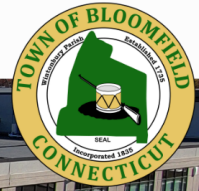


# THE MONTHLY TEA

The Official Monthly Newsletter for  
Employees of the Town of Bloomfield



**JUNE 2025  
VOLUME 18**

## **WELCOMING JUNE – A TIME TO THRIVE, RECHARGE, AND STAY ROOTED IN PURPOSE**

As June approaches, we step into a season known for its warmth, energy, and renewal. The long days and sunshine bring with them a special invitation: to pause, breathe deeply, and reconnect with what makes us feel alive and well.

At the Town of Bloomfield, we know that our employees are the heart of everything we do. Your dedication drives the services, programs, and community experiences that make Bloomfield a vibrant and inclusive place to live and work. But as we continue to strive toward our shared goals, it's just as important to prioritize wellness—for ourselves and each other.

Summer is not just a season; it's a mindset. It's a reminder to savor the moment, take that walk during your lunch break, enjoy the local parks, or spend quality time with friends and family. Whether it's planning a vacation, picking up a summer hobby, or simply taking a few



minutes each day for mindfulness, June is the perfect time to recharge—mind, body, and spirit.

Wellness is not a distraction from productivity; it's a foundation for it. Thriving employees are resilient, creative, and focused—qualities that help us work smarter, support each other better, and meet the evolving needs of our Bloomfield residents. When you take care of yourself, you show up stronger for your team and your community.

As we lean into summer, let's commit to wellness as a core part of our workplace culture. Make time to enjoy the season, practice self-care, and check in on your colleagues. At the same time, let's stay grounded in our mission and continue the meaningful work that uplifts Bloomfield each day.

This summer, let's thrive together—with purpose, positivity, and plenty of sunshine.

“

**"YOUR  
WELLBEING IS  
OUR PRIORITY"**

## BUILDING A HEALTHIER & STRONGER BLOOMFIELD

Hey Team Bloomfield,

Roaring into the vibrant month of June, I want to take a moment to reflect on our collective accomplishments and share what lies ahead for us as a team and as a community.

One of the highlights this month is Organizational Day, scheduled for Friday, June 13, 2025. This special day is dedicated to celebrating our incredible staff—while reinforcing our shared mission, culture, and connection. Attendance is mandatory for all full-time employees and strongly encouraged for part-time employees who are available. This will be a time for collaboration, learning, camaraderie, and a little well-deserved fun.

Organizational Day is not only a chance to step away from the day-to-day and recharge but also to recommit to our three core pillars:

1. **Respect**
2. **Sense of Purpose**
3. **Accountability**

Please know that while conversations around the FY2026 budget are ongoing and necessary, we remain steadfast in our commitment to transparency, stability, and minimizing disruption to the services we proudly provide. I want to reassure you that our focus is on thoughtful, strategic decisions, not uncertainty. Your professionalism and commitment are truly what keep this Town strong.

Looking ahead, we are staying focused on our 2025 priorities:

- **Employee Empowerment** – Elevating professional development, internal communication, and leadership growth opportunities across all departments. This month will have plans to launch applications for our Emerging Leadership Program.



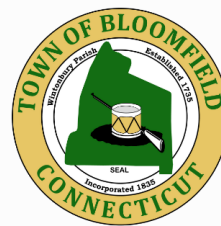
- **Branding Updates** – Continuing to modernize and clarify Bloomfield's image both internally and externally with consistency, pride, and community voice.

This month is also full of exciting community events. I encourage each of you to participate, show support, and connect with the residents we serve. Your presence matters, and it helps reinforce the strong bond between Town departments and our community.

As we approach the summer season, I wish you a safe, enjoyable, and restorative month ahead. Remember to take moments for yourselves to recharge, relax, and reset—you've earned it.

Warm Regards,  
Alvin D. Schwapp, Jr.  
Town Manager

## TOWN OF BLOOMFIELD BRANDING & STYLE GUIDE



[CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)





## ATTENTION ALL TOWN EMPLOYEES

*You are Invited to our First Ever*

.....

