

# Family Fun in Mansfield

January, February, March & April 2017

## Special Notes

- **Ballard Institute and Museum of Puppetry (BIMP)** (486-8585) ([bimp.uconn.edu](http://bimp.uconn.edu)) is located at 1 Royce Circle in Storrs Center and is open Tues-Sun., 11am-7pm. Permanent exhibit: *The World of Puppetry*. Special exhibits: *Frank Ballard's Marionette Modernism* and *Object, Image, Text: The Bread & Puppet Press* (through Feb. 12).; *Banners and Cranks: Paintings and Scrolls in Performance* (opens Feb. 23, 5pm). Don't miss the Spring Puppet Performance series for children Feb. 11, March 25, April 15, and April 25, listed below. And be sure to check out the FUN gift selections!
- **CT State Museum of Natural History & CT Archaeology Center (CSMNH)** (486-4460) ([mnh.uconn.edu](http://mnh.uconn.edu)) has its office on the UConn campus. For a full listing of current programs and registration information visit: [cac.uconn.edu/mnhcurrent](http://cac.uconn.edu/mnhcurrent) calendar.
- **Joshua's Trust (JT)** (Joshua's Tract Conservation and Historic Trust), Inc.) (429-9023) ([joshuaslandtrust.org](http://joshuaslandtrust.org)) offices are at 624 Wormwood Hill Rd. in Mansfield. JT manages over 4,000 acres in Northeast CT, most of which have walking trails open to the public. Check the website for a list of properties (with maps) + scheduled walks and programs at several JT properties in the area (including many that are family-friendly!) + the Passport Program. Lots of fun for families!!!
- **Mansfield Advocates for Children (MAC)** (429-3338) ([mansfieldadvocatesforchildren.org](http://mansfieldadvocatesforchildren.org)) is an organization of parents, school personnel, early care center directors, health professionals and others concerned with the health, successful learning and community connection for children ages 0-8 in Mansfield. This group meets the first Wed. of each month at 5:30pm to discuss policies and programs to enhance the lives of Mansfield's families. Dinner and childcare provided. Please contact Maggie Ferron ([FerronMB@mansfieldct.org](mailto:FerronMB@mansfieldct.org)) with questions. Check the website for a listing of early care and education providers in Mansfield.
- **Mansfield Parks and Recreation Dept. (MPRD)** (429-3015) ([mansfieldcc.com](http://mansfieldcc.com)) has **many** classes, programs and activities for young children. Check the brochure that is sent to every household for Winter 2017 & Spring 2017 offerings including snow-day activities, Community School of the Arts music and art classes, before- & after-school programs, information about **fee waivers** for eligible Mansfield residents and MUCH more!
- **Mansfield Public Library (MPL)** (423-2501) ([biblio.org/mansfield](http://biblio.org/mansfield)) offers 3 drop-in program series for children: **Toddler Time** (birth-36 months with caregiver), Fridays, 10:30am-12n, Jan. 6- March 24; **Family Storytime** (all ages with caregiver), Saturdays, 10:30-11:30am, January 7- April 29 (but NOT April 1); **Wonderful Wednesdays** (all ages with caregiver), Wednesdays, 10:30-11:30am, January 18 - April 26 (but NOT March 29). Check the website and at the library for special programs for young children and their families, some of which are listed below.
- **Mark Edward Freitas Ice Forum**, UConn (486-2712) offers skating lessons for ages 4 and up. Call for the schedule of lessons and general skating schedule, which changes frequently.
- **Storrs Farmers Market (SFM)** ([storrsfarmersmarket.org](http://storrsfarmersmarket.org)) is open year-round, including the following Saturdays during the winter months in the Buchanan Auditorium of the Mansfield Library from 3-5pm: Jan. 7 & 14; Feb. 4 & 18; March 4 & 18; April 8 & 22. Come for local winter food & products from old and new vendors! BUY and EAT LOCAL!!!
- **UConn Barnes & Noble Bookstore** (486-8525) ([bookstore.uconn.edu](http://bookstore.uconn.edu)) is located at 1 Royce Circle, Storrs Center, is open Mon.-Fri. 10am-9pm and Sat. & Sun. 10am-7pm, and has a **great** selection of children's (and other) books.
- **UConn Department of Animal Science (ANSC)** (486-2413) ([animal.science.uconn.edu](http://animal.science.uconn.edu)) ([animalscience.uconn.edu/visitors/tour.php](http://animalscience.uconn.edu/visitors/tour.php)) hosts a number of family-friendly animal-related events during the school year (Sept.-May) and allows visitors to several barns on the UConn campus, 7 days/wk., 10am-4pm. And be sure to visit the very "cool" Dairy Bar! Check out the polo game schedule & download a brochure for young children.
- **UConn EEB** (=Ecology and Evolutionary Biology) **Greenhouses** (486-4052) (<http://florawww.eeb.uconn.edu/>), on the UConn campus, house a huge collection of amazing live plants from all over the world! Call or visit the website for hours and additional information.
- **William Benton Museum of Art** (486-4520) ([thebenton.org](http://thebenton.org)) is on the UConn campus and open beginning Jan. 17 Tues.-Fri., 10am-4:30pm, Sat. & Sun., 1-4:30pm. Check the website for the list of exhibits, some of which may be of interest to/appropriate for children, as well as possible special programs for kids.

