

# MANSFIELD CITIZEN



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QUARTERLY NEWS AND INFORMATION FOR THE CITIZENS OF MANSFIELD

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## Hospital's contribution to the community significant

Last month, Methodist Mansfield Medical Center celebrated an important milestone in its five-year history: another expansion.

The opening of the \$9.1 million women's pavilion addition and renovation was a great way to celebrate the hospital's fifth anniversary in our city. It was the second major expansion at Methodist Mansfield since opening in December 2006. In 2010, it completed a two-year, \$37 million expansion of its emergency room and intensive care unit, as well as adding a medical-surgical unit and finishing out the fifth floor of the patient tower.

As if the continuing expansion wasn't a clear enough sign of the hospital's success in our city, the numbers certainly are an indication.

- 713 employees and 186 physicians
- \$180 million total capital investment
- 4,600 births since 2006
- \$27.7 million economic impact annually

In fiscal year 2011 alone, the hospital saw more than 8,120 admissions, 44,008 ER visits and 64,769 outpatient visits.

The economic impact of those numbers can be seen in the area surrounding the hospital complex on East Broad Street. The city's growing medical district is now home to physician offices and other ancillary medical businesses. The newest is the Mansfield office of Arlington Orthopedic Associates, one of Texas' largest and most prestigious orthopedic practices.

And Methodist Mansfield's success goes beyond the numbers. It has received numerous accreditations in the hospital industry including those for cardiac care and radiology. It received the 2011 AdvisorMed's Great Texas Hospital Award and was named one of the Best Places to Work in Healthcare by Becker's Hospital Review and the Dallas Business Journal.

Nine of the hospital's nurses were among the honorees for the Dallas-Fort Worth Great 100

Nurses award and several in their nursing staff were named Health Care Heroes: the DFW Hospital Council.

The hospital has also taken seriously its role as a community leader. Methodist Mansfield supports many community organizations and is a sponsor of the city's Parks and Recreation program. Their contributions have made events like Hometown Holidays possible.

More difficult to quantify is the impact of Mansfield Methodist on the healthcare of our citizens. Our 58,000-plus residents have access to state-of-the-art medical facilities and professionals within minutes of their homes. The Mansfield Fire Department ambulances can now transport those critically ill or injured to a hospital in our own city



limits instead of using precious minutes to reach medical facilities in Arlington or Fort Worth. The value of that alone is immeasurable.

Our community has been positively impacted by the presence of Methodist Mansfield Medical Center in our city. Their benefit to the economic and overall health and wellness of our community is overwhelming.

We congratulate them on their success and another milestone in their history. We are grateful for all of their contributions to Mansfield and look forward to our continued successful partnership.

*Clayton Chandler, City Manager*

### City Council

**David Cook**  
Mayor

**Brent Newsom**  
Place 2

**Stephen Lindsey**  
Place 3

**Darryl Haynes**  
Place 4

**Cory Hoffman**  
Place 5

**Wendy Burgess**  
Place 6

**Larry Broseh**  
Place 7  
Mayor Pro Tem

### City Management

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City Manager

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## Want to know more?

Use your Smartphone to scan the QR Code (Quick Response Code) on the page. It will open your phone's browser and connect you to a corresponding website for more information about the story.



## Polling locations change for some voters in this year's election

Mansfield residents will go to the polls Saturday, May 12, to vote in the 2012 municipal election.

On the ballot are City Council seats, Places 3, 4 and 5. Place 3 is currently served by Stephen Lindsey. Place 4 is currently served by Darryl Haynes, and Place 5 by Cory Hoffman.

This year there are changes in voting locations for Mansfield residents who live in Johnson (Precincts 7, 8 and 35) and Ellis (Precinct 101) counties.

Those voters will vote at Mansfield City Hall, 1200 E. Broad St., for both early voting and election day. Mansfield voters who live in Tarrant County (Precincts 2033, 2221, 2258, 2308, 2355, 2357, 2360, 2426, 2524, 2548, 2557, 2612, 2614, 2636, 2643 and 2645) will continue to

vote at the Tarrant County Sub-Courthouse in Mansfield (early voting and election day) as well as J.L. Boren Elementary and Donna Shepherd Intermediate schools (election day).

Early voting begins Monday, April 30, and continues through Tuesday, May 8. Times are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Times on Monday and Tuesday May 7-8 are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Polls are open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Election Day.

Tarrant County residents only may cast their early voting ballot at any of the locations in Tarrant County. For all early voting location, or to check the city's precinct map, go the Tarrant County Elections website at [www.tarrantcounty.com/eVote](http://www.tarrantcounty.com/eVote).



## New retail, restaurants and entertainment debuting this spring

This year Mansfield will continue to add to its growing list of retail and restaurant opportunities as several new developments open or break ground.

The new Kroger Marketplace on East Broad Street continues to draw crowds as the remaining pad sites on the development are completed. Taco Casa opened before the end of 2011 and the city's second Chik-Fil-A location is expected to break ground this spring.

The city's first Chipotle and Smashburger restaurants are part of the new development at Mansfield Town Center East, next to IHOP and Lowes.



EyeMasters will join the restaurants and are expected to open by summer.

Across the street at Mansfield Town Center West, the big news is the expansion of the Cinemark Theater with new XD technology. The 300-seat



XD theater features a wall-to-wall, floor-to-ceiling screen; custom sound system and digital projector. The theater can show both 2D and 3D as well as digital films, concerts and live sporting events.

Mansfield Town Center West will also have new retail stores this spring. Shoe Carnival and women's clothing leader Lane Bryant are both opening locations at the center. Shoe Carnival is a leading Midwest-based retailer of family footwear with name brand and private label merchandise. Located primarily in the southeast, the Mansfield location is the company's first in the Metroplex.

"Mansfield continues to be a market that is attractive to retailers," said Economic Director Scott Welmaker. "Our attractive demographics, active community and great location are a draw. Mansfield residents are also loyal to our business community. We've made 'Shop Mansfield' a priority in our efforts."

## Coyote sightings put residents on alert Experts offer tips on protecting family, pets

Although much of Mansfield has transformed into an urban area, one remnant of its previously rural past remains: wildlife.

Lori Rodriguez, supervisor for Mansfield Animal Care & Control, said coyotes are becoming more frequent visitors in populated areas because they have found a food source. The drought also has brought the animals out into the open seeking water, she said.

