELY month to visit the MSC!

The February 2026 *Senior Sparks* newsletter is out! [Click here to find it online](#), and don't forget to [subscribe](#) to receive it right in your inbox each month.





2 Towns, 2 Weeks, 28 Restaurants to Discover at [taste2towns.com](https://taste2towns.com)

## Taste 2 Towns: Options in Windham and Mansfield Make Us a Dining Destination

From chef-driven full-service establishments to beloved counter-service favorites, 28 restaurants in Windham and Mansfield are showing off their best bites for Restaurant Week's return in 2026. The two weeks of delicious known as Taste 2 Towns began Monday, January 26 and runs to Sunday, February 8, 2026.

Willimantic Brewing Company, which was recently inducted into the Connecticut Restaurant Association Hospitality Hall of Fame, joins Fenton River Grille, Hops 44, and Dog Lane Café in supporting the promotion for the fifth consecutive year. Windham County's Restaurant of the Year for 2025, Trigo Wood Fired Pizza, is also a featured restaurant. The special menus and dining packages are ready for a mouth-watering preview at [Taste2Towns.com](https://Taste2Towns.com). Participating restaurants, including options for dine-in and take-out menus, are cooking up special items, or multi-course offerings for a single price, known as *prix-fixe*.

The list includes eight new participants including Red Rock Cafe, Apollo Pizza Restaurant and Grill, Nikki's Dog House, Bagel Zone, Silk City Coffee, The Farmer's Cow Café & Creamery, Spice Venue/Salt 'n Lime, Tony's Pizza, and Wings 'n Pies. At 28 total eateries participating, this year's Restaurant Week offers diners the most choices ever.

The Towns of Mansfield and Windham have joined up with the Mansfield Downtown Partnership (MDP) and Willimantic Downtown Neighborhood Association (WDNA) to collaborate for the fifth year of this popular promotion highlighting an expanded list of local, independent restaurants showing off their most delicious dishes in the two communities. Efforts to promote the region as a dining destination extends into Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Western Connecticut.



This region has so many different types of cuisine to offer," says Steven Ferrigno of the Mansfield Downtown Partnership. "With more than forty dining options in Mansfield alone, a visit to Mansfield and Windham provides the perfect opportunity for a taste adventure. Destination dining is growing in popularity. From any direction, Windham and Mansfield are a short drive for a great experience," he adds. The Taste 2 Towns website also features other events, exhibits, and places to explore when someone visits from out-of-town. The Romantic Willimantic Chocolate Festival, for example, will take over Main Street all day on February 7 during the Taste 2 Towns promotion. In Mansfield, UConn Men's and Women's Basketball games and other athletic events coincided with Restaurant Week, along with E.O. Smith's performances of *The Music Man*.

Local businesses not directly associated with the food business are signing up to sponsor Taste 2 Towns, too. Led by top sponsors Eastern Connecticut State University Foundation, Mansfield Pediatric Dentistry, and The Buzz, these local sponsors have signed on to support and to be associated with such a positive, exciting promotion.

Promotion of Taste 2 Towns includes paid print and radio advertising throughout Eastern Connecticut, social media advertising and engagement by social media influencers into Rhode Island, Massachusetts and West to the greater Hartford region, and press engagement. The most powerful endorsement, however, comes from within the community as residents enthusiastically share where they have dined and what they have enjoyed.

## New!! Senior Center Trip Scholarship Assistance Now Available

The Town of Mansfield Human Services Department is currently administering a Senior Trip Scholarship program derived from private contributions intended to provide assistance to seniors (age 55+) wishing to access Senior Center Trips.

These funds are used only for the cost of the trip (i.e. tickets, admission, entry fees, etc.), and do not include items such as lunch, food, personal items, etc. or other Senior Center programs. Criteria for assistance includes: financial hardship, history of assistance, residency and other available private/public financial resources.

Please contact the Human Services office at 860-429-3315 for an application.

# SENIOR CENTER FEBRUARY DAY TRIPS



Individuals age 55+ are eligible to register for day-trips with the Mansfield Senior center. A signed registration form *and* payment (if applicable) are required to register for upcoming trips. Due to limited seating, Mansfield residents aged 55+ are eligible to register immediately on a first-come, first-served basis. Non-Mansfield residents aged 55+ will be placed on a waitlist; one week (7 days) prior to the trip, those on the waitlist will be moved to the active trip list in the order in which they registered if seats are available. Trips are subject to cancellation based on registration.  
**All participants on the trip list will receive a confirmation call prior to the trip. You must confirm to retain your spot.**  
 Should you need to cancel a reservation, request as early as possible. Refunds cannot be guaranteed.