*For more information about the events listed in this calendar, check the following sources:*

ANSC = Department of Animal Science (UConn) (486-2413) ([animalscience.uconn.edu/calendar.php](http://animalscience.uconn.edu/calendar.php))  
BIMP = Ballard Institute and Museum of Puppetry (486-8580) ([bimp.ucpnn.edu](http://bimp.ucpnn.edu))  
CSMNH = CT State Museum of Natural History & CT Archaeology Center (486-4460) ([mnh.uconn.edu](http://mnh.uconn.edu))  
EOS = E.O. Smith High School (487-0877) ([eosmith.org](http://eosmith.org)); Drama Club (429-2179)  
JCPA = Jorgensen Center for the Performing Arts (UConn) (486-4226) ([jorgensen.uconn.edu](http://jorgensen.uconn.edu))  
MMS = Mansfield Middle School (429-9341) ([mansfieldct.org](http://mansfieldct.org))  
MPL = Mansfield Public Library ([mansfieldpubliclibraryct.org](http://mansfieldpubliclibraryct.org)) (423-2501)  
MPRD = Mansfield Parks and Recreation Department (429-3015) ([mansfieldcc.com](http://mansfieldcc.com))  
SFM = Storrs Farmers Market ([storrsfarmersmarket.org](http://storrsfarmersmarket.org)) ([storrsfarmersmarket@gmail.com](mailto:storrsfarmersmarket@gmail.com))

*Many of the following programs require advance registration and/or fees. Some programs may change times and/or location. Call ahead!*

*Fee waivers are available to eligible Mansfield residents for most Mansfield Parks and Recreation Department programs (429-3015). Scholarships and/or discounts may be available for other fee-based programs listed here.*

## JANUARY 2017

- Jan. 11 (Wed.), 6:30pm --- K-12 String Fling @ the Mansfield Middle School Auditorium. Fun for all ages! (MMS)  
Jan. 21 (Sat.), 3-5pm – Storrs Winter Farmers Market @ Buchanan Auditorium/Mansfield Library. Buy & Eat Local. (SFM)  
Jan. 21 (Sat.), 4-6pm – Family Paint Night: **Matisse**. Dress for a mess & have fun! BYO snack. (ages 5 +) (MPRD)  
Jan. 22 (Sun.), 1-3pm – Oak Grove Montessori School invites you to its annual Open House! (456-1031)  
Jan. 24 (Tues.), 4-5:30pm – After School Fun: Celebrate the Year of the Rooster; legends, crafts & activities! All ages. (MPL)  
Jan. 27 (Fri.), 7:30pm – Performance of the operetta *HMS Pinafore* by UConn Opera students @ Jorgensen Auditorium! (JCPA)  
Jan. 29 (Sun.), 3pm – Performance of the operetta *HMS Pinafore* by UConn Opera students @ Jorgensen Auditorium! (JCPA)

