



# Manassas Connection

October 2017

## Let's Talk, Manassas

Have you ever had a great idea to improve life in the City, or had a concern about a problem in your neighborhood? Have you ever wondered how to express your opinion? *Community Conversations*, a new series of meetings with an online engagement website, offers the opportunity to make your voice heard.

Many citizens have already shared their views on education, transportation, economic development, parks, and other topics in recent Community Conversations meetings held in area churches, a coffee shop, brewery, and the senior center. Others spoke with staff at Community Conversations pop-up sites, like the Farmer's Market and at Car Free Day. More listening meetings will be scheduled for the spring.

If you missed the in-person meetings, please visit the online site [www.LetstalkManassas.org](http://www.LetstalkManassas.org) to share your voice and shape your City. The first project on the website focuses on the areas already defined in the 2016 Citizen Satisfaction Survey: traffic, public education, economic development, code enforcement, communication, government infrastructure, parks and recreation, social services, police services, and landscaping of City parks, medians and other areas.

"This is another avenue that we are taking to learn from our residents," said City Manager W. Patrick Pate. "It is important to make sure that all aspects of the community are represented when City Council sets priorities for the community."

For more details on future meetings and the Community Conversations initiative, visit [www.manassascity.org/conversations](http://www.manassascity.org/conversations)



**More Conversations Added!**

**October 2, 6:30 p.m. – Everyone!**  
First Baptist Church / 9258 Center St

**October 6, 12 Noon – Business Community**  
Centerfuse / 9071 Center Street

**October 12, 7 p.m. – Everyone!**  
Bull Run Unitarian Church / 9350 Main St.

**October 18, 7 p.m. – Everyone!**  
Bethel Lutheran Church / 8712 Plantation Lane

**Join us for a Community Conversation**

The City of Manassas wants to hear your ideas, priorities & vision for our community!

**Join online at [LetsTalkManassas.org](http://LetsTalkManassas.org)**

## Fall RecycleFest

The City of Manassas is celebrating America Recycles Day, with a Fall Recyclefest, Saturday Nov. 4, 2017, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Manassas Transfer Station located at 8305 Quarry Road, in Manassas.

In April 2017, the City broke its recycling record when more than 500 cars passed through the gates of the Manassas Transfer Station in just four hours! Thanks to our residents, the City recycling rate rose to 47.2%, which is the highest it has ever been. During Recyclefest, City residents can drop off household hazardous waste, electronic waste and shred their paper documents, for free. Proof of residency is required to enter and no commercial waste will be accepted. Savers™ will be returning to collect

gently used clothing, accessories and household goods and helps to support our community by donating part of the proceeds to a local organization - the Martin K. Alloy Boys & Girls Club. They will receive a donation based on the total weight of the recycled items.

The continued support of our community makes RecycleFest the best recycling event in the City's history. We've even received national recognition from Keep America Beautiful for a job well done. Celebrate RecycleFest Fever in the City of Manassas – drop in and drop off at RecycleFest!

For more information visit: [www.manassascity.org/recyclefest](http://www.manassascity.org/recyclefest) or call (703) 257-8256.

# A Message from the City Manager



**City Manager**  
**W. Patrick Pate**

While doing a little traveling this summer, it was easy to see how important communication is and how often we take it for granted. When visiting a new place I will spend time in advance searching for information on the place we will be visiting and work on understanding the customs and languages. I pay much more attention to the directional and informational signs and ask for information from locals in the know about things to do, places to eat and not to be missed adventures. Many of you tell me similar stories about your travels.

Now, as I settle back into my routine, I know that City staff also work hard to make sure information is at my fingertips. The City communicates with our residents in a variety of ways to reach the maximum number of people.