<p><b>Coffee and...CATS!!!</b>  <b>Two Wrasslin' Cats Coffee House &amp; Cafe, East Haddam</b></p>  <p><b>Monday, February 9<sup>th</sup></b>  <b>9:00 AM- 12:30 PM</b></p>	<p>Comfortable eatery specializing in sandwiches, salads and pastries, plus coffee and cat-themed merchandise. Besides coffee, tea and other beverages, Wrasslin' Cats offers an array of whimsically-named menu items, such as the Cats Pajamas Wrap, Littermate, Catprese, Furry Curry, and Garden Cat. Come out and get your cat cuddles while enjoying coffee and more!                      (Wheelchair accessible)</p> 
<p><b>Prison Arts Exhibition, ECSU, Willimantic</b></p>  <p><b>Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup></b>  <b>1:00 PM – 4:00 PM</b></p>	<p>Eastern CT State University is hosting the 45<sup>th</sup> annual Prison Arts show by the Community Partners in Action Program. The show will feature 604 artworks by 162 artists from nine CT correctional facilities with a wide range of drawings, paintings, sculptures and carpentry projects. This is a <b>FREE</b> public event.                      (Wheelchair accessible)</p> 
<p><b>Metropolitan Opera in Cinema: Cinderella, Manchester</b></p>   <p><b>Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup></b>  <b>12:00 PM – 3:30 PM</b></p>	<p>Come watch a previously-recorded Opera show at the Buckland Hill IMAX Theater. The classic telling of the Cinderella story is an excellent source of Opera and provides color, romance and glowing nostalgia. The fairytale takes place in an indeterminate past in which magic, whimsy and love at first sight are features of everyday life. (Wheelchair accessible)</p> <p><b>Admission: \$15.00 payable at registration</b>  <b>Registration due by 2/10/26.</b></p> 
<p><b>Lunch Bunch: Tullis Taphouse, Griswold</b></p>  <p><b>Monday, February 23<sup>rd</sup></b>  <b>11:00 AM - 2:00 PM</b></p>	<p>Tullis Taphouse is a Gastropub and has your cravings covered! Offering a variety of apps, salads, burgers, sandwiches and main dishes...something for everyone! Daily specials available too.                      (Wheelchair accessible)</p> 
<p><b>Museum of Natural History, Providence</b></p>  <p><b>Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup></b>  <b>9:00 AM - 3:00 PM</b></p>	<p>The museum was founded in 1896 to house a donation of mammal and bird specimens from John Steere, a former Providence resident. It features natural history exhibits (plants, animals, geology) and features stunning grand French chateau-style architecture, recent renovations, and upgrades. We will stop for lunch at Texas Roadhouse.                      (Wheelchair accessible)</p> <p><b>Admission: \$2.00 payable at the museum</b></p> 
<p><b>American Mural Project, Winsted</b></p>  <p><b>Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup></b>  <b>9:00 AM – 4:00 PM</b></p>	<p>The American Mural Project is a nonprofit arts center that has the largest indoor collaborative artwork in the world that reaches 120 feet long and is five stories high. The mural is a tribute to American workers and portrays real workers from all walks of life on a grand scale. Lunch to follow at the Log House.                      (Wheelchair Accessible)</p> <p><b>Admission: \$12.00 Pre-registration required</b></p> 



## Repair Café on April 11, 2026. Don't Scrap It—Fix It!

The next Repair Cafe is Saturday, April 11, 2026 from 10 am to 2 pm at the First Congregational Church, 199 Valley St. at Walnut St., Willimantic. Free repairs are offered bicycles, toasters and other small appliances, vacuum cleaners, lamps, and clothing. Carry it in and learn from volunteers how to get it working again. If it can be fixed, we can do it, or better yet—show you how to do it yourself next time!

Contact Virginia Walton at 860.429.3333 or [waltonvd@mansfieldct.org](mailto:waltonvd@mansfieldct.org) with questions. Information can be found on Facebook @repaircafe.willimantic.

*Upcoming Repair Café Dates for 2026: July 11, and October 10*



## Parking Ban Through April 15 Helps DPW Keep Roads Safe

Per Mansfield's Motor Vehicle & Parking Ordinance, Section 182-3, "No motor vehicle shall be parked on any public highway under the jurisdiction of the Town of Mansfield, or in any area designated as a municipal parking area, between the hours of midnight and 6:00 a.m., from November 1 through April 15; or at all times when there is any accumulation of snow or ice on said highways or parking areas." This parking ban includes the on-street parking in Downtown Storrs. Bicycles should also be removed.

Thank you!



## Paper Shredding

Saturday, March 28, 2026

9 am to noon

### Mansfield Transfer Station

- \$3.00/medium sized box (approx. 12" x 10" x 17")
- Okay to bring paper in bags or different sized boxes. Will charge accordingly.
- Cash or checks only
- No limit on amount
- For Mansfield residents and small businesses only



## Know Your Numbers This Heart Month

February is **American Heart Month** — a nationally promoted time to focus on heart health and prevention. High blood pressure is a major risk factor for heart disease and stroke, and many people don't know their numbers until it's too late.

The Eastern Highlands Health District is helping make it easier for community members to understand and monitor their blood pressure, offering resources like free screenings, self-monitoring classes, and library loans of home blood pressure monitors so individuals can track their health over time.