## FEBRUARY 2017

- Feb. 3 (Fri.), 7-9pm – 14th Annual Father (or)/Daughter Valentine's Dance @ Rome Ballroom, UConn (all ages) (MPRD)  
Feb. 4 (Sat.), 3-5pm – Storrs Winter Farmers Market @ Buchanan Auditorium/Mansfield Library. Buy & Eat Local. (SFM)  
Feb. 9 (Thurs.), 4-5:30pm – After School fun: Valentine Crafts for Kids; sparkly valentine fun for all ages! (MPL)  
Feb. 10 (Fri.), 5:30-8:30pm -- Family Inner Tube Water Polo Fun Night in the Pool at the Community Center! (MPRD)  
Feb. 10 (Fri.), 7:30pm – EOS Drama Club production of *The Addams Family Musical* @ EOS Auditorium! (EOS)  
Feb. 11 (Sat.), 11am & 2pm – BIMP's Spring puppet performance: *Cardboard Explosion!* by Brad Shur. (BIMP)  
Feb. 11 (Sat.), 1:30pm & 7:30pm – EOS Drama Club production of *The Addams Family Musical* @ EOS Auditorium. (EOS)  
Feb. 11 (Sat.), 1pm – Molecular Plant Remains at Archaeological Sites. Bio/Physics Rm. 130, UConn (8 + w/adult) (CSMNH)  
Feb. 11-12 (Sat.-Sun.), time TBD – Western Team Home Show @ Horsebarn Hill Arena, UConn (ANSC)  
Feb. 12 (Sun), 1:30pm – EOS Drama Club production of *The Addams Family Musical* @ EOS Auditorium. (EOS)  
Feb. 17 (Tues.), 7:30am-5:30pm – Recreation Rescue @ MMS for grades K-8; games, activities, a field trip and more! (MPRD)  
Feb. 18 (Sat.), 3-5pm – Storrs Winter Farmers Market @ Buchanan Auditorium/Mansfield Library. Buy & Eat Local. (SFM)  
Feb. 19 (Sun.), 1pm – A Sea Vegetable Saga; Sea Grant research in CT. Bio/Physics Rm. 130, UConn (8+ w/adult) (CSMNH)  
Feb. 20 (Mon.) + Feb. 21 (Tues.), 9am-4:30pm – Vacation Recreation art-making fun for grades K-6. Register early! (MPRD)  
Feb. 25 (Sat.), time TBD – Equestrian Team Home Show, Horsebarn Hill Arena, UConn (ANSC)  
Feb. 25 (Sat.), 4-6pm – Family Paint Night: **Franz Marc!** Dress for a mess & have fun! BYO snack. (ages 5 +) (MPRD)

## MARCH 2017

- March 3 (Fri.), 5:30-8:30pm – Winter Family Fun Night: LOTS of fun at the MCC for the whole family! (MPRD)  
March 4 (Sat.), 8am-3pm – District History Day @ Mansfield Middle School; student exhibits PLUS! (MMS)  
March 4 (Sat.), 3-5pm – Storrs Winter Farmers Market @ Buchanan Auditorium/Mansfield Library. Buy & Eat Local. (SFM)  
March 4 & 5 (Sat. & Sun.), 9am-4pm -- Connecticut Horse Symposium @ Horsebarn Hill Arena, UConn. (ANSC)  
March 5 (Sun.), 12n-2pm – Mount Hope Montessori School invites you to its annual Open House! (423-1070)  
March 5 (Sun.), 3pm – Take Note! presents a fundraising concert at St. Marks Chapel, N. Eagleville Rd., UConn. (228-2390)  
March 9 (Thurs.), 7:30pm – **KODO**; Dadan 2017: *very* exciting performance of Japanese drumming; for all ages! (JCPA)  
March 10 (Fri), 7:30am-5:30pm – Recreation Rescue @ MMS for grades K-8; games, activities, a field trip and more. (MPRD)  
March 11 (Sat.), 11am-5pm – E.O. Smith Coral Project sponsors a Coral Farmers Market: come see, buy, swap corals! (EOS)  
March 16 (Wed.), 7pm – Concert by E.O. Smith H.S. Bands @ ECSU Fine Arts Instructional Center, Willimantic (EOS)  
March 18 (Sat.), 3-5pm – Storrs Winter Farmers Market @ Buchanan Auditorium/Mansfield Library. Buy & Eat Local. (SFM)  
March 18 (Sat.), 5-7:30pm – Creative Kid/Parents Night Out for pre-K to grade 6; art, games; register early! (MPRD)  
March 21 (Tues.), 7pm – Concert by E.O. Smith H.S. Chamber Orchestra & Choir @ ECSU Fine Arts Instructional Center. (EOS)  
March 25 (Sat.), 7am-7pm – Bus trip to Boston for a day to explore on your own. (*register by March 10*) (MPRD)  
March 25 (Sat.), 11am & 2pm – BIMP's Spring Puppet Performance: *Word Play* by Good Hearted Entertainment (BIMP)  
March 25 (Sat.), 1-4pm – **WorldFest!** Ethnic music, food, games, activities in Student Union Ballroom, UConn (486-3855)  
March 25 (Sat.), 4-6pm – Family Paint Night: **Van Gogh**. Dress for a mess & have fun! BYO snack. (ages 5 +) (MPRD)  
March 25 (Sat.), 8pm – *Cuisine and Confessions*; acrobatic storytelling set in a kitchen. Fun for all ages!! (JCPA)  
March 25 (Sat.), time TBD -- Dressage Team Spring Show @ Horsebarn Hill Arena, UConn. (ANSC)  
March 26 (Sun.) 3pm – *Cuisine and Confessions*; acrobatic storytelling set in a kitchen. Fun for all ages!! (JCPA)  
March 30 (Thurs.), 7:30pm – The Russian National Ballet's performance of *The Sleeping Beauty*; gorgeous! (JCPA)  
March 31 (Fri.), 7pm – Mansfield Middle School student performance of *Shrek, Jr.* in the auditorium. Fun for all ages!!! (MMS)