Residents recently have reported frequent coyote sightings to animal control. Because coyotes can still roam the area, city officials are urging residents to become educated on how to keep themselves and their domesticated pets like dogs and cats safe.

According to wildlife advice on the department's web site, most cities don't seek to remove wild animals like coyotes but instead make residents aware of the animal's behavioral patterns and lifestyles in order to coexist with them. Residents who live close to parks, fields, golf courses or uninhabited areas also should be aware of wildlife.

Rodriguez said residents should be careful to secure garbage that's placed outdoors and to not store pet food outside. "Coyote's food sources are limited in populated areas so pet owners should be care because the coyotes consider domesticated pets food."



Rodriguez said all outdoor pets are required to be on a leash, including cats. When walking pets at night, residents should use a shorter leash

and bring a walking stick or pepper spray to defend against a possible wildlife encounter with your pet, she said.

"A lot of people think short-term," Rodriguez said. "They just think, 'Oh, I'm going to take the dog on a 10-minute walk.' But a lot can happen during those 10 minutes."

Rodriguez said humans typically are not in danger when approached by a coyote. But if encountering one, she advised residents to be animated and vocal to encourage the animal to move on its way.

"People need to take measures to make sure they're not doing things to put themselves in the path of the coyotes," she said. "We have to respect them just like we want them to respect us."

For more information, call Mansfield Animal Care & Control at 817-276-4799 or visit the city web site at [www.mansfield-tx.gov](http://www.mansfield-tx.gov).

## Mansfield's in a pickle over St. Paddy's Day parade

Mansfield's going green — pickle green — for St. Patrick's Day with the "World's Only Best Maid St. Paddy's Pickle Parade at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 17, in historic downtown.



The community event, organizers say, celebrates the holiday as well as the city's heritage. Best Maid Pickles founded in Mansfield in the 1930s and remains one of the city's strongest industries.

"There's not another event like this," said Amanda Rogers Kowalski, a member of the organizing committee. "It gives the city a chance to show off one of its family-owned businesses and have a lot of fun."

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

#### March 16

**7 PM:** "The Quiet Man," starring John Wayne and Maureen O'Hara, at the Farr Best Theater, 109 N. Main St. Free admission; concessions will be available. Sponsored by Council Member Darryl Haynes

**8-11 PM:** Irish Blind, an Irish band, will play at Steven's Garden & Grill, 223 Depot St.

#### March 17

**11 AM:** "The Quiet Man," starring John Wayne and Maureen O'Hara, at the Farr Best Theater, 109 N. Main St. Free admission; concessions will be served. Sponsored by Council Member Darryl Haynes

**Noon:** Pickle Palooza starts at Geyer Field on East Broad Street. 10K starts at noon, 5K at 12:15 p.m. and 1K at 1:30 p.m. Registration runs \$10-\$25. Sponsored by Utopia Fitness. Go to [www.getmeregistered.com](http://www.getmeregistered.com).

**Noon-2 PM:** Historic Mansfield businesses will have family-friendly games and activities inside their stores.

**2 PM:** St. Paddy's Pickle Parade; begins at St. Jude Catholic Church, goes north on Main Street, and ends at Steven's Garden & Grill, 223 Depot St.

**3 PM:** After-parade party at Steven's Garden & Grill will include pickle eating and Pickle Pucker Juice drinking contests, live music from O'Scott & McSteve, green beer and more. Admission is free. Deadline to enter contests is March 10; age 12 and up.

Visit [www.bestmaidpickleparade.com](http://www.bestmaidpickleparade.com) for entry forms and more information.

## New tourism marketing effort focuses on putting “heads in beds”

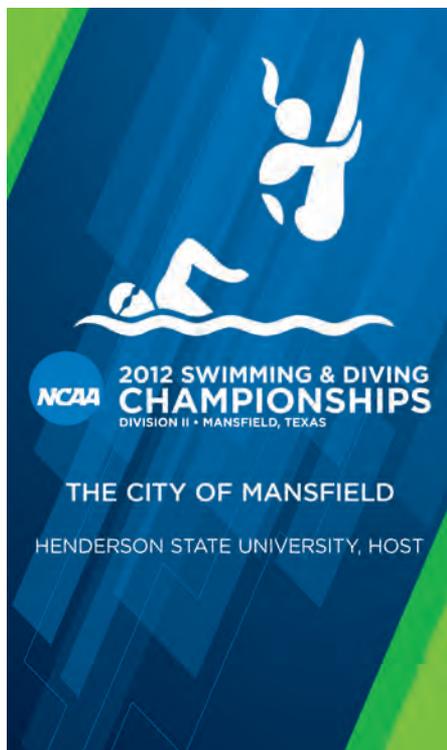
Among those basking in the sun at Hawaiian Falls and taking the field at Big League Dreams each summer, are visitors and tourists who spend hundreds of thousands of dollars in the city’s hotels, restaurants and retail businesses during their stay. And city leaders want more of them to come to Mansfield.

The tourism effort is underway and includes a new marketing campaign and slogan, a city staff person to manage the new tourism department and a



collaborative effort among hotels, entertainment attractions and facilities that cater to meetings and special events. The goal is to bring more visitors to Mansfield and increase revenue not only for the city but for local businesses.

One of the community’s first successes takes place this month when the NCAA Division II Swimming and Diving National Championship will be held in Mansfield at the school district’s



natorium. Thousands of athletes, coaches, families and spectators will visit the city March 10-17.

“Our city has a lot to offer for visitors to the North Texas area,” said Theresa Cohagen, former special events supervisor now tourism manager for the city. “The goal is to showcase our community and attractions to visitors, and to encourage them to stay in our hotels, eat in our restaurants and enjoy everything from Hawaiian Falls to our historic downtown.”

Cody Huckabay, MISD director of aquatics, was successful in recruiting the NCAA to the MISD Natatorium and he said he sees this championship event as the first of many events the MISD



could host. The city’s tourism department is an important partner in that effort.

“We’re proud to have the NCAA in Mansfield,” Huckabay said. “This is a cooperative effort. We want their experience in Mansfield to be a positive one, from their stay at the hotels to the restaurants they visit.”

Cohagen said the marketing campaign and its slogan, “Mansfield, Texas: We’ve Got Game” reflects the city’s reputation as an active, athletic community and promises that Mansfield will always put its best foot forward for visitors. The tourism department is also targeting associations and businesses to bring their events to the city.