For instance, as the leaves begin to fall and we begin raking them to the curb, how do we, as residents, find out when those leaves will be collected? In

essence, how is the City of Manassas trying to communicate with me and other residents about this service? In this case a leaf map was printed in this publication just last month. If you misplaced or already recycled the newsletter, the leaf map is available on the City website – [www.manassascity.org/leafmap](http://www.manassascity.org/leafmap). There is also an interactive map where you can find all of the information for your leaf collection, yard waste collection, trash schedule and more at [www.manassascity.org/trash](http://www.manassascity.org/trash). And, if I wanted to reread something in the newsletter after recycling it, I know I can find last month's newsletter on the website in the Media Center.

There are other ways that the City communicates with our residents. The website is where we house almost all of our information. We have Council records dating back to 1873 in our Public Records section. Did you know the City also communicates through social media? Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Flickr. Fire and Rescue, Police and our new Parks, Culture and Recreation Department are also on social media.

If you want information on a City project or you want to receive this newsletter sooner than it arrives in your mailbox, visit [www.manassascity.org/notifyme](http://www.manassascity.org/notifyme) and sign up for the information you wish to receive. If you decide at some point that you no longer want to receive these messages, you can unsubscribe at any time.

The City's Communications Office sends out press releases to local and national media with important news the

City needs to share. You can sign up to receive these press releases at [www.manassascity.org/notifyme](http://www.manassascity.org/notifyme), or visit the front of the website and look for media center.

The City also runs a television channel, channel 23 on Comcast and channel 38 on Verizon Fios. On the station you can watch City Council Meetings and see information about City events and programs.

Another avenue of communication that has been ongoing is "Community Conversations." These conversations are helping City leaders to shape the future of the City.

An opportunity to share your voice with Council is on Monday, Nov. 20 at 7 p.m. at the Town Hall. Here we will report back on the information received from you during the Community Conversations. To share your voice online, we have created a new tool as a part of this process so you can provide input without having to attend a meeting. I encourage you to visit [www.letstalkmanassas.org](http://www.letstalkmanassas.org) and share your insights and ideas on the future of the City.

So, if you get the chance, we would love to hear from you. And, please visit our website and take a moment to sign up for the information you wish to receive.

## A Note from the City Arborist

Now is a great time to aerate and overseed your lawn. Cooler fall temperatures along with less competition from weeds will help make grass seed germination easier. It is best to have this done before the leaves start to fall. After the grass germinates, a light application of lawn fertilizer will help the new grass to establish before winter sets in.

Be a good neighbor and remember to remove dead trees and low hanging branches that impede pedestrian and vehicular traffic from your property. This will help avoid injury and property damage. Please do your part to help keep our city safe and preserve its scenic beauty. Thank you for your efforts.





# You and Your Family are Fast Asleep . . .

Consider this scenario: It is two in the morning. You and your family are fast asleep when you awaken to the smoke alarm sounding and the smell of smoke. What do you do? If you and your family don't have a plan in place, it could jeopardize your safety, or even prove deadly.

In a typical home fire, you may have as little as one to two minutes to escape safely from the time the smoke alarm sounds. That's why home escape planning is so critical in a fire situation. It ensures that everyone in the household knows how to use that small window of time wisely.

"Developing and practicing a home escape plan is like building muscle memory," said James Hartnett, Fire Marshal for the City of Manassas. "That pre-planning is what everyone will draw upon to snap into action and escape as quickly as possible in the event of a fire."

This year's Fire Prevention Week theme, "Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!" works to better educate the public about the importance of developing a home escape plan and practicing it. The City of Manassas Fire & Rescue Department is working in coordination with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), the official sponsor of the Fire Prevention



Week for more than 90 years, to reinforce potentially life-saving messages. Fire Prevention Week is October 8-14, 2017.

"Home escape planning is one of the most basic but fundamental elements of home fire safety, and can truly make the difference between life and death in a fire situation," said Lorraine Carli, NFPA's vice president of Outreach and Advocacy. In support of Fire Prevention Week, Fire Marshal Hartnett encourages all Manassas households to develop a plan together and practice it. A home escape plan includes working smoke alarms on every level of the home, in every bedroom, and near all sleeping areas. It also includes two ways out of every room, usually a door and a window, with a clear path to an outside meeting place (like a tree, light pole, or mailbox) that's a safe distance from the home.

