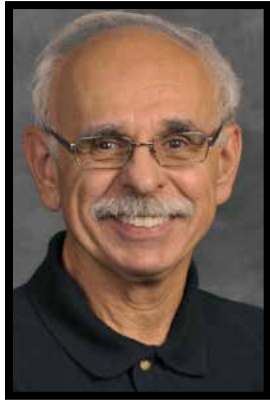




The City of Manassas Connection

March 2013

Commissioner of the Revenue Retiring



John P. Grzejka, Commissioner of the Revenue for the City of Manassas for the last 14 years, announced his plans to retire to the Mayor and City Council. Grzejka will retire at the end of the

fiscal year, June 30, 2013.

Commissioner Grzejka has served the residents of the City of Manassas for 35 years in various capacities. He was elected

City Treasurer in 1976 and served through 1981. He then joined the City Manager's Office as the Administrative Assistant/Finance; and in 1986 he left the City to work in the private sector. He was elected to the City Council in 1988 and served three terms. During his Council service, he chaired the Economic Development Committee; and the City successfully recruited the large semi-conductor industry to the City. Grzejka chaired the Finance Committee for eight years and served as Vice Mayor for four years.

Commissioner Grzejka was appointed by the Circuit Court to replace the previous Commissioner, Gary Plauger, who

died during his term in June 1999. Commissioner Grzejka was elected to fill the remaining term in a special election held in November 1999 and was reelected three times. The current term officially ends on Dec. 31, 2013. His early retirement will mean that his Deputy will fill the remaining six months of the term. In November's general election, a new Commissioner will be elected and will take office on Jan. 1, 2014.

Grzejka looks forward to retirement and plans to spend more time with his wife of 44 years. They plan on moving closer to their son and two grandsons and playing more golf with them.

The Manassas Museum to Host Traveling Exhibition on Domestic Service "From Morning to Night" Reveals Hidden History of Gilded Age South

Although the work of early 20th century domestic servants has been romanticized lately by the likes of Carson and Mrs. Hughes of Downton Abbey fame, the reality for Virginia's largely African-American domestic service corps was starkly different. Their story is the subject of a new Manassas Museum exhibit, *From Morning to Night: Domestic Service in the Gilded Age South*, opening March 9.

The traveling exhibition, developed by the Maymont Foundation, presents a distinctly southern perspective on domestic service. Those African Americans who worked primarily in white households as cooks, maids, laundresses, nursemaids, butlers, and chauffeurs, were often hidden from view and largely hidden from history, but it was their labor

that made their employers' lifestyles appear effortless.

With nearly 70 photographs and illustrations, interpretive text, and numerous period quotations, *From Morning to Night* takes you into the home as a workplace to examine the perspectives of both server and served.

From Morning to Night was funded in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities and

developed with the assistance of the Black History Museum and Cultural Center of Virginia and the Virginia Association of Museums. The traveling exhibition is a component of a larger permanent exhibition in the newly restored service areas of Maymont House Museum in Richmond, Virginia.

The exhibit is open at The Manassas Museum from March 9 through April 21, and is included in the price of admission.



FROM MORNING TO NIGHT

Domestic Service
in the Gilded Age South

A New Exhibit Produced by Maymont Foundation

March 9 - April 21



City of Manassas Police Department Welcomes New Officers

Two new City of Manassas Police Officers were sworn in at a recent City Council Meeting.



Officer **Charles Sharp** comes to the City of Manassas after working as a Conservator of the Peace at Historic Mt. Vernon in Alexandria, Virginia. Sharp was raised

in New Jersey where he graduated from Brookdale Community College with an Associates Degree in Business.

For six years prior to coming to the City of Manassas, Officer **Danielle Moore** worked as a Corrections Officer at the Northwest Regional Jail.

Officer Moore has a long history of law enforcement in her family. She graduated from Valley Central High School in New York.



At the same City Council meeting, the City celebrated two Police Department promotions. Sergeant M. W. Mischou was promoted to Lieutenant and Master Police Officer G.E. Young was promoted to Sergeant.



City of Manassas Fire & Rescue Welcomes Four New Firefighter/Medics

The City of Manassas Fire and Rescue Department welcomes four new Firefighter/Medics to the City.



Firefighter/Medic **Matthew Heppner** is originally from Riverhead, NY and currently resides in Fredericksburg, VA. Heppner has been in the fire service since 2008.