## ORGANIZATIONAL



**FOOD**

# DAY

**Music**

**LOCATION**  
**330 PARK AVE**



**Fellowship**

**TIME**  
**12:00 PM - 4:00 PM**

*Friday,*  
**June**  
**13**

*This dedicated day of training and team development allows our staff to focus on strengthening communication, collaboration, and service delivery across departments. By investing in our employees' growth and effectiveness, we're ensuring that residents continue to receive high-quality, efficient, and responsive services throughout the year.*

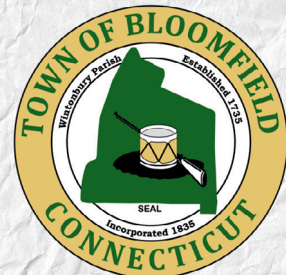
*We appreciate your understanding as we take this important step to better serve the Bloomfield community.*

## Training Sessions

**Sexual Harassment**

**Suicide Awareness & Resiliency**

# ONE TEAM ONE FIGHT





## TOWN OF BLOOMFIELD

### EMERGING LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

## FALL 2025

## Unlock Your Leadership Potential!

*Are you passionate about  
leadership and ready to take your  
career to the next level?*

*Join the Emerging Leadership  
Program!*

### Program Highlights

- Hands-on Mentorship with Senior Leadership
- Exclusive Job Shadowing Opportunities
- Leadership Development Workshops
- Community Engagement & Professional Networking Opportunities

**Application  
Deadline:  
June 20, 2025  
APPLY TODAY!**

### Program Timeframe

- Program Dates: September 2025 – December 2025
- Application Period: June 1 – June 20, 2025
- Submit Applications to: HR Department
- Scan the QR Code to Apply



***This FREE 12-week immersive program will give you  
the skills and confidence to LEAD WITH IMPACT!***

**MORE INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT:**

**<https://bloomfieldct.gov/1120/6377/Bloomfield-Rising>**



## JUNE IS EMPLOYEE WELLNESS MONTH

*Get Healthier & Win Prizes! - Sign Up Today - Biometric spots still available!*



# Cigna Members – Register for your Quest Biometrics Screening Today!

# Know Your Numbers for Better Health!

**Biometric screenings:** the next step in your healthcare journey

**When: Tuesday, June 3, 2025**

**Time: 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM**

**Where: Town of Bloomfield-  
Council Chambers**

**Registration Key: bloomfieldct2025**

**Unique ID: SSN & DOB**

### TO REGISTER:

Visit

[My.QuestForHealth.com](https://My.QuestForHealth.com)

to schedule your appointment online

OR

[Call 1-855-623-9355](tel:1-855-623-9355)

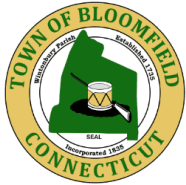
to register by phone

OR

[Scan the QR Code](#)



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## 2025 Employee Benefit Open Enrollment

**May 20, 2025 to June 4, 2025**

**Benefit Counseling Available**

**Tuesday, June 3, 2025**

**9:30 am to 2:30 pm**

The benefit open enrollment period is a once-a-year opportunity for employees to learn about employer provided benefits and make plan elections for yourself and eligible family members. We encourage all employees to make informed decisions.

**The Cigna representative will be present to answer any questions you may have regarding Cigna's health insurance plan.**

**The benefit counselor will be available to review and answer any questions regarding life insurance, Supplemental coverage and Colonial Life Insurance**

**You may review your benefits by accessing the benefit portal (Employee Navigator)**

### **Login Instructions:**

- Go to [www.employeenavigator.com](http://www.employeenavigator.com) and click **Login**.
- **Returning Users:** Log in with the username and password you selected. Click reset forgotten password if needed.
- **First Time Users:** Click on your registration link in the email sent to you by your admin or register as a new user. Create an account and your own username and password. You will need your name, date of birth, last four digits of your social security number, and the company identifier is" Bloomfield.

### **Contact Human Resources Department with any questions**

Rosa Matias – 860-769-3584- [rmatias@bloomfieldct.gov](mailto:rmatias@bloomfieldct.gov)

Kathy Roberts – 860-769-3542 – [kroberts@bloomfieldct.gov](mailto:kroberts@bloomfieldct.gov)

Adilen Valentina – 860-769-3521 – [avalentina@bloomfieldct.gov](mailto:avalentina@bloomfieldct.gov)



## Connect with your MissionSquare Representative

Wherever you are on your savings journey, you need to plan for the retirement you want. **Your MissionSquare representative, Jim Tavares, is here to help you along the way.**

What can you do in a 30-minute one-on-one meeting?