Knowing your blood pressure and working with your health care team to keep it in a healthy range can significantly lower your risk of serious cardiovascular disease. Learn more about these opportunities (**including the March BP education series in Mansfield**) and why blood pressure awareness matters at [EHHD Blood Pressure Resources](#)



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## Microchips: A Tool for Reuniting Pets and their Owners

Everyone loves a story with a happy ending, and here's a good one. Recently Mansfield Animal Control was able to reunite a missing cat with its owner. This indoor kitty escaped shortly after the family moved, and although it was close by, it was unable to find its way back to its new home. A resident who was concerned after seeing a cat outdoors contacted Animal Control; the cat was then trapped and scanned for a chip.

The owners were immediately contacted and we were elated to know there cat had been found as she was missing for three months! This was all possible because the pet was microchipped. Every pet that comes to the shelter is scanned for a microchip. After a collar with rabies tag and license, a microchip is the second fastest way to reunite owners with their dogs. For cats that may not wear a collar, this provides an essential way for identification.

**What are Microchips anyway?** Microchips are small devices that are implanted under your pet's skin to provide a lifetime identification for your pet.

**Will it track my pet?** This is a common misconception; microchips do not provide GPS tracking. However, they do provide owner and vet information to veterinarians and animal control. This makes it possible to identify your pet if it ever becomes lost or stolen.

**Is it expensive?** There are several microchip companies out there. Though there is an implant fee, many companies do not require an annual fee, though it is an option. The cost for implantation is anywhere between \$35 and \$75.

**How do I know if my pet already has a chip?** Mansfield Animal Control makes sure that all adopted pets three months and older have a Home Again microchip with their new owners information entered. Most pets purchased or adopted already come with a microchip. If you are unsure, you can have your veterinarian, or local animal control facility scan your pet for a chip. They should be able to provide you with the chip number as well as information on how to update the chip. It is important to keep the chip updated with the most current information so the company, vets and animal control can notify you if the pet is located.

**Does my indoor cat need a microchip?** Indoor cats can benefit from having a chip. Just like we mentioned earlier, cats can get out and become lost. A chip also provides permanent proof of ownership, so someone else cannot claim your pet as his or her own.

**How can I get a chip for my pet?** Most vets will offer microchip insertion at your spay or neuter appointment. If your pet is already spayed or neutered you can ask your vet to do an insertion. Places like Vetco also offer a microchip service.

Make sure to keep your log-in information and keep your chip updated with your current information. Dogs should always wear their current dog license and rabies tag on their collar regardless of having a chip. Microchips help bring pets home—maybe yours!



## Mansfield Employees Honored for Years of Service

The Town of Mansfield honored employee milestones at its annual holiday potluck luncheon in December. Employees in attendance were presented certificates by Mayor Toni Moran , Town Manager Ryan Aylesworth, and Chief of Shared Services and Administration Maria Capriola. for service ranging from five years to 35 years. Sincere congratulations and thank you to all of these valued staff members for their service to the Mansfield community!

### 5 Years of Service:

Ryan Aylesworth, Town Manager; Margaret Chatey, Communications Specialist; Yvette Gauthier, Information Technology Administrative Support Specialist.

### 10 Years of Service:

Benjamin Funk of Building and Housing;  
Matthew Ockmond of Mansfield Public Library

### 15 Years of Service :

Justin Risley, Mansfield Fire and Emergency

### 20 Years of Service :

Jeffrey Beausoleil of the Department of Public Works,;Kaithlin Epling of Mansfield Public Library' Sean Kegler of Mansfield Public Library; Lynda Lambert of Mansfield Fire and Emergency; and Glenn Krukoff, Jr. of Department of Public Works

### 25 Years of Service (*Pictured above*)

Jennifer Kaufman, Director of Planning and Development; Michael Nintean, Director of Building and Housing.

### 30 Years of Service:

Capt. Willard Cornell of Mansfield Fire and Emergency; Patricia McMullan of Mansfield Public Library

### 35 Years of Service

Virginia Walton, Recycling Coordinator



## 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 re-view 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.

## NEWS&UPDATES

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

- Go to this page on the town’s website: <http://mansfieldct.gov/list.aspx>
- Enter your best email in the “Email Address” field
- Under the “Notify Me” section of the page check the box for “News & Press Releases” (and check out other topics you might want to be notified about, from committees to events.)

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!

## 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	Chandler Rose, Assessor	860-429-3311 Assessor@mansfieldct.org
Building and Housing Inspection	Michael Ninteau, Building & Housing Director	860-429-3324 BldgDept@mansfieldct.org
Downtown Partnership	Steven Ferrigno, 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	Michael Posocco, 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	Ron Manizza, Democratic Registrar  Al Fratoni 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 Stephen King, Resident State Trooper Sergeant	860-429-6024 Police@mansfieldct.org  <b>EMERGENCY: 911</b>
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                      Town- Clerk@MansfieldCT.org
Town Manager	Ryan Aylesworth, Town Manager	860-429-3336 TownMngr@mansfieldct.org
Youth Services	Sarah DeLuca, LPC Youth Services Supervisor	860-429-3319