The promotion will include advertising, trade show appearances and a new website tailored to visitors ([www.mansfieldsgotgame.com](http://www.mansfieldsgotgame.com)).

com). The Communications & Marketing Department, working with Cohagen, has also produced a visitors guide, which has been distributed to Mansfield hotels, the Mansfield Area Chamber of Commerce and visitor centers in Fort Worth and Arlington. Brochures have also been produced and placed at 12 state visitor centers across Texas operated by the Texas Department of Transportation.



City Planning Director Felix Wong, who also volunteers with Discover Historic Mansfield, says events like October’s Historic Mansfield Music & Arts Festival, Rockin’ 4th of July and concerts at historic downtown’s Farr Best Theater, not only draw local residents but visitors from across the state.



“These special events serve a dual purpose,” Wong said. “We are seeing tourists come to Mansfield specifically because of these festivals and activities.”

The tourism department is being funded by the city’s hotel/motel tax. Cohagen said if the effort succeeds in putting more “heads in beds” then more than just bed tax revenue will increase.

“Tourism dollars can benefit our local economy, which benefits our residents.”



## Water Department classes focus on conservation

The Mansfield Water Department has published its schedule for 2012 water conservation classes. The programming will offer residents a variety of instructional classes focusing on water conservation. All classes are held at the Mansfield Water Treatment Plant, 707 Pleasant Ridge Court.

The Monday, March 19, class will give residents tips on building their own rain barrel. The class is from 6 to 8 p.m. There will be another rain barrel construction class on Wednesday, Sept. 5.

No specific date has been set for the July 2012 class, featuring instruction on the Hunter Irrigation Control System.

For more information, contact the Mansfield Water Department at 817-477-2248, or visit the city web site at [www.mansfield-tx.gov](http://www.mansfield-tx.gov).

## Storm water troopers needed

Volunteers are needed to assist the Public Works Division with its storm drain marking program.

The public education campaign is designed to remind residents that only water should go down storm drains, not chemicals, pesticides or trash. If you would like to aid the city in placing these markers on drains throughout Mansfield, contact the department at 817-276-4297.



## Hazardous Waste Collection this spring

The city will host the two Household Hazardous Waste Collection events at 9 a.m. Saturday, March 24, and May 19, at City Hall, 1200 E. Broad St.

The event is open until 11 a.m. or until the first 100 cars visit the mobile collection truck. Good Will representatives will also be on hand to collect electronics.

## Safely shred documents at city-sponsored event

With tax season underway, maybe it's time to organize those records and safely dispose of sensitive materials. The Environmental Services



Department is once again sponsoring a Shred Away Day, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 28.

The free event brings a large commercial shredder to City Hall, 1200 E. Broad St., to allow Mansfield residents to shred documents and papers securely. For more information, contact the department at 817-276-4297 or visit the city website at [www.mansfield-tx.gov](http://www.mansfield-tx.gov).

## SmartScape classes set for March

March is SmartScape Month and the city's Environmental Services Department is hosting a series of classes for residents interested in learning more about landscaping techniques designed to conserve water and encourage environmental awareness.

The classes are held at the Mansfield Activities Center, 106 S. Wisteria St., from 7 to 9 p.m. Thursdays throughout March. Classes are free, however a MAC Card or a Day Pass is required. Door prizes are given out to all attendees.

The scheduled topics include backyard composting, March 1; earthkind roses, March 8; soil testing and water conservation, March 15; native or drought tolerant plants and landscape, March 22; and worm composting, March 29.

To register, call 817-453-5420. For more information, visit the city web site at [www.mansfield-tx.gov](http://www.mansfield-tx.gov).

## Volunteers needed for 2012 Trash Off event

Cleaning up along North Main Street is the goal for this year's Trash Off event, set for 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 21.

Volunteers are asked to meet at Town Park, 500 N. Main St. for registration, instructions and supplies. Crews will work picking up trash along North Main Street and then be treated to a hot dog cookout at the park. Lunch is served at noon.

For more information, contact Arianne Shipley, environmental specialist at the city, at 817-276-4297.

## Annual spring Beautification Day set for April 14

The city's annual spring Beautification Day is set for Saturday, April 14. Beautification Day offers residents a way to discard brush, scrap metal and other bulky items that are not picked up on trash day.

The City of Mansfield, the Keep Mansfield Beautiful Commission and the Women's Division of the Mansfield Area Chamber of Commerce sponsor the event from 7 a.m. to noon.

Items will be collected by volunteers at the vacant lot at the corner of Second Avenue and Burl Ray Road. Residency identification such as a driver's license or utility bill is required.

No contractors are allowed and no roof materials, pesticides, household hazardous waste or motor oil will be accepted. Tire Amnesty Day



is at the same time, giving residents a chance to drop off old tires free of charge.

The elderly and handicapped may participate, thanks to the Rotary Club of Mansfield. To schedule a pickup, call 817-473-0507.

To learn more, contact the chamber at 817-473-0507.

## Three new attractions planned for Hawaiian Falls in 2012

“Ready... Wet... Go!” will be all the rage this summer at Hawaiian Falls Mansfield as the water park prepares for \$3 million in new attractions designed to make the park an even more popular destination.

Construction will be underway soon on three new attractions for the 2012 season – two water slides and a new water playground. The last expansion at the water park was in 2010 with the addition of the Torpedo drop slides.

“They like to add something new and exciting for visitors,” said Hillary Beuker, park planner for Mansfield Parks & Recreation Department. “These



new attractions have something fun for all ages.”

The Boomerango, the Cliffhanger and Splashwater Harbor will be built on land within or just outside the current park, city officials said.

The Boomerango plunges riders 30 feet to the ground then sends them back and forth until they reach the bottom of the slide.

The Cliffhanger will send three riders at a time down a winding course filled with twists, dips and three 180-degree turns, something new to the Mansfield park.

Splash Water Harbor, filled with shallow pools and small slides, will be similar to the water playground Keiki Cove and provide another option for younger visitors.

The Boomerango and The Cliffhanger will be built south of the Torpedo, while Splash Water Harbor will be built close to Keiki Cove.

The city-owned water park, operated and maintained by Hawaiian Falls, drew more than 183,000 visitors in 2011 and sold more than 10,000 season passes making it one of the most successful parks in the Hawaiian Falls system. The park will open Memorial Day weekend, with daily operations beginning in early June. For more information, visit the Hawaiian Falls web site at [www.hfalls.com](http://www.hfalls.com).