- Enroll in your employer plan
- Roll-in from your old employer plan to your MissionSquare plan
- Contribution changes to accounts if permitted
- Account and portfolio review
- Investor education
- 

**Thursday, June 12<sup>th</sup> 9:30am-2:30pm**

**HR Conference Room, Bloomfield Town Hall**  
**800 Bloomfield Ave, Bloomfield CT 06002**

Jim will be offering one-on-one 30-minute meetings. **Police Department location is for Police employees only. All other Town employees please reserve your meeting time for Town Hall using the link below.**

**Click Here To Schedule With An Appointment  
With Jim**

**If you have questions or unable to meet  
on the dates provided, please contact:**



**Jim Tavares**  
**Retirement Plans Specialist**  
[jjtavares@missionsq.org](mailto:jjtavares@missionsq.org)  
202-759-7068



## BLOOMFIELD EMPLOYEES IN THE COMMUNITY



*Human Resources Generalist Adilen Valentina and Community Engagement and Public Relations Coordinator Brian Wolff dropped off 120 clothing items to the Goodwin University Professional Clothing Closet at the Ann B. Clark Co-Op. Representing Goodwin University is Assistant Director for Student Affairs Eric Emet and Adjunct Instructor of Health Science and Public Health Heather Jimenez.*



ADILEN VALENTINA

**WE ARE DROWNING IN YOUR GENEROSITY**  
THANK YOU TO ALL THAT DONATED

KATHY ROBERTS



## PUBLIC WORKS FILL A TRUCK EVENT - MAY 23RD & 24TH, 2025





## HAIL WELCOME TO THE TOWN OF BLOOMFIELD



### New Employee

*Biography*

## JACKIE GAGNE



**Librarian I**  
**Library Services**

**May 28, 2025** - We are pleased to welcome Jackie Gagne to the Town of Bloomfield's Library Services Department as a Part-Time Librarian I. Jackie is currently employed at Yale University in the Program in American Studies, serving as a Program Administrator. They hold a Bachelor's degree in Art History from Columbia University in New York, NY, as well as two Master's degrees: one in Art History from Williams College in Williamstown, MA, and another in Library and Information Science from San José State University in San José, CA.

“I'm so excited and honored to join Bloomfield Public Library as a part-time Librarian I. It's especially great to be back in Bloomfield after living here as a teenager. This is my first time in a Librarian role after previously working as a Library Aide, and I'm looking forward to learning from BPL's wonderful staff and patrons and supporting Bloomfield's vibrant and diverse communities through programming, reference, tech help, and fostering creativity. -Jackie”

**WELCOME TO TEAM BLOOMFIELD!**



### New Employee

*Biography*

## ALLISON WENDT



**Librarian I**  
**Library Services**

**May 28, 2025** - We are pleased to welcome Allison Wendt to the Town of Bloomfield's Library Services Department as a Part-Time Librarian I. Allison is currently employed at Gateway Community College as an Education Assistant. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education from Lesley University in Cambridge, MA, and a Master's degree in Information and Library Science from Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven, CT.

“I am thrilled to be joining the Town of Bloomfield in the Library! I was drawn to the dynamic programming at the library and how invested the staff is in bettering the lives of the people in the community. I am so excited to bring my years of teaching experience, as well as my library expertise to the team! -Allison”

**WELCOME TO TEAM BLOOMFIELD!**



### New Employee

*Biography*

## REBECCA JONES



**Recording Secretary**  
**Building & Land Use**

**May 27, 2025** - We are pleased to welcome Rebecca Jones to the Town of Bloomfield's Building and Land Use Department as a Part-Time Recording Secretary. Rebecca is currently employed by the Town of Enfield as a Planning and Zoning Secretary. She holds a Bachelor's degree in History and Child Psychology from Central Connecticut State University in New Britain, CT and has also earned a certificate in Advanced Paralegal Studies.

“I am so excited to join Team Bloomfield as the Building and Land Use Recording Secretary. This combines years of experience as a municipal paralegal with my passion for civic engagement. I look forward to serving the Town of Bloomfield and learning more about the community. -Rebecca”

**WELCOME TO TEAM BLOOMFIELD!**



### New Employee

*Biography*

## KYRA WALKER



**Librarian I**  
**Library Services**

**May 28, 2025** - We are pleased to welcome Kyra Walker to the Town of Bloomfield's Library Services Department as a Part-Time Librarian I. Kyra is currently employed at Yale University as a Library Services Assistant IV. She earned a Bachelor's degree in English from Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, VA and is actively pursuing a Master's degree in Library Science.

