

The Lion's Life, Mansfield Middle School Newspaper

The Town of Mansfield, Missouri

By: Natalie Quick

Many people may think living in a small town like Mansfield isn't all that great. Actually, there are several upsides to living in a small town.

When asked what they like about living in a small town like Mansfield, Jade Crain and Cara Peine both agreed that they like it being not so crowded and not a lot of traffic.

Connor Johnson and Levi Young like the low levels of violence.

Mrs. Brenda stated, "I grew up here in Mansfield and have long time friendships with people here. It's also beautiful here. Even though our town may not have some of the big stores, we aren't that far away from a town with those stores."

"There are lots of creeks to swim in, and I like to swim," exclaims Jasmine Connors.

Hunter Weldon likes the good food Mansfield has to offer.

Sadey Equevilley says, "I like living here because I know everybody."

There are several interesting places and sights tourist can see in Mansfield such as:



Carl Mays Memorial: The memorial is dedicated in memory of Carl Mays (1891-1971). It is located on the Mansfield town square. Before starting his career as a major league pitcher in April of 1915, Mays grew up south of Mansfield, down in Prairie Hollow. Mays is famous for his signature pitch called the *spitball submarine*. He is also the only Red Sox pitcher to pitch two, full nine inning games on the same day and win both games.

Town Square Gazebo: The white gazebo is the centerpiece of the town square. Music and important announcements can be heard/seen from the gazebo. The gazebo is also the hub of the infamous Wilder Days.



Wilder Days is a yearly celebration that honors the famous writer of *The Little House on the Prairie* series, Laura Ingalls Wilder.

Mansfield was the home and writing place of author Laura Ingalls Wilder.

Laura Ingalls Wilder Statue: The statue of Laura Ingalls Wilder is also located at the square. The statue was dedicated in Laura's memory on September 18, 1993. Tourists are often seen taking pictures with it while touring Mansfield. Laura is the writer of the *Little House* books.



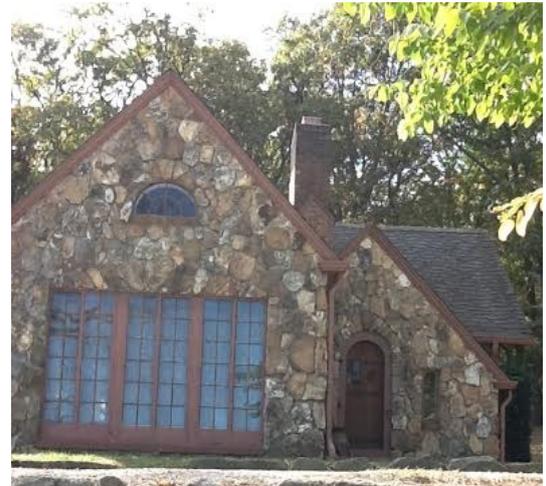
Laura Ingalls Wilder Museum: Artifacts from Laura and Almanzo's trip to Missouri from South Dakota, along with items from the farmhouse and the rock house are found in the museum. A replica of the wagon Laura and Almanzo used on their journey to Missouri is also on display in the museum.



Laura Ingalls Wilder Farmhouse: Located right off A highway. This is the house that Rose Wilder Lane grew up in. The Wilders' lived in this house as soon as they moved to Mansfield.

The Rock House: Once Rose Wilder Lane returned to her childhood home, the farmhouse, she decided to use proceeds from her writings to build her parents a more modern home on the property. On

Christmas of 1928, Rose gave the keys of the rock house to her parents. Rose then continued living in the farmhouse until 1936 when she left for New York City. Laura and Almanzo moved back into the farmhouse at that point. Now both houses are open to the public for viewing.



Laura Ingalls Wilder Elementary: This is Mansfield's elementary school, named after Laura. The elementary is connected to the Mansfield high school and Mansfield middle school. Mansfield schools have approximately 660 students Pre-K—12th grade.

Wilder Graves: The graves of Laura and Almanzo Wilder are located here in Mansfield, at the Mansfield Cemetery, behind the school. The grave of their daughter, Rose Wilder Lane, is located there as well.

Mansfield is the hidden gem of the Ozarks located just off of highway 60. Those of you that live here have the amazing opportunity to grow up in a small, loving town atmosphere.



All photos taken by Natalie Quick