



**For Immediate Release**

## The Flower Pot Florist Now Open in Storrs Center *Now Located in 9 Dog Lane, next to the future site of Geno's Grille*

December 13, 2012

*(Mansfield, CT)* – Jessie Shea has a passion for flowers. As a student at E.O. Smith High School in 1996, Jessie was in the Agricultural Education Program and learned about the flower business. She was hooked. Earlier this year, Jessie opened her own full service floral shop, which opens today in its new location in Storrs Center. The Flower Pot is a colorful place to pick up a fresh bouquet of flowers for a special occasion or holiday party, grab a dish garden for a winter pick-me-up, order balloons or a fruit basket for a happy celebration, or plan the perfect florals for a once-in-a-lifetime event such as a wedding, christening, or bar mitzvah. Jessie and her team also assist during difficult times, helping to pick out flowers for a friend in need or for a funeral. Delivery is available in Mansfield and the surrounding area.

Jessie is thankful that she has the opportunity to pursue her passion with the support of her family. Jessie gives great credit to Betsy Terrell from the Agricultural Education Program at E. O. Smith High School for helping to foster her love of flowers. After graduation, Nina Ricardez of Flowers by Nina helped Jessie achieve her dreams by hiring her to work in her shop and learn the ropes and continues to be Jessie's mentor to this day. Now, Jessie "pays it forward" as a mentor to Yarelis Vazquez, a senior in Betsy Terrell's class at E. O. Smith. Jessie hopes to help foster Yarelis's lifelong love of flowers as Betsy and Nina continue to do so for her.

Howard Kaufman, developer of Storrs Center, couldn't be happier about The Flower Pot opening in the new downtown. "Small family-owned businesses are the backbone of our country," says Mr. Kaufman. "A strong commitment to service and quality and the ability to interface directly with the owner makes for a very personal shopping experience. We welcome Jessie and The Flower Pot to Storrs Center and encourage Mansfield residents to shop locally."

For more information about The Flower Pot, contact at 860.429.2299 or [storrsflowerpot@aol.com](mailto:storrsflowerpot@aol.com) or visit [www.storrsflowerpot.com](http://www.storrsflowerpot.com).

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*Storrs Center is a mixed-use town center and main street corridor at the crossroads of the Town of Mansfield, Connecticut and the University of Connecticut. Located along Storrs Road adjacent to the University, the Town Hall, the regional high school, and the community center, Storrs Center knits thoughtful architecture, pedestrian-oriented streets, and public spaces into a series of small neighborhoods that make up the new fabric of the town center. Ground floor retail and commercial uses opening onto landscaped sidewalks reinforce traditional street front activity and is supported by residences above and shared community spaces. Storrs Center combines retail, restaurant, and office uses with residential apartments.*

**[www.storrscenter.com](http://www.storrscenter.com)**