



Steven R. Werbner
General Manager

Town of Manchester

General Manager's Report

August 2005

General Manager's Office

Manchester Government Academy

The next session of Manchester Government Academy will begin on Thursday evening, September 8. This successful program began three years ago and is offered in the fall and in the spring. Participants attend sessions on Thursday evenings and two Saturdays in various locations in Town to learn more about local government. The program is free and is open to any resident and those who work in Manchester. Come learn more about how Town departments operate. This is also an excellent opportunity to meet Town staff and find out what they do in their positions to provide customer service to those who live and work in Manchester. For more information, please visit the Town website at www.ci.manchester.ct.us or call Tricia Catania at 647-3102.

Manchester Public Library

Children's Summer Programs

Sparky's Puppets on Tuesday, August 16 and the Island Rhythm Family Dance Party on Tuesday, August 23 are two programs available to children. Each of these programs will be offered at 3:30 p.m. at the Whiton Branch Library and at 6:30 p.m. at the Mary Cheney Library.

Teen Programs

Teen programs are scheduled for each Wednesday evening through August 17 at 6:30 p.m. and include "read-the-book-watch-the movie" nights and Beading Night. Thursday afternoons at 3:00 p.m. is the Teen Chess and Games program through August 18. These programs are offered at the Cheney Library.

Adult Programs

Adult programs include the August 22 book discussion at 7:00 p.m. of the book "Expecting Adam" by Martha Beck and a computer class on August 6 at 2:00 p.m. These programs are offered at the Cheney Library.

Human Services

Senior Center

The Senior Center will be closed for two weeks for all regular programs, activities, lunch and other business after the end of all programs on Friday, August 12. Grocery and non-grocery shopping will continue as usual. During this shutdown, staff will be receiving training, the building will be worked on, and a variety of projects will be completed to get ready for the fall season. Reopening will occur on Monday, August 29.

New membership cards will be issued beginning on Monday, August 29. All seniors should renew membership between August 29 and September 30. Senior Center membership cards will now include photos and may also be used as a Recreation Facility pass. The new card will be valid through August 31, 2006.

Evening programs will be offered on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings beginning Tuesday, September 13. Activities will include fitness classes, bridge, ceramics, woodworking, dances, health and educational programming. Each Wednesday evening a meal will be offered for \$5.00 followed by a special program. Transportation will be available on Wednesday evenings.

Saturday programming will begin on Saturday, September 17. Saturday activities will include fitness classes, line dancing, crafts and quilting classes. A complete listing of evening and Saturday activities will be available in the Senior Center September Newsletter.

Rent Rebate Program

The Senior, Adult and Family Services Division began completing applications for the State of Connecticut's **Renter's Rebate Program** on May 16. This program provides a one-time yearly payment to renters based on income, rent and utilities of the previous year (2004). Applicants must be **65 or over by 12/31/04** or be **permanently and totally disabled** of any age as defined by Social Security. The income limits (including Social Security) are **\$33,000 for a married couple** and **\$27,100 for a single person**. Applicants need to bring proof of all 2004 income (including Social Security, pensions, wages, interest and dividends), proof of all rent and utilities paid in 2004 and proof of disability if under 65. Applications are completed at the Senior, Adult, and Family Services Office at the Weiss Center at 479 Main Street. Appointments are currently available and the program runs until September 15. For questions or to **schedule an appointment**, call **Senior, Adult, and Family Services at 647-3095**.

MELO (Manchester Early Learning Opportunities)

The MELO Project continues to promote children's development and readiness for school. The Project provides on-site visits by a Children's Librarian and a Curator from the Lutz Children's Museum to both home and center-based providers. The Project also offers workshops, playgroups, vision and hearing screenings, nurse consultation services, and special events. Upcoming events include a workshop on speech and language development, an excursion to the Mystic Aquarium and Seaport, the "Messy Marvin's" playgroup series and First Aid and Child/Infant CPR training. For a complete list of upcoming events and the MELO Newsletter, visit the Town's website.

The MELO Project is made possible through a grant from the Child Care Bureau, Administration on Children, Youth, and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The grant will end February 2006 and there is a search for new funding sources. For more information, Dawn Cook can be contacted at 647-7272.

Public Works Department

2005 Pavement Rehabilitation Program

The Highway Division began its annual Pavement Rehabilitation program in mid-July. The following streets will receive a pavement overlay: Griffin Road, Harvard Road, and Division Street.

The following streets will be milled, prior to receiving a pavement overlay: Columbus Street; Hartland Road; Lockwood Street; Hilliard Street; Franklin Street; Norman Street; South Street; Vernon Street (Lydall to Town Line); Dougherty Street; and Hartford Road (Elm to Main).

In addition to the regular program to mill and pave streets, this year's program will have several projects to reclaim the existing pavement, prior to paving. Reclamation involves the pulverizing, mixing and compacting of the existing pavement and soil under the pavement to create an improved road base to install new pavement. This process produces a better pavement structure, which results in a longer pavement life. It also allows the Town to make minor adjustments to the grade of the road to improve drainage and rideability.

The Town will be reclaiming Pine Street, Horton Road, Columbus Street (Broad to Irving), Cedar Street (Pleasant to Cooper Hill) and High Street (Pine to Cedar). Paving will begin after the road surface has been prepared, which is expected to be mid-August. Since this type of work involves regrading the surface, the operation is more involved and takes longer than a normal

2005 Pavement Rehabilitation Program (continued)

pavement overlay project. It is recommended that motorists seek alternate routes during construction.

During August, the Town will also be installing a thin overlay along selected sections of Keeney Street and Princeton Street as a maintenance operation due to the severe deterioration the pavement experienced from the past winter.

The Highway Division will also be reclaiming and paving the front parking lot at Lincoln Center and at the Lutz Museum.

For more information, the Highway Division may be contacted at 647-3244 or Public Works Administration at 647-3067.

Manchester Police Department

3-on-3 Basketball for Manchester Youth

The Police Department has formed a 3-on-3 Basketball League for Manchester Youth with three age categories (age 12 and under; age 13-15; and age 16-18). Competitions have been held on Fridays from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. on the outside courts at Washington School, 94 Cedar Street. The competitions will conclude with a Championship Tournament on Friday, August 12 at 6:00 p.m. at the Mahoney Recreation Center. For questions or additional information, Kevin Brophy may be contacted at 281-5411 or Erica Kelly at 281-5588.

Police Activity

Police activity through June 30, 2005 includes 5,251 total calls to service. There were 1,853 police cases and 790 calls to 911. Emergency calls consisted of 83 calls to the Eighth District; 360 to Town Fire and 1,845 to the Police Department.

Employee News

Recently Retired

Gail Dwyer – Manchester Public Library
Robert Payne – Public Works

Recently Hired

Lynn Abrahamson – Community Health Nurse, Health Department