Firefighter/Medic **William "Dean" DeJarnette** was raised in Culpeper, VA and attended the College of William and Mary majoring in Business Finance. In 2007, he obtained his EMT Basic and volunteered at the Williamsburg Fire Department, as well as Reva Volunteer Fire/Rescue. Currently, he volunteers at Culpeper Rescue as a medic.



Firefighter/Medic **Jesus Castro** was raised in Alexandria, VA. Castro began as a volunteer and shortly thereafter knew he wanted to pursue Fire and Rescue as a career.

Firefighter/Medic **Alexander Huys** was raised in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Huys became a citizen of the United States in 1998. He began as a volunteer with Sterling Fire and after five years in Fire and Rescue, he can't imagine doing anything else.



These four new Firefighter/Medics have been training since Jan. 28 and will become vital members of the City of Manassas Fire and Rescue Department on March 11, 2013.



100 years ago in the United States:

- ☞ The average life expectancy was forty-seven
- ☞ Only 14 percent of the homes had a bathtub
- ☞ Only 8 percent of homes had a telephone. A three minute call from Denver to New York City cost \$11
- ☞ There were only 8,000 cars in the US and only 144 miles of paved roads
- ☞ The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph and
- ☞ The cost of one kilowatt hour (KWH) was 10 cents. Today, the cost of one KWH in the City of Manassas is still just 10 cents.

Happy Anniversary City of Manassas Utilities!

The Big Day of Serving is Coming

On May 4, the City of Manassas Neighborhood Services will rally an estimated 600 youth and adult volunteers to transform the Weems Community in the "Big Day of Serving." Join teams of volunteers to enhance the community through environmental, recreational, and educational projects. The Big Day of Serving is one day, in one community, and will make an impact that will last for years to come.

Volunteers will begin their day at 8:00 a.m. with a kickoff rally to get motivated and get their energy flowing. Crew leaders will be awaiting volunteer groups at their work sites. Project sites include

Weems Elementary, Byrd Park, Stonewall Park, and Point of Woods East/Lakeside. Projects include mulching, landscaping, picking up litter, cleaning creeks and ponds, removing graffiti, painting basketball courts, installing playground equipment, laying mosaic tile, and repairing two baseball fields. A free lunch will be delivered to volunteers at their project sites. To round out the day, Neighborhood Services will celebrate everyone's efforts with a Block Party, complete with food and live entertainment.

This is an extraordinary experience. To make this event successful we need your help. Do you have experience in

landscaping, carpentry, tiling, or leading youth groups of 10 or more people? If so, contact Neighborhood Services at 703-257-8315 or visit www.manassacity.org/givingback to reserve your space at the volunteer orientation.



A Message from the City Manager

This is a busy time of the year for the City of Manassas. Budgets are being developed for FY2014, Capital Improvement Projects are being discussed and other big decisions are being made.

One decision that is easy to make this time of year is to give back to the community. As you can see from the previous article, the City is getting ready for the Big Day of Serving. This is a great opportunity for neighbor to meet neighbor and for the community to give back, clean up and renew.

Spring is all about renewal and revitalization. By joining in at the Big Day of Serving or at one of the other numerous opportunities around the City where you can volunteer, residents can help the City of Manassas become a "community for a lifetime."

I hope City residents will take the time out of their often too busy schedules to volunteer. With that in mind, I leave you with a few important quotes:

"Volunteers are seldom paid; not because they are worthless, but because they are PRICELESS!" ~author unknown

"Volunteers are the only human beings on the face of the earth who reflect this nation's compassion, unselfish caring, patience, and just plain love for one another." ~Erma Bombeck

"The impersonal hand of government can never replace the helping hand of a neighbor." ~Hubert H. Humphrey

To Volunteer with any department in the City of Manassas, visit www.manassacity.org/volunteer.

*John A. Budesky,
City Manager*



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Envelopes (Includes White Envelopes, Clear Window Envelopes, Paper-made Shipping Envelopes, Colored Envelopes)
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No need to separate!

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The City of Manassas Happenings

Here's what's happening in the City of Manassas during March and April.

