



Manassas Connection

May 2017

The Banners Are Up

Spring has sprung in the City of Manassas and you can tell by the beautiful new banners that grace the light poles in Historic Downtown. Each piece has been individually created by artists from the DMV (the District, Maryland and Virginia) and 105 pieces were submitted to the competition.

To select the 60 banners for the downtown, a group of business owners, artists, elected officials, students and community members gathered early in January to make their banner selections. A team of professional art instructors juried the 60 pieces selected to hang around the City and will award one artist with a \$1,000 top prize.

Available this month is a walking brochure which guides folks from banner to banner and from sculpture to sculpture. Drop by the train depot to pick up your brochure. Take a walk around Historic Downtown and vote in the People's Choice award for your favorite banner.

Last year was the City's inaugural year working with Northern Virginia Community College on a sculpture project. Zac Jackson, Assistant Professor of Studio Art at NOVA, used last year's sculpture art as a pilot program. Now he has a class with the curriculum based on

this public sculpture art and it is a highly popular class.

And while you are touring the Historic Downtown, check out our random pieces of "littlebits." You might find a bench painted like a piano, an alley painted like a babbling brook, or a fire hydrant painted like a gumball machine. And when you drop by the Harris Pavilion, make sure you check out the buglets painted on the electric outlets.

There are more "Littlebits" projects coming this spring, like an electric box painted to be an aquarium, full of fish and fun. So, the next time you are in the Historic Downtown, don't forget to look up at the banners and down at the Littlebits. For more information on the arts in the City of Manassas, visit www.manassascity.org/art.



Upcoming Paving Projects

The following streets will have concrete work and paving completed this May to early July:

- Mathis Ave. from Main St. to Maple St.
- Portner Ave. from Main St. to Sudley Rd.
- Center Street northbound from Lee Ave. to Main St. - night operations
- Center Street northbound from
- Zebedee St. to Sudley Rd. - night operations
- Centerville Rd./Church St. southbound from Sudley Rd. to Battle St. -night operations
- Sudley Road eastbound from Grant Ave. to Centerville Rd. - night operations.

In the Museum

*In the museum
Where I volunteer
Most Tuesday mornings
And into the early afternoon,
Quiet lies like a spell
Across the desk
Where I sit
And throughout the gift shop
Where Rachel arranges
Historical and artistic
Displays of considerable merit.*

*All that has passed into history
On these grounds
Belies the tranquility
Of this place:
Men in battle,
Students in their schools,
Farmers, widows,
Newlyweds and hopeful
Business owners
All, all of them passed this way
And left their footprints
And hopes.
All that is gone now.*

*I sit and write these words
And think these thoughts.
Call them my testament to
Lives cut short or
Well-lived,
All those who gave
So much so
I can sit here
With my notebook
In the silence.*

Authored by Dan Verner,
Manassas Museum Volunteer
April 11, 2017

A Message from the City Manager



City Manager
William Patrick Pate

May is Business Appreciation Month and I hope that folks reading this newsletter will join me in actively supporting local businesses in the City of Manassas. We are fortunate to have many different businesses that call Manassas home. In fact \$1.7 billion or 36% of the assessed property values in Manassas are non-residential property. This is a percentage that our neighboring jurisdictions are striving to attain.

One of the themes identified in the Economic Development and Marketing survey was that Manassas provided a “Sense of Opportunity” born out of an entrepreneurial spirit of independence. Economic Development continues to be a high priority identified by City Council with an emphasis on being a City that supports and encourages business growth and entrepreneurial activity that brings opportunities to the community.

Being a business friendly City that attracts and keeps business in the community has many benefits. Local businesses provide many of the jobs that support our families, friends and neighbors. They provide needed revenues to support community services and programs, and reduce the overall burden for residential property taxes. Businesses are also major contributors to the social fabric of the community; providing support for many non-profit organizations; supporting fundraisers; and supporting our students with job training, internships and ultimately employment.

Visitors are also an important part of supporting our local businesses. When visitors come into our City they shop, eat and sometimes stay in a hotel, all of which helps to support local services. It is also important for us to not only individually support our local businesses, but to also invite friends and colleagues to experience and support City businesses. As an example, when someone purchases gas in the City they support a local business, but they also help support VRE commuter trains, PRTC bus services and road maintenance through the fuel tax. Supporting City businesses helps to reduce transportation congestion and improve our local roads.

We are proud of our businesses. Many are winning awards and providing services to the community. During the past year, Project Mend-A-House, Center for the Arts, Aurora Flight Sciences, KO

Distilling and Vanderpool, Frostick & Nishanian, PC, were all recognized with business awards. MTCI was recognized as City of Manassas business of the year, in part, because of their role in serving veterans and being involved in the community.