## Hawaiian Falls hosts job fairs for 2012 season

Interested in joining the fun and sun as an employee of Hawaiian Falls Mansfield? The water park is hosting its annual job fair to find workers for the 2012 season.

The job fair is 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 10, and 4:30 to 8 p.m. Monday, March 12, at Crossroads Church, 6450 Highway 360 in Mansfield. Applications will be accepted at the job fair only, however

the application may be downloaded from the web site.

The fair includes an orientation on the park operations and participants will be interviewed on the spot. The process is expected to take one to two hours.

For questions, email [info@hfalls.com](mailto:info@hfalls.com) or call the water park at 817-853-0050.

## MAC events offer something special for kids

The Mansfield Activities Center wants to make spring special, so check out these events designed to be fun for all ages.

The Spring Break Magic Show is 3 p.m. Wednesday, March 14, at the MAC, 106 S. Wisteria St. A magician from Galaxy Entertainment will wow audiences with his magic tricks and then stick around to work his balloon magic.

The event is for ages 2 to 12. Cost is \$4 with a MAC card, \$5 without a MAC card and \$6 the day of the event.

Preschoolers can celebrate shamrocks and leprechauns at the MAC's Preschool St. Patrick's Day Party, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Friday, March 16. There will be themed crafts, snacks and activities for ages 4 to 5. Cost is \$2 with a MAC card, \$3 without a MAC card and \$4 day of the event.

One of the MAC's most popular events, “Animal Extravaganza” is set for 3 p.m. Friday, March 16, at the MAC. This year Critterman will be on hand with his Rainforest Junior Safari Friends. Cost is \$4 with a MAC card, \$5 without a MAC card and \$6 the day of the event.

For information on all MAC special events, call 817-453-5420 or visit [www.mansfieldparks.com](http://www.mansfieldparks.com).

## Start planning ahead for Kids Zone Summer 2012

It's not too early to start thinking about Kids Zone Summer 2012 at the Mansfield Activities Center.

Registration for the daily, supervised children's program for ages 6-11 begins at 10 a.m. Monday, April 16. Summer Kids Zone is June 4 through Aug. 24 and is held each day from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Kids Zone offers fun activities including crafts, games, classes, guest speakers and field trips to fun attractions around the Metroplex.

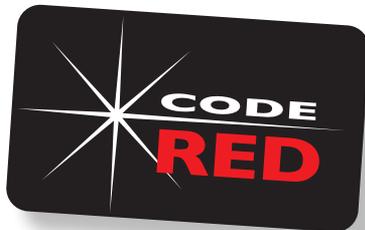
Cost is \$125 per week, or \$140 per week for early drop off (7:30 a.m.). Scheduled payments are available. For more information, call the MAC at 817-453-5420 or visit [www.mansfieldparks.com](http://www.mansfieldparks.com).



## CodeRED system provides severe weather alerts

The CodeRED telephone notification system has proven effect in keeping residents alerted to severe weather moving into the area.

The system is used in Mansfield for emergency notification. The telephone numbers in its database are called within seconds after initiation. The system is utilized during severe



weather warnings issued by the National Weather Service, or in cases of other public safety emergencies such as missing persons or flash flood warnings.

“We have already seen CodeRED work successfully in many emergency situations,” said Assistant Fire Chief Roy McCleary, who is also the city’s emergency management coordinator.

The city’s CodeRED emergency notification system has been in place since June 2005. The city recently ran a test of the system in order to purge non-working telephone numbers from the database. Residents are encouraged to sign up for CodeRED and those already using the system

are encouraged to make sure their information is updated.

Residents that desire to be included in the Weather Warning System must register and select the Weather Warning box. Registration is available via the city’s website ([www.mansfield-tx.gov](http://www.mansfield-tx.gov)) or by calling the Mansfield Fire Department at 817-276-4776 Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Required information includes first and last name, physical street address, city, state and zip code and primary phone number. Second phone numbers such as cell phone numbers are optional.

### Severe storm season

## Being prepared the key to staying safe during bad weather

The arrival of spring is also the arrival of severe weather in Texas. Mansfield public safety officials want to ensure that all residents are prepared for the variety of extreme weather events the state experiences, from tornados and floods to hail and straight line winds.

“Even though technology has improved and allows us to keep residents more informed of severe weather faster than ever, it’s still important for them to be prepared,” said Assistant Fire Chief Roy McCleary. “Every home should have a weather radio to provide up-to-the-minute information on weather in our area. There should also be working flashlights in the home in case of power outages. These preparations can make a difference for families if there is an emergency situation as a result of severe weather.”

The National Weather Service offers the following tips for developing a severe weather plan for families:



### Tornadoes

- In homes or small buildings, go to the basement (if available) or to an interior room on the lowest floor, such as a closet or bathroom. Wrap yourself in overcoats or blankets to protect from flying debris.
- In schools, hospitals, factories or shopping centers, go to interior rooms and halls on the lowest floor. Stay away from glass enclosed places or areas with wide-span roofs such as auditoriums and warehouses. Crouch down and cover your head.
- In cars or mobile homes, abandon them immediately. Most deaths occur in cars and mobile homes. If you are in either of those locations, leave them and go to a substantial structure or designated tornado shelter.
- If no suitable structure is nearby, lie flat in the nearest ditch or depression and use your hands to cover your head.

### Flash Flood

- If flooding occurs, get to higher ground. Get out of areas subject to flooding. This includes dips, low spots, canyons, washes etc.
- Avoid areas already flooded, especially if the water is flowing fast. Do not attempt to cross flowing streams.

- Road beds may be washed out under flood waters. NEVER drive through flooded roadways. If your vehicle is suddenly caught in rising water, leave it immediately and seek higher ground.
- Be especially cautious at night when it is harder to recognize flood dangers.

### Lightning

- Avoid using the telephone (except for emergencies) or other electrical appliances.
- Go to a safe shelter immediately, such as inside a sturdy building. A pickup truck or hard top automobile with the windows up can also offer fair protection.
- If you are boating or swimming, get out of the water immediately and move to a safe shelter away from the water.
- If you are in a wooded area, seek shelter under a thick growth of relatively small trees.

For more information, contact the Mansfield Fire Department at 817-276-4790 or visit the city website at [www.mansfield-tx.gov](http://www.mansfield-tx.gov).