Here are some tips for developing and practicing a home escape plan:

- Draw a map of your home with all members of your household, marking two exits from each room and a path to the outside from each exit.
- Practice your home fire drill twice a year. Conduct one at night and one during the day with everyone in your home, and practice using different ways out.
- Teach children how to escape on their own in case you can't help them.
- Make sure the number of your home is clearly marked and easy for the fire department to find.
- Close doors behind you as you leave — this may slow the spread of smoke, heat, and fire.
- Once you get outside, stay outside. Never go back inside a burning building.

## Notes from Public Works

### Leaf Collection

Leaf collection begins again on October 16th. Trucks will only pass through your section once during each collection cycle. Please make sure that you sweep or rake your leaves to the curb and not in the street.

### Did you know?

Leaves swept into storm drains can cause flooding and property damage. Don't worry if you miss your leaf collection day. You can also set your leaves out in paper yard waste bags for collection on Mondays. For more information visit: [www.manassascity.org/leaves](http://www.manassascity.org/leaves) or call (703) 257-8347.

### Project Recycle Runway

Project Recycle Runway is about to start its second fabulous season! The City is once again working with the Martin K. Alloy Boys & Girls Club of Manassas to explore textile recycling by creating new runway fashions from used clothing and accessories. Last year, girls aged 8 – 13 created some amazing new designs. We were even featured on NBC local news!

Who will be our runway star this year? This project is possible thanks to the Boys and Girls Club, American Disposal Services, Savers and brilliant volunteers. For more information contact: Monica Boehringer on (703) 257-8256.

### Revisions to the Solid Waste Code

City staff have been working to revise the City's Solid Waste Code and to ensure that our community stays clean and safe. City Council will hear a presentation regarding the revisions on Oct. 13.

#### **Revisions include:**

- Guidance for business owners for litter free areas.
- Commercial Solid Waste Collection in Historic Downtown.
- Charges for the removal and disposal of excess bulk waste.
- Confiscation and fines for carts left out outside collection day.
- A scale of fines to address violation issues

# 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 Thursday in the Harris Pavilion - check out the Farmers Market - from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

[www.visitmanassas.org](http://www.visitmanassas.org)

Now - October - **Museum at the Market** - Saturdays during the Farmer's Market

[www.visitmanassas.org](http://www.visitmanassas.org)

Now - Nov. 4 - **Absentee In-person Voting** at 9025 Center Street

Oct. 6 - Feb. 18 - New Exhibit - **The Forgotten World War: It's Impact At Home**

[www.visitmanassas.org](http://www.visitmanassas.org)

Oct. 5, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. - NOVANT Auxiliary Presents: **Dillard's at Stony Point Sale** of fine items

Oct. 5 - Personal Property taxes are due

[www.manassascity.org/tax](http://www.manassascity.org/tax)

Oct. 5, 5:30 p.m. - **Byrd Park Ribbon Cutting**

Oct. 6 at 6 p.m. - Opening reception for new Manassas Museum exhibit **The Forgotten World War: It's Impact At Home**

[www.visitmanassas.org](http://www.visitmanassas.org)

Oct. 6, 6-9 p.m. - **First Friday** in Historic Downtown Manassas

[www.visitmanassas.org](http://www.visitmanassas.org)

Oct. 7, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. - **Fall Jubilee** - Crafts, games, pumpkin pie baking and eating contests, beer and wine garden and much more

[www.visitmanassas.org](http://www.visitmanassas.org)

Oct. 7, 8 a.m. to noon - **Household Hazardous Waste & eWaste drop off** - at 8305 Quarry Road

[www.manassascity.org/trash](http://www.manassascity.org/trash)

Oct. 7, 2 p.m. - **Architectural Tour** of Historic Downtown

[www.visitmanassas.org](http://www.visitmanassas.org)

