



Manassas Connection

June 2016

Six New Fire Fighters Join the City

The City of Manassas welcomes our six new firefighters. They join a group of hardworking men and women who come to help when we are at our most helpless.

Firefighter/Medic John McCollom is originally from Springfield, Virginia where he played baseball, football, basketball, wrestling, swimming and diving. During his junior year in high school, McCollom enrolled in the high school's fire and EMS academy where he earned his Virginia EMT at the age of 16. He volunteered at OWL immediately after graduating from fire school.

Firefighter/EMT Adam Pettit was raised in Page County, Virginia and attended Averett University. His father-in-law's more than 28 years of service as a D.C. firefighter inspired Pettit to volunteer at the Stanley Volunteer Fire Department. After fighting his first house fire, Pettit knew this was the career for him. He has worked for both Arlington County Fire Department and Shenandoah County Fire and Rescue. Pettit has a wife and two children and enjoys coaching little league.

Firefighter/Medic Cailean Roche was born at Prince William Hospital and raised in the area. During his senior year of high school, Roche joined Buckhall Volunteer Fire Department and earned his EMT certification on the same day he graduated from high school. Prior to joining the City of Manassas Fire & Rescue system, Roche served as an emergency medical technician in the emergency room at Fairfax Hospital.

Firefighter/EMT John Thompson graduated from Winthrop University in Rock Hill, S.C. He has a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. Prior to joining the City of Manassas Fire & Rescue system, Roche worked for the Lynchburg Fire Department.



Deputy Chief Wade House, Firefighter/Medic Cailean Roche, Firefighter/Medic Curtis Yancey, Firefighter/EMT Trey Whitlock, Firefighter/EMT John Thompson, Firefighter/EMT Adam Pettit, Firefighter/Medic John McCollom and Chief Brett Bowman.

Firefighter/EMT Robert "Trey" Whitlock grew up in Prince William County. After exploring multiple career paths, Whitlock went on a ride-along with the Dale City Volunteer Fire Department. He was hooked. Prior to working for the City of Manassas Fire & Rescue system, he worked for Spotsylvania County Fire, Rescue and Emergency Management. Whitlock has six children.

Firefighter/Medic Curtis Yancey was raised in Fauquier County, where he earned his Eagle Scout. During high school, Yancey became a certified EMT-B and firefighter and began volunteering at Lois Volunteer Fire Company. He attended Lord Fairfax Community College, earning his Associates Degree. Yancey has recently passed his national registry test to become an EMT-Paramedic.

Congratulations to all of our new firefighters and be safe out there!

2016 VML Risk Management Award

At a recent meeting of the Virginia Municipal League (VML) Brenda Cogdell, City of Manassas Risk Manager, was awarded a 2016 Risk Management Excellence Award for maintaining best practices for mitigating risk and for customer service excellence when dealing with workers compensation recipients.

In addition to the award, Cogdell received a \$4,000 grant for blue tooth devices in police vehicles. This will further mitigate risk by enhancing on the job officer safety.



A Message from the City Manager



City Manager
William Patrick Pate

At the end of this month one of our City leaders and a good friend of this community will complete his career with the City. Fire and Rescue Chief Brett Bowman is retiring on June 30, 2016 and making plans for a home in North Carolina.

Chief Bowman came to the City in June of 2011 after serving 23 years with Prince William County. He has 42 years in the fire service, both as career staff and as a volunteer. He has served this community well.

Under his leadership as Chief, he has helped the Fire and Rescue System to become an Agency of Excellence as designated by the Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services. They have been the recipients of numerous regional emergency medical services awards.

Chief Bowman is also responsible for bringing all parties in the Fire and Rescue System together to create one unified strategic plan. This includes career staff,

members from the Greater Manassas Volunteer Rescue Squad, and members of the Manassas Volunteer Fire Company. This is a great group of men and women who expose themselves to hazards to keep us out of harms way.

During Chief Bowman's tenure, a new program called "Safety Around Manassas" or SAM has been put in place where members of Fire and Rescue staff visit neighborhoods installing free smoke detectors and handing out important information about how to be fire safe.

Another of his achievements as Fire and Rescue Chief for the City of Manassas is the creation of a Fleet Plan that ensures all equipment is replaced at the end of its usable life. This is not only a smart fiscal plan, but also creates a safer environment for citizens and responders.

Another endeavor that is near and dear to Chief Bowman's heart is the summer camp program that is in its fourth year. This is a program where incoming Osbourn High School freshmen can participate in the every day activities of being a firefighter, from dressing drills, to physical training, to riding on a fire truck.