## Citizens Fire Academy 2012 class begins April 3

Registration is open for the 2012 class of the Mansfield Citizens Fire Academy, which runs April 3 to June 5. This is the ninth class for the CFA program.

Besides classroom instruction, academy students will receive hands-on instruction for fire



extinguishers, the Jaws of Life and participate in live burns at the Arlington Fire Training Center. Students will also receive their CPR certification during classes.

Mansfield citizens and people who work in Mansfield are eligible for the program.



Participants must be at least 18. Applicants for CFA will undergo personal background checks as part of the registration process. Classes will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. Tuesdays for 10 consecutive weeks.

Graduates of the program may join the CFA Alumni Association, which provides support services to the Mansfield Fire Department and participates in special events in the community throughout the year.

Applications are due by March 23. To apply for the Citizens Fire Academy, contact Battalion Chief Watson at 817-804-5770 or email john.watson@mansfield-tx.gov .

## Mansfield Police to begin issuing fines on alarm violations

This spring Mansfield Police will begin enforcing fines on alarm systems operating in the city without a permit.

“We have exhausted all attempts to encourage residents and businesses to register for permits and bring them into compliance with the ordinance,” said Police Chief Gary Fowler.

Individuals or businesses without alarm permits violate provisions of the ordinance.

will be charged \$100 a year and financial institutions \$200 a year.

All alarm permit holders, even those exempt from the fee, are subject to the false alarm fines.

Cities require such registration so they have current contact information on file in the event that a home or business alarm is activated.

Keeping an alarm permit and emergency contact information current can help both the city and

homeowners reduce the number of false alarm calls.

Fowler said the goal of the program is to reduce false alarm calls which will result in faster response times for citizen calls for service, as well as pro-active policing in neighborhoods. He said the escalation in false



They will be issued citations by Mansfield Police that will be processed by Municipal Court and punishable by a fine of up to \$500. Locations that are permitted and experience frequent false alarms, are also subject to fines, starting at \$50 with the fourth and fifth false alarm, \$75 with the sixth and seventh and \$100 with the eighth and all subsequent false alarms.

City ordinance, amended and approved by council in October 2010, requires all alarm systems – both residential and commercial – to be permitted by the department. The amendments added a fee and fine structure to the city’s alarm ordinance. Previously, alarm permits were required but did not include a fee.

The City Council approved a fee schedule that will charge homeowners an initial fee of \$50 to register their alarm with a \$25 renewal fee each year after that. Seniors aged 65 years or older and 100 percent disabled veterans are exempt from the permit fee as are government institutions and schools. Businesses and churches



alarms from security systems operating within the city has placed an increased demand upon the department.

“This is not meant to penalize people,” Fowler said. “It’s to educate people about their alarm units and reduce unneeded police calls. It’s a safety issue, too. We want our citizens to maintain their systems to protect themselves.”



## Weather delays US 287 expansion project

Rain throughout December and in early this year has delayed construction of the US 287 expansion project.

Originally scheduled to be completed in December, redesign of the Texas U turn bridges at Walnut Creek Drive and East Broad Street delayed the project to March.



The recent rains are expected to extend the completion of the project into April, city staff said.

“Hopefully we can reopen the entrance and exit ramps at East Broad Street by early March,” said traffic engineer David Boski. “At the same time, crews are working on the driveways to the businesses along the access road. We expect for the Walnut Creek ramps to close some time in March. Intersection work at Walnut Creek will start



about the same time. Those closures will cause the most traffic delays.”

Boski said preliminary work on the bridge and intersection aesthetics including monuments and landscaping is already underway but will not be completed until after road work is finished.

## East Broad Street extension to begin this fall

The extension of East Broad Street from Holland Road to Day Miar Road should be under construction by fall, city engineers say.

Design work and right-of-way acquisition is expected to be completed this spring, with approximately four to six months for utility relocation. With construction expected to take up to one year, the project is expected to be completed by mid 2013. The \$3 million extension is funded by the city and Tarrant County.

This is the final segment of East Broad Street to be expanded to a four-lane, divided parkway. The roadway runs east-west across the city, from Main Street to Day Miar Road, the city’s eastern most boundary. West Broad Street is also being widened. The final phase of that project, from Cotton to the city’s western boundary, is currently underway.

City engineers say repairs are also being planned for damaged segments of East Broad Street between US 287 and Highway 360. City crews are replacing panels of the concrete roadway a few at a time in order to keep travel flowing and detours to a minimum.

## Raised medians on Debbie Lane to improve traffic flow, safety near retail

Construction will begin in April to add raised medians along Debbie Lane between US 287 and FM 157, near the busy Mansfield Town Crossing Shopping Center.

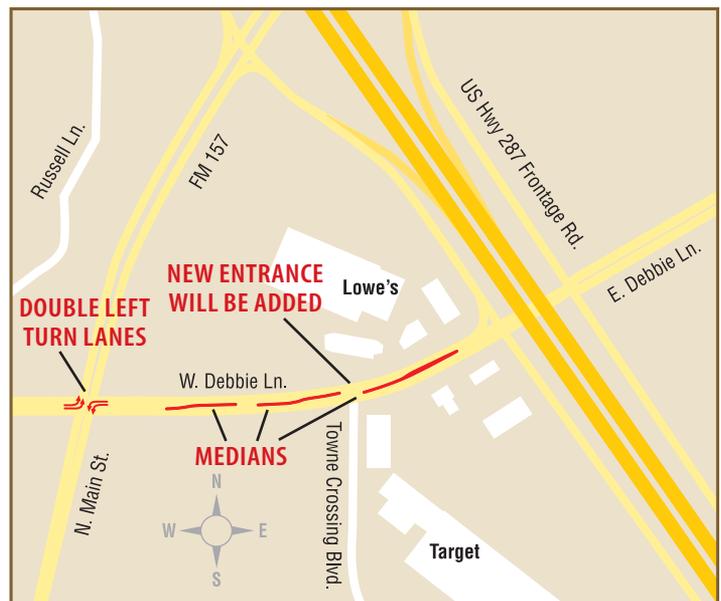
The \$575,000 project will control traffic entering the shopping center by only allowing left turn from westbound Debbie Lane at Towne Crossing Boulevard. Drivers traveling west on Debbie Lane will have easier access to retail parking at Target via the southbound US 287 frontage road. An entrance to the retail area on the north side of Debbie Lane will be added at Towne Crossing Boulevard.