So, as we celebrate small business month, I hope that you will think local when deciding to do your neighborhood shopping and dining, and that you will not only choose a City of Manassas business to support, but also thank them for being a vital part of the fabric of our community. Businesses, like individuals, have a choice of where they locate and grow, so “thank you” for choosing Manassas as your home!



Primary Election June 13

On June 13, 2017, the Commonwealth of Virginia will hold a Primary Election for Governor, Lt. Governor, House of Delegates, and Local offices. In the City of Manassas, the primary includes the Governor, Lt. Governor and the Republican Delegates for Virginia House 50 district. Here are a few important dates to remember for this election:

- The last day to register to vote in the June 13, 2017 Primary will be Monday, May 22, 2017 at 5:00 p.m., online 11:59 p.m.
- The office will be open for “In-Person” Absentee Voting Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 28 and Saturday, June 10, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Final “In-Person” Absentee Voting is June 10, 2017.

For more information about the Primary Election, visit www.manassascity.org/vote.



Operation Staying Alive

Although some of you reading this may receive this newsletter after this event, most should have the newsletter prior to May 20, 2017. On May 20, the City of Manassas Fire & Rescue Department and Local 4466 are hosting Operation Staying Alive. The City's Fire & Rescue Department has created this event in an effort to teach as many people as possible how to save a life by using hands only CPR.

The training only takes 30 minutes and there are 10 time slots to choose from between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. Certified CPR instructors will lead each session and give a preview of the use of an AED (Automated External Defibrillator). With 10 time slots, the Department of Fire & Rescue and Local 4466 are hoping to train as many as 1,000 people in one

day. This would not only be a state record, but would also give the area 1,000 more people who are ready and willing to step in during a medical event before paramedics arrive.

CPR can keep oxygenated blood flowing to the brain and other vital organs until more definitive medical treatment can restore a normal heartbeat. When the heart stops, the lack of oxygenated blood can cause brain damage in only a few minutes. A person may die within eight to 10 minutes.

"We are asking folks to spend just 30 minutes in a day to learn a lifesaving skill that can last a lifetime," said City of Manassas Fire & Rescue Chief Rob Clemons. "This is not a full CPR course, but participants will learn a technique

that can definitely save a life."

To sign up for Operation Staying Alive, visit www.manassascity.org. From 3 to 4 p.m. a session will be held for Spanish speakers.



Let's Talk Recycling

Earth Day Poster Contest

For the last several years, the City of Manassas has held an Earth Day poster contest for all Manassas City Public School students in grades 1-6. More than 400 children in the City participated in the contest, which is aimed at improving understanding of environmental issues and encouraging children in helping to keep Manassas beautiful.

Winning participants are awarded with gift cards, gardening kits, and the

opportunity for their artwork to be displayed in classrooms, on the City of Manassas website and Manassas City Public Schools website.

2017 Earth Day Poster Contest Winners:

- Gold Award - Stephanie Juliano – Age 12 - Mayfield Intermediate School
- Silver Award - Angel Moreno Cedillo – Age 11 - Mayfield Intermediate School
- Bronze Award - Isabelle Calvillo – Age 8 - Weems Elementary School

Posters are viewable online at www.manassascity.org/trash.

Yard Waste Reminder

Did you know that the City of Manassas collected over 2,000 tons of yard waste in 2016? That's quite a lot of grass clippings, leaves and weeds! All of the yard waste from the City of Manassas is converted into compost and used in landscaping. Please remember to set out your yard waste in brown paper yard waste bags or private trash containers. All branches must be bundled and tied. Yard waste in plastic bags and City containers will not be collected. For more information, call 703-257-8252.

Spring RecycleFest Success

Congratulations to all of our residents who participated in our Spring RecycleFest. The event was a record-breaking success with 502 cars dropping off their household hazardous waste, electronic waste and shredding in just four hours!

Our special recycling guest Savers™ also collected two trucks of gently used clothing, accessories and household goods and will be donating part of the proceeds to the Martin K. Alloy Boys & Girls Club.

The continued support of our community makes RecycleFest the best recycling event in the City's history.