“I'm excited to join Bloomfield Public Library as a part-time librarian! I truly enjoy helping others and look forward to connecting with the community, sharing resources, and supporting a love of learning and reading in a welcoming space. -Kyra”

**WELCOME TO TEAM BLOOMFIELD!**

## WORK ANNIVERSARIES



As Father's Day approaches, we take a moment to recognize the incredible fathers, grandfathers, stepfathers, and father figures who are part of our Bloomfield team.

Whether you're mentoring others, juggling family and work, or simply setting an example through your steady presence and commitment—you are appreciated more than words can say. Your dedication helps build not only strong families, but also a strong community here at work.

We hope this Father's Day brings you a chance to relax, recharge, and feel proud of all you do.

Thank you for the many ways you support and inspire.

NAME	YEARS OF SERVICE	DEPARTMENT
Vincentia Midozi	6/20/22 - 3 years	Assessor's Office
Mark Mitchell	6/1/97 - 28 years	Leisure Services
Jermaine Lascelles	6/3/17 - 8 years	Leisure Services
Zazzaroo Decarish	6/18/08 - 17 years	Leisure Services
Victoria Snype	6/18/08 - 17 years	Leisure Services
Shander George	6/19/12 - 13 years	Leisure Services
Melissa Satchell	6/21/01 - 24 years	Leisure Services
Harvey Pannell	6/21/06 - 19 years	Leisure Services
Jasmine Blanchard	6/21/06 - 19 years	Leisure Services
Harold Blanchard	6/21/11 - 14 years	Leisure Services
Marlon Thornton	6/21/21 - 4 years	Leisure Services
Anthony Pollicito	6/8/17 - 8 years	Building Division
James Thurston	6/3/13 - 12 years	Police
Kenan Vugdalic	6/3/13 - 12 years	Police
Katia Reynolds	6/13/22 - 3 years	Police
Jeanine Allin	6/27/16 - 9 years	Police
Shantel Issacs	6/2/20 - 5 years	Library Services
Elizabeth Johnson	6/4/88 - 37 years	Library Services
Melanie Bazer	6/19/00 - 25 years	Library Services
Patricia McGuire	6/19/18 - 7 years	Library Services
Jean Michel Sibille	6/25/18 - 7 years	Library Services
Adam O'Neill	6/2/14 - 11 years	Public Works
Eric Sirard	6/15/21 - 4 years	Senior Services
Kenneth Lapent	6/19/15 - 10 years	Senior Services
Kelli Thomas	6/10/24 - 1 year	Social & Youth Services
Lynn Weisel	6/1/22 - 3 years	Strategic Communications
Ashley DeJesus	6/12/17 - 8 years	Tax Collector





## RECIPE CORNER

### Tropical Mango Salsa

Share your favorite summer recipe with us! Email SCGA ([communications@bloomfieldct.gov](mailto:communications@bloomfieldct.gov)) for a chance to be featured

#### Ingredients

- 2 ripe mangoes (diced)
- 1 red bell pepper (chopped)
- ½ red onion (finely diced)
- 1 jalapeño (seeded and minced)
- Juice of 2 limes
- ¼ cup fresh cilantro (chopped)
- Salt and pepper to taste

#### Directions

1. Combine mango, bell pepper, onion, jalapeño, and cilantro in a bowl.
2. Squeeze lime juice over mixture and toss gently.
3. Season with salt and pepper. Chill for 30 minutes before serving.
4. Serve with tortilla chips, grilled chicken, or fish!

**Tip:** Swap jalapeño for a mild poblano pepper for a kid-friendly version



*June*  
**PAY DATES**

JUNE 5

JUNE 18

**JOKE  
CORNER**



**Q:** What do you call a snowman in June?

**A:** A Puddle

**Q:** What did the Calendar say to the Wall-clock the moment it became June 1st?

**A:** I am dismayed

**Q:** When does a joke become a dad joke?

**A:** When the punchline is apparent!

**ONE TEAM  
ONE FIGHT**