“There have been numerous accidents in this area, and one fatality, as drivers have attempted to enter the shopping center on the Debbie Lane side,” said David Boski, traffic engineer for the city. “They have to cross several lanes of heavy traffic and visibility is often difficult with westbound cars attempting to turn left into Target and eastbound cars turning left into the side entrance of Lowe’s.”

Boski said the distance between the traffic signals at 287 and 157 makes it difficult to add another light on Debbie Lane and keep traffic flowing efficiently. “Business owners in that area see the safety problems and support the project,” he said.

In addition to the medians, the improvements include adding dual left turn lanes on Debbie Lane at the FM 157 intersection. Boski said this will improve traffic flow on Debbie Lane, particularly during events at the new Performing Arts Center of Mansfield.

Work is expected to be completed by October, includes adding an asphalt overlay. One lane of Debbie Lane each direction will remain open at all times.



**This Quarterly Road Report includes current street projects underway by the City of Mansfield Public Works Department and TxDOT. For additional information, call Steve Freeman at (817) 276-4234 or Bart VanAmburgh at (817) 276-4233.**

## Street Bond Program (construction)

### *Callender Road (US 287 to Turner Warnell Road)*

This project includes reconstructing Callender Road to a four-lane, undivided section with extra width to accommodate a bike route. It also includes installation of a storm drainage system and water and sewer improvements. The traffic control plan requires one-way traffic southbound to provide room for construction. Water and sewer utilities are complete and storm drainage improvements are underway. The project is expected to be completed by the end of 2012.

### *Newport Drive*

This reconstruction project consists of sewer line replacement, storm drain improvements and concrete pavement with new curb and gutter. Utility construction is underway.

## Street Bond Program (design)

### *East Broad Street (Holland to Day Miar)*

This project includes reconstruction of East Broad Street to a four-lane, divided section with intersection improvements at Day Miar Road. Final plans are prepared and right-of-way acquisition is underway. Project should bid early 2012.

### *West Broad Street, Phase 2 (Cotton Street to Retta Road)*

This project is a four-lane, divided extension of Phase 1. Final plans are prepared. The right-of-way acquisition process is underway and utility relocations are expected to begin this spring.

### *Debbie Lane Median (US 287 to FM 157)*

This project involves installing a raised median in this section of Debbie Lane to control turning and improve safety. It also includes reconfiguration of lanes at the intersection with FM 157. Final construction plans are being prepared by the consultant and the project is expected to bid late spring.

### *South Holland Road (Sports Complex to Britton)*

This project is in the bond program for design only. There is no construction funding at this time. Staff is reviewing the scope of services for a survey and preliminary alignment study.

### *Matlock Road @ Debbie Lane and Mansfield Webb Road*

This intersection improvement project will provide for dual left turn lanes on all four approaches at the Debbie/Matlock intersection and a right turn lane from northbound Matlock onto eastbound Mansfield Webb. The project area is being surveyed for preliminary design.

### *East Broad Street @ Miller Road*

This intersection improvement project involves increasing the radius at all corners and providing a right turn lane from eastbound Broad Street onto southbound Miller Road. Preliminary design is under way.

### *Debbie Lane and Matlock Road*

The engineering staff is providing in-house design for five left turn lanes on Matlock Road and Debbie Lane to reduce congestion and enhance safety.

## Intersections & Miscellaneous Projects

### *Kimball Street (3rd Street to Dawson Street)*

This is the 2009 CDBG reconstruction project. Utility construction is nearly complete.

### *North 4th Street and Oak Street (Broad Street to 2nd Avenue)*

This is the 2011 CDBG reconstruction project. Preliminary design is under review by City staff.

### *Heritage Parkway (Mitchell Road to Matlock Road)*

MEDC contracted for the design of this project in December 2008. It involves a four-lane, divided section completing the link from US 287 to SH 360 including bridges over the railroad. Final roadway and bridge design is under way. Right-of-way and easement negotiations are under way.

## TxDOT Projects

### *US 287 Frontage Roads and Texas U-Turns (Broad Street to Walnut Creek Drive)*

This project involves completing the northbound and southbound frontage roads of US 287 from Broad Street to Walnut Creek Drive. It also includes



Texas U-Turn bridges on both sides of Walnut Creek Drive and the north side of Broad Street. Construction completion is officially scheduled for March 2012, but will likely change to April. The Broad Street ramps should be open early March. Reconstruction of the ramps south of Walnut Creek Drive will begin in March; the duration of those closures should be approximately two to three weeks, weather permitting.

### *Traffic Signal (FM 157 at Forest Mill Trail)*

TxDOT has prepared plans for this signal. Construction should be complete by April 2011.

### *FM 1187 widening (Bus 287 to Newt Patterson Road)*

This state highway is being widened to four lanes. TxDOT opened bids for construction in March 2010. Eastbound lanes are currently being paved and should be open to traffic early summer 2012. This project is scheduled for completion by summer 2013.



*President's Column*

## Cooperative spirit still lives in Mansfield 150 years later



Sometimes, two is better than one. Sometimes, it takes the energy of a duo to turn the work of a single person into something extraordinary.

Mansfield is a perfect example of the concept. In 1856

Ralph Man and Julian Feild were partners in a grist mill located near what is now historic downtown Mansfield. They worked together to make their venture a success and their prosperity grew into a town that incorporated in 1890 and is now home to almost 60,000 people.

Even now partnerships play a significant role in Mansfield's development. The current road construction on Highway 287 is a partnership between the city, county, state and federal governments. The expansion at Hawaiian Falls this spring is a partnership between the city and the company that runs and maintains the water park.

The Mansfield Economic Development Corporation represents one of our community's strongest partnerships – between the city, its citizens and the business owners who call Mansfield home. The half-cent sales tax supported by residents funds the MEDC, that works with city staff to promote, recruit and retain businesses for local jobs and services.

It's an important job that requires a teamwork approach. If you look at the many successes Mansfield has enjoyed over the last 15 years, most, if not all, are the result of a concerted effort in the community. No one person can build a city.

And that teamwork approach is even more critical now as economic conditions present challenges on everything from funding infrastructure to recruiting new businesses. It's during these times that our focus on partnerships and teamwork can benefit us the most.

So as we report about new businesses and industry, expansions to facilities and attractions and the completion of new roads and highways, remember that it represents the work of many city officials, board volunteers, business owners and community leaders who believe in the same spirit of cooperation and partnership that began this city more than 100 years ago.