## APRIL 2017

- April 1 (Sat.), 9am-4pm – Friends of the Mansfield Library **Book Sale** @ Buchanan Center. LOTS of children's books. (MPL)  
April 1 (Sat.), time TBD – State 4-H Poultry Show, Ratcliffe Hicks Arena, UConn (ANSC)  
April 1 (Sat.), 4:30-7:30pm – Family Fun Night: LOTS of fun at the Community Center for the whole family! (MPRD)  
April 1 (Sat.), 7pm – Mansfield Middle School student performance of *Shrek, Jr.* in the auditorium. Fun for all ages! (MMS)  
April 2 (Sun.), 9am-3pm – Friends of the Mansfield Library **Book Sale** @ Buchanan Center. LOTS of children's books. (MPL)  
April 2 (Sun.), time TBD – Dressage Team Home Show in Horsebarn Hill Arena, UConn. (ANSC)  
April 2 (Sun.), 1pm – Mansfield Middle School student performance of *Shrek, Jr.* in the auditorium. Fun for all ages!!! (MMS)  
April 8 (Sat.), 10am Brunch + 11am Performance by the UConn Dance Co. @ Mansfield Senior Center; fun for all! (487-9872)  
April 8 (Sat.), 10:30-11:30am – Puppet Show: *Canteen Tales* with puppeteer Shane McNeal; kitchen-inspired FUN! (MPL)  
April 8 (Sat.), 3-5pm – Storrs Winter Farmers Market @ Buchanan Auditorium/Mansfield Library. Buy & Eat Local. (SFM)

### *April School Vacation Camps, Workshops, Activities (April 10-14)*

**Contact:** Community School of the Arts (486-1073; [csa.uconn.edu](http://csa.uconn.edu)); Magnolia Run ([sawmillbrookfarm.com](http://sawmillbrookfarm.com)); Mansfield Parks & Recreation Dept. (429-3015; [mansfieldcc.com](http://mansfieldcc.com)); Mansfield Public Library (429-2501; [mansfieldpubliclibraryct.org](http://mansfieldpubliclibraryct.org))

- April 11 (Tues.), 2-3pm – Have a FUN time at a cartooning workshop with cartoonist and author Jerry Craft!!! (MPL)  
April 15 (Sat.), BIMP presents *The Banners and Cranks Festival of Picture Performance*; performances & workshop (BIMP)  
April 22 (Sat.), 7am-10pm – Bus trip to New York City for a day on your own in Lower Manhattan (*register by April 8*) (MPRD)  
April 22 (Sat.), 11am & 2pm – BIMP's Spring Puppet Performance: *Hansel and Gretel* by National Marionette Theatre (BIMP)  
April 22 (Sat.), 3-5pm – Storrs Winter Farmers Market @ Buchanan Auditorium/Mansfield Library. Buy & Eat Local. (SFM)  
April 22 (Sat.), time TBD – UConn Dairy Show in Ratcliffe Hicks Arena, UConn (ANSC)  
April 22 (Sat.), 4-6pm – Family Paint Night: **Joan Miro**. Dress for a mess & have fun! BYO snack. (ages 5 +) (MPRD)  
April 29 (Sat.), 1pm – People & Oceans; from Robust Frontiers to Fragile Environments. Storrs Hall, Rm. 011, UConn (CSMNH)  
April 30 (Sun.), 2pm – Inspired, multi-media performance of *The Little Prince (Le Petit Prince)*; a treat for all ages! (JCPA)

**Family Fun in Mansfield** is compiled by Becky Lehmann 3x/year for Mansfield Advocates for Children (MAC).  
Please contact her (423-5807; [slehmann@snet.net](mailto:slehmann@snet.net)) if you wish to submit items for future editions.