



Scott Shanley  
General Manager

# *Town of Manchester*

## General Manager's Report

June 2006

### **Town Hall Closing**

Municipal offices will be closed Tuesday, July 4 for Independence Day.

### **General Manager's Office**

#### **Manchester Government Academy**

The eighth session of the Manchester Government Academy class has concluded. Congratulations to the following graduates:

Joshua Asselin	Keith Podrebartz
Ara Bramanis	Monica Rezman
Leons Bramanis	Steve Ruscik
Linda Brown	Janice Sayre
Teresa Cerasoli	John Sayre
Anna-Marie Dionne	Marion Shemanskis
Dave Figley	Michael Stebe
Ryan Ford	James Steele
Elizabeth Frascarelli	Thomas Stringfellow
Patricia Hetzel	Bill Wagner
Lillian Krukus	Edward Wait
Michael McDermid	Jeanne Wright
Helen Partridge	Kathleen Ynez
Brenda Paullo	Robert Ynez

### **Finance Department**

#### **Assessment and Collection**

Final preparations for mailing of tax bills is nearly completed. Tax bills are expected to be mailed in mid June this year. An estimated 68,000 total tax bills will be mailed which includes 17,000 real estate tax bills, over 47,000 motor vehicle tax bills and over 3,000 personal property tax bills.

The Manchester Collector's Office reminds residents that current tax payments are due by 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 1, 2006. The office will be open late that day to accept payments. Current taxes include motor vehicle tax bills and the first installment for real estate and personal property. If bills are paid after this time, interest will be charged at a rate of 1.5% per month from July 1, 2006, with a minimum charge of \$2.00. When real estate bills are mailed in June, there is one mailing and both payment coupons are attached. The first installment is due in July 2006 and the second installment is due in January 2007. This billing is the only mailing taxpayers will receive. The January payment coupon is contained with the June mailing. Taxpayers are urged to mark their calendars for January 2007 to remember to make their second installment payment on time to avoid interest, which will have to be added to bills that are not paid by August 1, 2006 for the first installment and February 1, 2007 for the second installment. Notices and reminders will be placed in the newspaper and on the "Manchester Matters" e-mail service, as well as posted with the Town Clerk's Office and the Office of Assessment and Collection.

Current tax payments (not delinquent) may also be made at the Customer Service and Information Center in Town Hall or at any Manchester branch of New Alliance Bank. In addition, New Alliance Bank has convenient evening and Saturday hours. Manchester branch offices of New Alliance Bank will offer tax payment services through August 1, 2006. Please remember to bring a copy of your current tax bill. You may reach the Office of the Collector at 647-3018 and the Assessor's Office at 647-3016. Both offices have the same fax number 647-3099. The office will be open 8:20 a.m.– 4:40 p.m. Monday through Friday. Special extended hours of operation will be offered on Monday, July 31, 2006 and August 1, 2006 until 6:00 p.m.

Anyone who has bought or sold vehicles, or moved since October 1, 2005, will receive a tax bill in June of 2006 for vehicles that were registered on October 1, 2005. If a taxpayer no longer owns the vehicle that is the subject of a tax bill, the tax bill might be eligible for a prorated assessment, based on the number of months of ownership within the assessment year.

The Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles does not inform municipalities when a taxpayer disposes of a vehicle. The owner must inform the Assessor's Office of their vehicle's disposition. A "Required Proofs for Adjustments of Motor Vehicle Tax Bills" brochure will be inserted into all motor vehicle tax bills mailed in June 2006. This brochure will assist taxpayers in providing the documentation the Assessor's Office needs to adjust tax bills.

For a new vehicle purchased between October 2, 2005 and July 31, 2006, the first tax bill for the new vehicle will be on the Motor Vehicle Supplemental Grand List of October 1, 2005. Those bills will be mailed in December 2006. If the license plate is transferred from the old car to the new car, the entire bill will be on the 2005 Regular Grand List in July 2006, and there will be a credit for the old vehicle on the Supplemental Bill in December 2006. If the

license plate on the old vehicle is returned to DMV, the Assessor's Office will manually adjust the bill, as applicable, based on the documentation provided by the taxpayer.

Work on the revaluation for the Grand List of October 1, 2006 continues and is on schedule. There is a special citizen information paper on the Town website for those interested in reading about the town wide property revaluation and its impact on Town finances. For more information, please visit <http://www.townofmanchester.org/> and look for the Document Center on the left-hand side of the page, and then click on "Upcoming 2006 Revaluation".

### **Town Clerk's Office**

#### **Upcoming Events**

Eighth Annual Family History Day – Saturday, June 3 from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. in the Town Clerk's Office.

Dog License Day – Saturday, June 3 with licensing at Town Hall and the Rabies Clinic at the Central Fire Station from 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

#### **Statistics for 2006**

Land Recordings	4,000
Vitals	
Births	315
Marriages	71
Civil Unions	8
Deaths	195

### **Customer Service and Information Center**

#### **Band Shell Concert Schedules**

Schedules for the summer concert series are now available at the Town Hall Customer Service and Information Center, Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m., 647-5235.

The first concert will be June 11: Manchester Symphony Orchestra and Chorale, followed by the Sounding Brass Quintet.