The City of Manassas Happenings

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

Farmer's Market - Every Saturday in the VRE Parking Lot on Prince William Street, and every Thursday in the Harris Pavilion - check out the Farmers Market from 7:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

www.visitmanassas.org

Through September - **Historic Downtown Walking Tours** - learn history and more on the first, third, and fourth Saturdays of each month

www.visitmanassas.org

May 5-7 - The arts are alive at the **Much Ado About Art Festival** in historic downtown Manassas

www.visitmanassas.org

May 5 - 20 - Rooftop Production of **You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown**

www.center-for-the-arts.org

May 6, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. - **Manassas Reads**, free books to all readers

www.visitmanassas.org

May 6, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. - **5th Annual Battle of the Artists hosted by p-ART-ners**

www.visitmanassas.org

May 6, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. - **Leaseweb Manassas Airshow 2017** - Displays, aerial show and family fun

www.manassasairshow.com

May 6, 8 a.m. to noon - **Household Hazardous** and eWaste drop off

www.manassascity.org/trash

May 7, 1:30 p.m. - Free Book Talk - **The Civil War Wedding** with Author Charles A. Mills

www.visitmanassas.org

May 12 - Sept. 24 - New Exhibit - **Tailor-Made: Vintage Fashions from the Museum's Collection Unveiled**

www.visitmanassas.org

May 13 - 7:30 p.m. - **Manassas Symphony Orchestra**

www.hyltoncenter.org

May 19 - **Bike to Work Day 2017**

www.visitmanassas.org

May 19 - 21 - **Manassas Ballet: Romeo and Juliet**

www.hyltoncenter.org

May 20, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. - **Operation Staying Alive** - Hands Only CPR Classes at the Harris Pavilion

www.visitmanassas.org

May 20, 2 p.m. - **Historic Downtown Walking Tour**

www.visitmanassas.org

May 20, 7 p.m. - **Remember the Ladies** - a walking tour in honor of Mother's Day

www.visitmanassas.org

May 21, 1:30 p.m. - Free Book Talk - **Diamond Duty** with Author Dan Verner

www.visitmanassas.org

May 27 - **Stonewall Park Pool Opens**

June - August at the Harris Pavilion - Take in a free concert at **Take Out Tuesdays** or **Wednesday Lunch Concerts**. Concerts are free.

www.harris pavilion.com

June 2, 6 - 9 p.m. - **First Friday** in Historic Downtown

www.visitmanassas.org

June 2 at 7:30 p.m. - **Manassas Chorale** "Earth, Sea and Sky" Spring Concert

www.manassaschorale.org

June 3, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. - **23rd Annual Heritage Railway Festival** - Enjoy train rides, model trains, and more

www.visitmanassas.org

June 4, 3-4:30 p.m. - Ice Cream Social with Kings Park Concert Band

www.visitmanassas.org

June 5 - **2nd half of 2017 Real Estate Taxes Due**

www.manassascity.org/tax

June 10, noon - 4 p.m. - **Okra's Cajun Occasion 3** on the lawn of the Manassas Museum

www.visitmanassas.org

June 11, 1:30pm - **Free Book Talk, Determined to Stand and Fight** with author Ryan Quint at the Manassas Museum

www.visitmanassas.org

June 13 - **Primary Election** for Governor, Lt. Governor, VA House of Delegates 50th District, and Attorney General

www.manassascity.org/vote

June 15, 7 p.m. - **U.S. Navy Commodores** at the Harris Pavilion

www.visitmanassas.org

June 17, 8 p.m. - Adult Dance with the **Sandbar Band** at the Harris Pavilion

www.visitmanassas.org

June 18, 12-7pm - Enjoy the **13th Annual Jazz Festival** on the Manassas Museum Lawn featuring Virginia craft wine and beers

www.visitmanassas.org

June 25, 3 p.m. - Ice Cream Social and Nitehawks Swing Band

www.visitmanassas.org

July 4, 3 - 10 p.m. - **Celebrate America** with kids rides, concessions and the largest fireworks display in the area

www.visitmanassas.org

City of Manassas and Manassas Public Schools

City of Manassas Council

Mayor Harry J. Parrish II 703-257-8213
Vice Mayor Marc T. Aveni 703-795-9651
Sheryl L. Bass 703-314-4278
Ken D. Elston 571-377-8817
Ian T. Lovejoy 703-828-7592
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City of Manassas School Board

Chairman Tim Demeria 703-895-4856
Vice Chair Scott M. Albrecht 571-606-1129
Kristen Kiefer 571-606-1129
Peter O'Hanlon 571-535-0652
Suzanne W. Seaberg 571-606-0499
Robyn Williams 571-535-7510
Sanford S. Williams 571-535-6364

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Put your own photos up at
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mycityofmanassas](http://www.flickr.com/groups/mycityofmanassas).

To contact the City of Manassas Connection newsletter, email prrince@manassasva.gov