Chief Bowman is responsible for putting into practice the uniform rank structure that requires minimum certifications of all emergency responders so they can function within their assigned roles. This safely and effectively ensures



that everyone in the system who shows up at a house fire or emergency scene is properly trained, from firefighter to chief.

Chief Bowman brought the career and volunteer agencies in the Manassas Fire and Rescue System under one cohesive EMS license. This makes reporting and data collection easier, which helps with evaluating the system and finding best practices for all personnel.

Chief Bowman will be missed, but his legacy will live on in the firefighters, medics and officers that served under his command. Personally, I will miss his calm under pressure, thoughtful advice, knowledge of municipal operations and willingness to do whatever is best for the organization.

We thank him for his service and wish him nothing but the best in his retirement.

Recycling News

Missed yard waste, trash or recycling?

From time to time, residents may find that their yard waste, trash or recycling is missed by the collection crew. You can report your miss by calling (703) 257-8252. All you need to do is give your house number and street address and tell us what has been missed. All misses reported by 2 p.m. will be collected on the same day. If you report your miss after 2 p.m. it will be collected on the next business day.

It Pays to Recycle!

Paper, cardboard, containers and cans - recycling saves money. It provides local jobs and improves our public health by reducing carbon emissions and conserving natural resources. The biggest problem facing the recycling industry currently is contamination caused by the wrong items being thrown into recycling carts and bins.

In most communities, an inbound ton of recycling now has an average of 17 percent contamination, while some loads can contain as much as 50 percent non-recyclable material.

You can help reduce recycling contamination by sticking to four simple things: paper, cardboard, containers and cans. "Wishful" recyclers often include items that cannot be recycled such as used diapers, clothing, food and cell phones.

Please help keep our single stream clean. For more information call (703) 257-8252.

Take the Bite out of Summer

Did you know that there are 57 different species of mosquitos found in Virginia? About 15 of these types bite humans and some can transmit viruses. So, how do you keep mosquitos out of your yard?

Mosquitos need only a little bit of water to breed, so make sure to check the following:

- Walk around your yard and check for overturned items that can collect water, such as empty flowerpots or a wheelbarrow. These items should be stored indoors or turned over so water can run off.
- Make sure to clean your rain gutters.

- Store plastic wading pools inside or turn them upside down when not in use.
- Fix any dripping outside water faucets.
- Replace the water in a birdbath at least twice a week.
- Remove pet food and water dishes that are not being used.
- Make sure your trash cans and lids remain dry.
- Check ornamental ponds, tree holes and water-holding low areas for mosquito larvae.
- If ditches do not flow and contain stagnant water for a week or longer, they can produce large numbers of mosquitoes.



Pick one day a week to be Mosquito Inspection Day in your yard and take the bite out of summer. Remember, a mosquito can breed in a bottle cap of water.

City Staff Making a Difference

At a recent conference held by the Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI), GIS Coordinator Margaret Montgomery and Engineering Technician Darrell Hill presented their abstract titled, *Migrating Water & Sanitary Data to the Local Government Model using X-Ray for Geodatabases*.

That's a mouthful, but what it means is that water and sewer data is more accurate and easier to use. The session was standing room-only and had great reviews.



At the 50th Annual International Aviation Snow Symposium in April, Jeff Clayborn, Airport Maintenance Supervisor for the Manassas Regional Airport, accepted an award for honorable mention in the Large General Aviation category for the Manassas Regional Airport. This was for keeping the airport operationally safe at all times. This includes Jonas, the storm that hit the area on Jan. 23-25, dumping more than 30 inches of snow on the City of Manassas.

Jeff put in more than 45 hours of the 211 hours Airport staff worked, in three days, plowing runways and taxiways to get things cleaned up. The Manassas Regional Airport was the first airport in the Washington, D.C. area to open to flight traffic.



MyLink Teen Summer Bus Pass

Need to get around this summer and Mom and Dad are working? The PRTC MyLink Teen Summer Bus Pass is for ages 13 to 19. For \$30 teens can take unlimited local bus rides between June 6 - Sept. 3, 2016.

AND, this year, the MyLink card will be in the form of a SmarTrip card also used by Metro. Teens can use the same card to travel by Metro at a discount, if money is added to the card. The card is \$2 and refillable.

For more information, visit www.prtctransit.org or call 703-730-6664.



The City of Manassas Happenings

Here's what's happening in the City of Manassas.