All concerts are 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at the Manchester Bicentennial Band Shell on the grounds of Manchester Community College. Admission is free, but donations are welcomed, as are volunteers. For more information, please visit [www.manchesterbandshell.com/](http://www.manchesterbandshell.com/)

Fireworks and Barbeque

Saturday, July 1 (Rain date – July 2) - James Dutch Fogarty Independence Day Celebration

Tickets for the annual Chicken BBQ will be on sale mid June for \$7.00 in the Customer Service and Information Center in Town Hall. Tickets purchased the day of the event are \$8.00. For more information, please call 647-5235.

**Building Department**

**Activity for April 2006**

Building Permits

Total Applications Received	278
Total Permits Issued	45
Total Revenue	\$86,188
Construction Value	\$6,317,705
Inspections Conducted	551

Code Enforcement

Cases Opened	35
Cases Closed	23
Inspections Conducted	63

Comparison of the first ten months of the fiscal year

Building Permits	2006	2005
Total Permits Issued	2,442	2,756
Total Revenue	\$677,240.87	\$898,895.58
Total Construction Value	\$56,792,291.22	\$70,101,300.20
Inspections Conducted	7,576	7,513

Code Enforcement

Cases Opened	566	311
Cases Closed	619	152
Inspections Conducted	1,033	583

## **Manchester Public Library**

### **Summer Programming**

The Adult Book Discussion Group will meet on Monday, June 12 at 7:00 p.m. at Mary Cheney Library to discuss the book, "Sweet Hereafter" by Russell Banks.

Teen Nights will be held each Wednesday evening in June at 6:30 p.m. at Mary Cheney Library.

The Summer Reading Program for adults, teens, and children begins on Monday, June 19 and continues through late August. A variety of programs will be offered throughout the summer at both library buildings.

## **Human Services**

### **Senior Center**

**Renter's Rebate Program** - Manchester Senior, Adult, and Family Services is completing applications for the Connecticut Renter's Rebate Program until September 15. This program provides a one-time yearly payment to renters based on income, rent, and utilities of the previous year (2005). Applicants must be age 65 or over by 12/31/05 or be permanently and totally disabled of any age as defined by Social Security. The income limits (including Social Security) are \$33,900 for a married couple and \$27,700 for a single person.

Applicants should bring proof of all 2005 income (including Social Security, pensions, wages, interest and dividends), proof of all rent and utilities paid in 2005 and proof of disability if under age 65.

For questions or to schedule an appointment, call Senior, Adult and Family Services at 647-3096 or 647-3095 from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Information is also available on the 24-hour recorded Human Services Information Line. Dial 647-3270, press 4, press 1, and online at <http://humanservices.ci.manchester.ct.uys/elderly/rentersrebate.htm>.

**Health Care Counseling** - Do you know someone who is concerned about healthcare benefits? Bob O'Brien, CHOICES trained volunteer, is available for private confidential appointments at the Senior Center on the first and third Thursday of the month from 10:00 – 12:00 noon. He can assist with the following information and forms: ConnPACE, Medicare explanations and problems, Medicare D – new sign ups and problems, Medicare Savings Plans, Medigap Insurance, Medicare Managed Care. Call the Senior Center for an appointment to see Mr. O'Brien.

**Manchester Fire-Rescue-EMS**

**Activity Report for April 2006**

Medical/Rescue	451
Fire Related	26
Hazardous Conditions	19
Public Service	39
Good Intent	57
False	21
Mutual Aid	<u>1</u>
Total Calls	614

**Staffing Update**

Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal Robert Barker was promoted to his present rank/position on Sunday April 30, 2006. Fire Marshal Barker served as Deputy Fire Marshal in the Fire Marshal's office from November 1998 until his recent promotion. A formal swearing-in ceremony is scheduled for June.

**Color Guard News**

The department's Color Guard team traveled to Boston on May 22, 2006 to present the colors prior to the Boston Red Sox-New York Yankees game. Traveling with the Color Guard was another Manchester Fire-Rescue-EMS Department member who marched the team onto the field while playing bagpipe.

**Recognition and Awards Ceremony**

The department held its first annual Employee Recognition and Awards Ceremony on May 16, 2006. 125 fire department members and family attended the ceremony, which was at the Manchester Country Club. Thirty uniformed members were recognized for exhibiting excellence in the performance of their duty.

**Recreation Department**

**June/July events**

Pride in Manchester Week is June 3 – 10.

The summer aquatics season begins June 17 at Globe Hollow Pool and June 26 at all other pools.

The adult summer basketball league begins play the third week of June and the youth league is scheduled to begin the last week of June.

The July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration will be July 1 (rain date July 2) at Manchester Community College. Activities begin at 4:00 p.m. and conclude with fireworks.

For information on any of these events, please call the Recreation Office at 647-3084.

**Newly Hired**

Erin Simmons - Librarian I, Manchester Public Library  
Lisa Maslowski - Library Tech I, Manchester Public Library  
Jeffrey Kulhay - Police Officer, Manchester Police Department  
Bradley Bage - Police Officer, Manchester Police Department  
Marilyn Smith - Senior Administrative Secretary, Water & Sewer Dept.  
Gary Anderson - Senior Planner, Planning Department  
Justin Zipkin - Systems Programmer, Information Systems

**Recently Retired**

Lorraine Duke - Detective, Police Department  
Laura Rival - Laboratory Director, Water and Sewer Department  
Francis Savino - Maintainer II, Public Works Department  
Doretta O'Hara Gladysz - Tech Support Supervisor, Information Systems