March 2 & 16, 10 a.m. - **Learn Your Neighborhood: Wellington Walking Tour.** www.manassasmuseum.org

March 2 & 3 - Pied Piper's Theatre presentation of **Treasure Island** at Metz Middle School. www.center-for-the-arts.org

March 9 at 11 a.m. - 14th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade in Old Town Manassas. www.stpatparade.net

March 9 from 7 to 11 p.m. - **Bootlegger's Ball** at the Center for the Arts at the Candy Factory. www.center-for-the-arts.org

March 9 at 7:30 p.m. and March 10 at 3 p.m. - **La Boutique Fantastique & More** by the Manassas Ballet at the Hylton Performing Arts Center. www.manassasballet.org

March 10 at 2 p.m. - **The Washington Arsenal Explosion - Civil War Disaster in the Capital.** Free Book Talk at the Manassas Museum. www.manassasmuseum.org

Thru March 16, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. - **"Rayhart" Exhibit** at the Center for the Arts/Caton Merchant Gallery. www.center-for-the-arts.org

March 21, 2 - 8 p.m. - **Red Cross Blood Drive** at the Greater Manassas Volunteer Rescue Squad, 9322 Center Street, Manassas.

March 23 & April 20, 9-11 a.m. - **Bicycle Tours** - \$4.50/person, includes day pass to the Manassas Museum. See more of the City of Manassas and historic sites while getting some exercise! www.manassasmuseum.org

March 24 at 2 p.m. - **Mama, I Am Yet Still Alive** - A Composite Diary of 1863 in the Confederacy, with author Jeff Toalson. Free Book Talk at the Manassas Museum. www.manassasmuseum.org

March 25 - 30 - **Hop Around Old Town** - Shop in Old Town Manassas between March 25 - 30 - For each purchase at a participating Old Town shop, visitors will select an egg from the merchant's basket. Some eggs will contain prizes with one Grand Prize of a giant stuffed bunny! www.visitmanassas.org

March 21 - April 25 **Carol Lopatin & Rosemary Luckett exhibit** at the Center for the Arts/Caton Merchant Gallery. www.center-for-the-arts.org

April 6, 10 a.m. - 2p.m. - Free VIN Etching at Walmart (9401 Liberia Ave).

April 6, 8 a.m. to noon - **Household Hazardous Waste and eWaste drop off** at the Manassas Transfer Station, 8305 Quarry Road. www.manassascity.org

April 7, 2 p.m. - **A Tour Guide and History of Col. John S. Mosby's Combat Operations in Fairfax County, Virginia.** Free Book Talk at the Manassas Museum. www.manassasmuseum.org

April 13, 7:30 a.m. - **Manassas Runway 10k/5k Event** - at the Manassas Regional Airport www.bristowtriandswim.com

April 13 & 27; 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. - **Museum on the Lawn** - What are the Museum staff up to today? Are they playing games, creating a craft, cooking a meal, or breaking a secret code from the past? Stop by the Museum lawn and see what is going on. www.manassasmuseum.org

April 20, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. - **6th Annual Spring Cleaning Day** at the Harris Pavilion. This includes free shredding, community yard sale, and exhibitors from local non-profit and civic organizations. www.visitmanassas.org

April 20, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. - **Annual Merchants Sidewalk Sale.** www.visitmanassas.org

April 20, 7 to 11 p.m. - **Hangar Dance** at the Manassas Regional Airport www.freedommuseum.org

April 21, 2 p.m. - **First House: Two Centuries with Virginia's First Families** - Free Book Talk at the Manassas Museum. www.manassasmuseum.org

April 27, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. - **DEA's 6th National Drug Take Back Initiative Event** - Free at Prince William Hospital (8700 Sudley Rd)

City of Manassas and Manassas Public Schools

City of Manassas Council

Mayor Harry J. Parrish II 703-257-8213
Vice Mayor
Andrew L. Harrover 703-368-2453
Marc T. Aveni 703-795-9651
J. Steven Randolph 703-368-4732
Ian T. Lovejoy 703-828-7592
Jonathan L. Way 703-368-9174
Mark D. Wolfe 703-257-1702

City of Manassas School Board

Chairman Scott M. Albrecht 571-606-1129
Vice Chairman
Arthur P. Bushnell 571-535-7510
Ilka V. Chavez 571-606-0285
Tim Demeria 703-895-4856
Ellen M. Purdy 571-606-0499
Pamela J. Sebesky 571-535-0652
Sanford S. Williams 571-535-6364

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Put your own photos up at www.flickr.com/groups/mycityofmanassas.

To contact the City of Manassas Connection newsletter, email prrince@ci.manassas.va.us.