‘One Day of Peace, Love & Real Good Local Music’

coming to Mansfield this Saturday

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Mansfield Drive-In Theater and Marketplace will host the Woodstock-themed Mojo Connecticut Music Festival this Saturday for a day of local live music, food trucks and vendors.

The festival is from 2 to 10 p.m. and consists of a lineup of 16 local artists from Connecticut, Massachusetts and other nearby states. Some of the performers are University of Connecticut alumni or students themselves, like Ayron, NL, Prackup, JIAT, Tweed Sugar and more.

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LORIN PELLIGRINO

“It’s amazing what Mojo Fest is doing for local acts in New England, giving them a chance to be recognized by their community. It’s going to be something you wouldn’t want to miss,” said Lorin Pelligrino of Tweed Sugar.

“I’m excited to go Mojo, I’ve heard of some of the bands before so I’m excited to see them.”
EVAN ANDERSON

Tweed Sugar is known for their alternative rock music, much like many of the other bands playing. Morrissey Blvd, Autumn Drive, Ruby Leftstep and Overserved Again are some of the other main acts headlining who will be performing indie and country music.

The festival will showcase many different genres on two different stages simultaneously, including bands playing indie, country, rock and funk. DJs like Different Font and AVDREY will be performing when the sun sets.

The festival will group vendors, local artists, food trucks and bars together for a “Shakedown Street” village area of merchandise, art and food.



Indie rock band Morrissey Blvd performs at Mojo Festival in Boston, MA, May 2026. The band will headline Connecticut’s Mojo festival this Sat, Oct 17.
PHOTO COURTESY OF MORRISSEY BLVD/@MORRISSEYBLDBAND ON INSTAGRAM

“I’m excited to go to Mojo, I’ve heard of some of the bands before so I’m excited to see them.” said Evan Anderson, a fifth semester finance major at UConn who will be attending the festival Saturday with his friends.

Since 2021, Mojo has been held in different cities across New England to embrace local music and community, said Chief Executive Officer and Co-Owner of Mojo Charlie Blacker in an interview with Boston 25 News.

“We want to create a platform for these people to shine and get all the attention they deserve,” Blacker said.

There will be parking on site at Manfield Drive-In, however Mojo urges guests to use the free shuttles starting at 1:45 that will be picking up and dropping off festival goers on the corner of Royce Circle and Wilbur Cross Way. There will also be a pre-party and post-party at Ted’s Restaurant and Bar.

Tickets can be bought online at mojobrand.us and are selling out quickly. This The festival will be an 18+ event. Outside food, beverages and backpacks are not allowed at this eventevent, and small bags will be checked.

UConn student helps implement Coventry LakeSmart Recognition Program

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The town of Coventry’s Low Impact Development work group and a University of Connecticut student recently received a development award to begin implementing a LakeSmart Recognition Program for Coventry Lake.

Kaitlyn Mendez, a seventh semester environmental science student at UConn, has been involved in the program since its inception in January.

According to a press release, Mendez worked alongside Coventry’s Low Impact Development work group members Lori Mathieu, Richard Pearson, Darby Polansky and UConn and CT Sea Grant Assistant Extension Educator Owen Placido.

The Town of Coventry’s Low Impact Development group was established in December 2024 and aims to protect the water quality of Coventry Lake by educating the community on preventative measures, the release stated.

According to the release, the program is a non-regulatory initiative originally launched in Maine to encourage homeowners to introduce lake-friendly initiatives to their property.

In an interview with The Daily Campus, Mendez said they were awarded just over $4,900 from the Connecticut Sea Grant Project to help establish the program for Coventry Lake.

According to its website, the Connecticut Sea Grant’s mission is to “foster the balanced use and conservation of Connecticut’s coast and watersheds.”

The program is in response to the 2022 cyanobacteria blooms in Coventry Lake and aims to prevent further eutrophication by encouraging homeowners to reduce polluted runoff from entering the lake, the release said.

Mendez said this could be achieved through the implementation of buffers on lakeside properties, such as rain gardens, to prevent polluted runoff from making its way into the lake.

Mendez said volunteer evaluators will score homeowners on their implementation of these environmentally conscious initiatives to their property. Based on their score, homeowners will be awarded a sign of recognition.

Mendez said it would be beneficial to implement the program now for “preventative purposes.”

“The LakeSmart Recognition Program is needed to encourage the use of preventative practices to improve and protect the water quality of Coventry Lake so that our children and their grandchildren will enjoy the Lake as we do today,” Coventry Town Manager James Drum said in the press release.