## MEDC to fund extension of Heritage Parkway

The Mansfield Economic Development Corporation is providing \$7 million in funding to complete the extension of Heritage Parkway, from Mitchell Road to Matlock Road, opening an important east-west corridor through southeast Mansfield.

The project, which also includes \$2.8 million from Tarrant County, is in its final design phase. This includes bridges over the Union Pacific Railroad line. Right-of-way and easement negotiations are also underway.

The extension will be a four-lane, divided parkway and will complete the link from Highway 360 to Highway 287.

"This will greatly impact our ability to market property in that area for development," said Economic Development Director Scott Welmaker. The MEDC owns property at the southeast corner of Heritage Parkway and Highway 287 and is marketing the land to industrial users.

"This road will also improve access to the entertainment district, giving people traveling to Big League Dreams and Hawaiian Falls another east-west route to the parks."

The project is expected to begin construction in late 2012 and be completed in early 2014.



## American Motorcycle Trading, Texas Refinery to locate new operations in Mansfield

Two new businesses are heading to Mansfield, adding to the stock of local companies that are expanding or relocating to the city.

American Motorcycle Trading Company and Texas Refinery will



set up shop this spring. Economic development officials said that landing the two companies helps keep Mansfield's economy vital and growing.

"I get excited about bringing in new business," said Scott Welmaker, director of economic development. "We try to maintain a business-friendly environment here so a lot of companies find Mansfield appealing."

American Motorcycle's owner, Bob Luecke, lives in Mansfield. The company has another motorcycle shop in Arlington.

"He thinks that there's a good market here for that, and he's right," Welmaker said.

Luecke said the company's new three-acre site, at Turner Warnell Road and Main Street, would allow him to diversify the products he sells to include ATV's, motorcycles, parts and possibly large commercial lawnmowers.

"We'll be able to do a little bit more than we do here in Arlington," he said. "It will be a big project."

Welmaker said that opening a new business in that area could encourage future redevelopment projects there.

Another new business, Texas Refinery Corporation, will relocate from its longtime Fort Worth location to Mansfield.

The company produces, blends and distributes industrial coating and lubricants, according to the company's web site. Texas Refinery also produces waterproofing products for roofs, asphalt parking lots, concrete floors and masonry structures.

The company will occupy an eight-acre site in the city. Welmaker said company officials called the move from the business' current north Fort Worth location a good one.

"It's given them the opportunity to update their processes and become more efficient," he said.



## MaryLou's Sandwich Shoppe

137 N. Main St.  
Mansfield, TX 76063  
682-518-8997  
Mon - Fri: 10:30 am - 2:30 pm



*Photo Mansfield News Mirror*

Melisa Perez has a love and passion for historic downtown Mansfield. One of the founders of the newly formed Historic Mansfield Business Association says she wanted to find a way to bring more people to the downtown area.

"What better way than with food," Perez said.

Perez and her mother Mary Dalton turned that passion into MaryLou's Sandwich Shoppe, downtown's newest eatery. The shop serves

homemade sandwiches, soups and cake.

"We are working on adding to the menu," she said. "We're looking at adding salads. And everything we serve is homemade."

Perez said she hopes the downtown area continues to grow and sees the sandwich shop as a way to contribute. And it's a family affair, with she and her mom owning the business and Perez's daughter Ca'lee Hernandez working

behind the counter.

"The people in downtown are great. We love being a part of it."

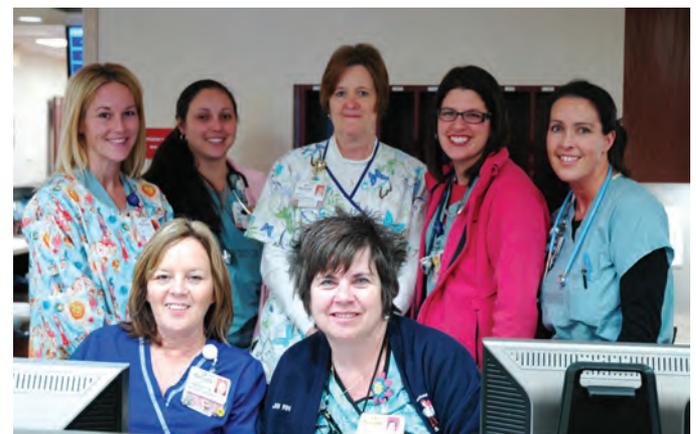
Mary Lou's is open from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and is closed Saturday and Sunday.

## City celebrates expansion of Women's Pavilion at Methodist Mansfield

City and community leaders were on hand last month to commemorate the opening of Methodist Mansfield Medical Center's \$9.1 million expansion and renovation of its Women's Pavilion.

Nurses showed visitors touring the project their newly expanded nurses' station, along with new labor and delivery suites and renovated family room.

Methodist President John Phillips thanked City Council Members Darryl Haynes, Wendy Burgess and Cory Hoffman, as well as City Manager Clayton Chandler, for the City of Mansfield's support of the hospital. He also praised community leaders who joined with the hospital's foundation to raise money for the project.



## Industry Profile

### RVs built in Mansfield find a home on the open road thanks to Skyline

Eddie Romines knows there's just something about travel trailers and fifth-wheels that makes people yearn for a simpler time and crave the open road.

Romines manages the Mansfield facility of Skyline Corporation, a company that builds trailers, recreational vehicles (RV's) and manufactured homes. He said the rigs that the 60-year-old company turns out are as popular as ever.

"Some people grew up with these or always wanted one," he said. "There's a nostalgic, Americana feel to them. They represent a time when people got outdoors and got on the highway. They mean sharing time together,

Romines said the travel trailers in particular have become more streamlined over the years and now are lighter, more aerodynamic to tow and friendly to the gas gauge. He said many models can be towed by most half-ton vehicles.

"We've stayed with what customers want," he said. "They want better materials and they want us to keep our products viable, economical and environmentally friendly. The industry has come a long way."

He said the travel units have the newest technology, including televisions and computer stations.

"People want

to get together as a family and see lakes and mountains," he said. "It's about spending time together, maybe cooking outdoors. It's an activity where everyone can come together."

*"The economy has been strong in Texas. And although these are a discretionary purchase, it's still a vital industry. When it's time spent with your family it's something that people are more willing to buy."*

**Eddie Romines,  
Skyline Corporation**

And despite a downturn in the national economy, he said, business is good.