Thru October - Thursdays and Fridays at noon - **Historic Downtown Walking Tours**
www.manassasmuseum.org

Thru October - Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. - **Museum at the Market** - find out what fun learning experience is in store every week
www.visitmanassas.org

Thru November - **Manassas Farmer's Market** - Thursdays & Saturdays, 7:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
www.visitmanassas.org

Thru June 16 - New exhibit - Andrew Morgan **Forgotten Farms** at the Center for the Arts
www.center-for-the-arts.org

Thru Aug. 28 - New Exhibits at the Manassas Museum - **The Quest for Light and Liberty** and **John Singleton Mosby: Lawyer, Soldier, Statesman**
www.visitmanassas.org

Every Wednesday from June-August check out the **Lunch Concerts** at the Harris Pavilion from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Take Out Tuesday Concerts are every Tuesday in June - August at the Harris Pavilion from 6 - 8 p.m.

Tuesday Farmers Market runs from June - August from 5 - 8 p.m. at the Harris Pavilion.
www.visitmanassas.org

June 11, 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. - **Neighborhood Conference** at Jennie Dean Elementary School.
www.manassascity.org/neighbor

June 11, 18, July 9 & 16, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. - **Museum Van Tours** - learn about the rich history of the area
www.manassasmuseum.org

June 12 at 1:30 p.m. - Free Book Talk - **George Washington's Mulatto Man - Who was Billy Lee?** with Author James C. Thompson
www.visitmanassas.org

June 12, 3 - 4:30pm - **Sunday Ice Cream Social with Nitehawks** at the Harris Pavilion
www.visitmanassas.org

June 16, Stonewall Park Pool opens daily for the season, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
www.manassascity.org/pool

June 19, 12 - 7pm - **12th Annual Manassas Wine & Jazz Festival** on the Manassas Museum Lawn
www.visitmanassas.org

June 25, 6:30 to 8 p.m. - Center for the Arts Summer Sounds **Free Concert**
www.visitmanassas.org

June 26, 1:30p.m. - Free Book Talk - **Storm Over Fauquier** with author Eileen Kern Goodman at the Manassas Museum
www.visitmanassas.org

June 26, 3-4:30pm - **Sunday Ice Cream Social with Moonlight Jazz Orchestra** at the Harris Pavilion
www.visitmanassas.org

June 28 - July 1, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.; ages 9-13 - **Civil War Camp** - four days immersion in Civil War life. Call 703-368-1873
www.manassasmuseum.org

July 1, 6-9pm - **First Friday** in Historic Downtown Manassas
www.visitmanassas.org

July 4, 3 - 10 p.m. - **Celebrate America** with the largest fireworks display in Northern Virginia
www.visitmanassas.org

July 8, 7 - 9 p.m. Stonewall Park Pool season pass holder night swim
www.manassascity.org/pool

July 9, 8 a.m. to noon - Household Hazardous and eWaste drop off and shredding
www.manassascity.org/trash

July 10, 1:30pm - Free Book Talk - **Astride Two Worlds** with author Barton Hacker
www.visitmanassas.org

July 24, 2-4:30pm - **Sunday Ice Cream Social with Moonlight Jazz Orchestra** at the Harris Pavilion
www.visitmanassas.org

July 31, 1:30pm - Free Book Talk - **Manassas: Postcard History Series** with Author Lisa Sievel-Otten
www.visitmanassas.org

August 2, 6 - 8 p.m. - **National Night Out**

August 5, 6-9pm - **The dog days of summer** are back for First Friday in Historic Downtown Manassas.
www.visitmanassas.org

August 5, 8-11pm - **Friday Night Adult Dance with Southern Persuasion** at the Harris Pavilion
www.visitmanassas.org

August 6, 8 a.m. to noon - Household Hazardous and eWaste drop off
www.manassascity.org/trash

August 9 - 12, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. - **Archaeology & Swim Camp** - try your hand on an archeological dig, and enjoy the afternoon at the pool
www.manassasmuseum.org

August 26-28 - **Civil War Weekend**
www.visitmanassas.org

City of Manassas and Manassas Public Schools

City of Manassas Council

Mayor Harry J. Parrish II 703-257-8213
Vice Mayor Jonathan L. Way 703-368-9174
Marc T. Aveni 703-795-9651
Sheryl L. Bass 703-314-4278
Ken D. Elston 571-377-8817
Ian T. Lovejoy 703-828-7592
Mark D. Wolfe 703-257-1702

City of Manassas School Board

Chairman Tim Demeria 703-895-4856
Vice Chairman Scott M. Albrecht 571-606-1129
Arthur P. Bushnell 571-535-7510
Kristen Kiefer 571-606-1129
Pamela J. Sebesky 571-535-0652
Sanford S. Williams 571-535-6364

Get Social!

Visit the City at www.manassascity.org.

 www.facebook.com/cityofmanassas

 www.twitter.com/cityofmanassas

 www.flickr.com/photos/cityofmanassas

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.