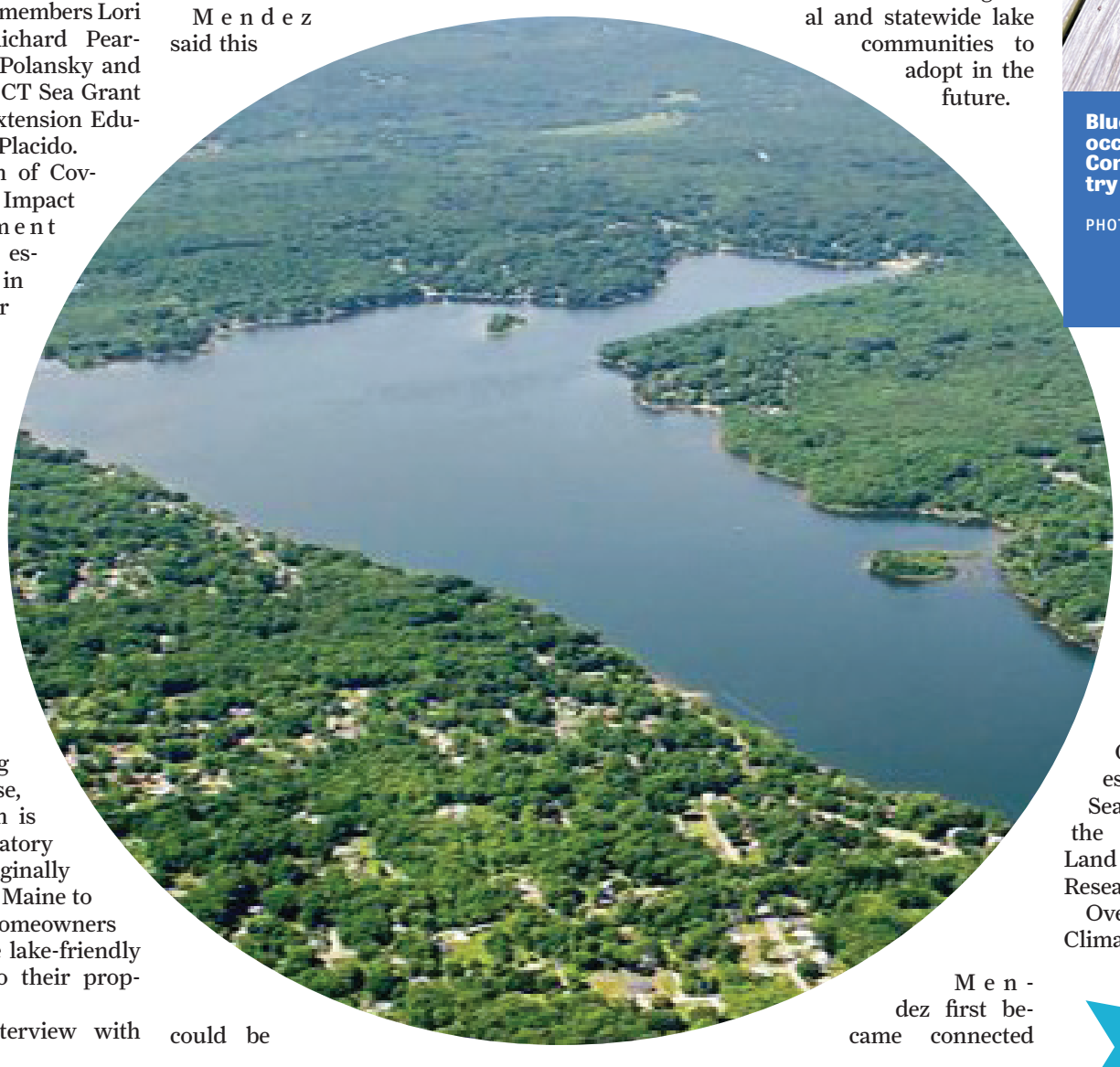
According to Mendez, the program is set to launch this upcoming spring.

Mendez said she has been working on community outreach for the program to get homeowners interested in implementing the program for their properties.

According to the release, the program in Coventry is being developed as a model for other regional and statewide lake communities to adopt in the future.



Blue-green algae, also known as Cyanobacteria, occurs naturally in lakes and ponds throughout Connecticut. The algae was prominent in Coventry lake in 2022.
PHOTO COURTESY OF COVENTRY LAKE ROWING.COM



An aerial view of Coventry Lake. A University of Connecticut student recently received a development award to begin implementing a LakeSmart Recognition Program for Coventry Lake.
PHOTO BY CT.GOV.

Mendez first became connected with Coventry’s Low Impact Development work group last semester through the UConn Climate Corps program.

Mendez said the program was recommended to her for internship credits.

According to the release, the Climate Corps program was established by the CT Sea Grant Project and the UConn Center for Land Use Education and Research.

Over the course of the Climate Corps Program, undergraduate students are trained to work with Connecticut communities on semester-long projects that address local adaptation needs, the release said.

Mendez said this experience has helped her gain fundamental skills to help prepare for her future career plans following graduation.

Post-graduation, Mendez said she is “looking to do environmental consulting; kind of stuff like this where I use my background and give recommendations based on how I feel would be environmentally conscious.”