"The economy has been strong in Texas," he



traveling our country and seeing the world."

The Mansfield facility produces travel trailers and fifth-wheels and has operated in the city since 1971.

The company was founded in 1951 in Indiana. Skyline first produced mobile homes and evolved into travel trailers. Skyline has built more than 870,000 homes and 460,000 recreational vehicles with sales exceeding \$15 billion, according to the company's web site.

Most of Skyline's travel-trailers run from \$10,000 to \$35,000 but some of the more elaborately furnished 30-foot RV's can top \$100,000 and serve as second homes for some people.

said. "And although these are a discretionary purchase, it's still a vital industry. When it's time spent with your family it's something that people are more willing to buy."

Romines said the Mansfield site has been a good location for the company. Some workers, most who live in the area, have been with the company for 30 years.

"We hire Texans, people who live here," he said. "This is a business-friendly environment. It's a good place to live and work."

#### Skyline Corporation Fast Facts

##### Founded:

1951 in Elkhart, Indiana

##### Financials:

Publicly owned and traded on NYSE

##### Mansfield facility:

Opened 1971

##### Total sales since 1951:

\$15 billion

##### Total production since 1951:

870,000 homes  
460,000 RVs

##### Operations:

13 facilities in 10 states

## Public meeting schedule

### City Council

7 p.m. the second and fourth  
Mondays of each month,  
Mansfield City Hall, 1200 E. Broad St.

### Planning & Zoning Commission

6:30 p.m. the first and third  
Mondays of each month,  
Mansfield City Hall, 1200 E. Broad St.

### Mansfield Economic Development Corporation (MEDC)

6 p.m. the first Tuesday of each month  
Mansfield City Hall, 1200 E. Broad St.

### Mansfield Park Facilities Development Corporation (MPFDC)

7 p.m. the third Thursday of each month,  
Mansfield City Hall, 1200 E. Broad St.

### Library Advisory Board

6 p.m. the second Wednesday of each month,  
Mansfield Public Library  
Community Room, 104 S. Wisteria St.

### Zoning Board of Adjustment

6 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month,  
Mansfield City Hall, 1200 E. Broad St.

### Keep Mansfield Beautiful Commission

5:30 p.m. the third Monday of each month,  
Mansfield City Hall, 1200 E. Broad St.

## Important numbers

City Hall	817-276-4200
Animal Control	817-477-2038
Library	817-473-4391
MAC	817-453-5420
Public Safety Building	817-276-4700
Municipal Court	817-276-4716
Law Enforcement Center	817-473-8676
Parks Operations	817-473-1943
Tarrant County Tax Office	817-884-1100
Seniors	817-453-5420 ext. 2227
Utility Operations (after 5 p.m.)	817-473-8411

## Mansfield City Council

The Mansfield City Council meets at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at Mansfield City Hall located at 1200 E. Broad St.



**David L. Cook**, Mayor  
1200 E. Broad St.  
Mansfield, Texas 76063  
(817) 276-4204  
david.cook@mansfield-tx.gov



**Brent Newsom**, Place 2  
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**Stephen Lindsey**, Place 3  
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**Darryl Haynes**, Place 4  
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**Cory Hoffman**, Place 5  
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**Wendy Burgess**, Place 6  
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wendy.burgess@mansfield-tx.gov



**Larry Broseh**, Place 7  
Mayor Pro Tem  
1200 E. Broad St.  
Mansfield, Texas 76063  
(817) 477-2509  
larry.broshe@mansfield-tx.gov

## Spring 2012 Calendar of Events

Month	Date	Event	Time	Location
MARCH	2	Mansfield Reads! Author Event	6 p.m.	Library
	5	Planning & Zoning Commission	6:30 p.m.	City Hall
	5	City Council	7 p.m.	City Hall
	6	MEDC board meeting	6 p.m.	City Hall
	7	Zoning Board of Adjustment	6 p.m.	City Hall
	12-16	Mansfield ISD Spring Break		
	14	Library Advisory Board	6 p.m.	Library Community Room
	17	St. Paddy's Pickle Parade	2 p.m.	Historic Downtown Mansfield
	19	Keep Mansfield Beautiful Commission	5:30 p.m.	City Hall
	19	Rain Barrel Class	6-8 p.m.	Water Treatment Plant
	22	MPFDC board meeting	7 p.m.	City Hall
	24	Household Hazardous Waste Collection	9 - 11 a.m.	City Hall
	26	City Council	7 p.m.	City Hall
	APRIL	2	Planning & Zoning Commission	6:30 p.m.
3		MEDC board meeting	6 p.m.	City Hall
4		Zoning Board of Adjustment	6 p.m.	City Hall
6		Good Friday; City offices closed; MAC, Library open		
9		City Council	7 p.m.	City Hall
11		Library Advisory Board	6 p.m.	Library Community Room
14		Beautification Day	7 a.m. - noon	
16		Planning & Zoning Commission	6 p.m.	City Hall
16		Keep Mansfield Beautiful Commission	5:30 p.m.	City Hall
19		MPFDC board meeting	7 p.m.	City Hall
21		Trash Off	9 - Noon	Town Park
24		City Council	7 p.m.	City Hall
28		Shred Away	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	City Hall
30	Early Voting begins	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Tarrant County Sub Courthouse, City Hall	
MAY	1	MEDC board meeting	6 p.m.	City Hall
	2	Zoning Board of Adjustment	6 p.m.	City Hall
	5	Early Voting	7 a.m. - 7 p.m.	Tarrant County Sub Courthouse, City Hall
	6	Early Voting	11 a.m.-4 p.m.	Tarrant County Sub Courthouse, City Hall
	7	Planning & Zoning Commission	6:30 p.m.	City Hall
	9	Library Advisory Board	6 p.m.	Library Community Room
	14	City Council	7 p.m.	City Hall
	12	Municipal Election	7 a.m. - 7 p.m.	
	17	MPFDC board meeting	6 p.m.	City Hall
	19	Household Hazardous Waste Collection	9 - 11 a.m.	City Hall
	21	Keep Mansfield Beautiful Commission	5:30 p.m.	City Hall
	21	Planning & Zoning Commission	6:30 p.m.	City Hall
	28	Memorial Day; All city offices closed; MAC and Library closed		
29	City Council	7 p.m.	City Hall	