Oct. 7, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. - Manassas Volunteer Fire Company's Open House

[www.manassasfire.com](http://www.manassasfire.com)

Oct. 8, 1:30 p.m. - Free Book Talk, **Richmond Shall Not Be Given Up** with Author Doug Crenshaw

[www.visitmanassas.org](http://www.visitmanassas.org)

Oct. 13, 8 p.m. - **Cemetery Tour** - by the Manassas Museum

[www.visitmanassas.org](http://www.visitmanassas.org)

Oct. 15, 7 a.m. - **Peyton's Project Walk** - Freeze Bullying at the Harris Pavilion

[www.visitmanassas.org](http://www.visitmanassas.org)

Oct. 20 - 22 - Manassas Ballet Theatre presents **The Legend of Sleepy Hollow**

[www.visitmanassas.org](http://www.visitmanassas.org)

Oct. 21, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. - **Walk to End Alzheimer's** at the Harris Pavilion

[www.visitmanassas.org](http://www.visitmanassas.org)

Oct. 20-29 - **The Diary of Anne Frank** - at the Hylton Performing Arts Center

[www.pwlt.org](http://www.pwlt.org)

Oct. 21, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. - **They Paved Paradise** Van Tour

[www.visitmanassas.org](http://www.visitmanassas.org)

Oct. 22, 1:30 p.m. - **The Wreck of the Old 97** with Author Larry Aaron

[www.visitmanassas.org](http://www.visitmanassas.org)

Oct. 28, 7 p.m. - **Spirits of Manassas** - get into the season with this chilling experience

[www.visitmanassas.org](http://www.visitmanassas.org)

Oct. 28, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. - **Haunted Happenings** in Historic Downtown Manassas

[www.visitmanassas.org](http://www.visitmanassas.org)

Nov. 3 & 4 - Novant Health Auxiliary presents: **The Holiday Bazaar @ Novant** Health UVA Health System Prince William Medical Center

Nov. 3 - 12 - **Flags for Heroes** - Displayed on the lawn of the Manassas Museum - more info at [patrickawcloud@aol.com](mailto:patrickawcloud@aol.com)

Nov. 3, 6-9 p.m. - **Fall Gallery Walk**

[www.visitmanassas.org](http://www.visitmanassas.org)

Nov. 4, 11 a.m. - **Greater Manassas Veterans Day Parade**

<http://vetpar.org>

Nov. 4, 2 p.m. - Free Book Talk - **Conquer Hell** with Author Ed Lengel, Chief Historian of the White House Historical Association

[www.visitmanassas.org](http://www.visitmanassas.org)

Nov. 4 & 5 - **The Wiz**, by Pied Piper Theatre at Metz Middle School

[www.visitmanassas.org](http://www.visitmanassas.org)

Nov. 4, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. - **Holiday Bazaar and Rummage Sale** - Senior Center at Manassas

Nov. 5, 1:30 p.m. - **To Annoy or Destroy the Enemy** with author Patrick O'Neil

[www.visitmanassas.org](http://www.visitmanassas.org)

Nov. 7 - **Election Day**

[www.manassascity.org/vote](http://www.manassascity.org/vote)

Nov. 11, 10 a.m. - Prince William and Manassas **World War I Monument Ceremony** at the Old Manassas Courthouse - 9248 Lee Ave.

Nov. 12, 1:30 p.m. - Free Book Talk - **Three Cheers for the Chesapeake** with Author Rick Richter

[www.visitmanassas.org](http://www.visitmanassas.org)

Nov. 18, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. - **They Paved Paradise** Van Tour

[www.visitmanassas.org](http://www.visitmanassas.org)

Nov. 20, 7 p.m. - City of Manassas **Town Hall Meeting** at Baldwin Elementary School

Nov. 25 - Dec. 10 - **Nuncrackers** - performed by Rooftop Productions at the Center for the Arts

[www.visitmanassas.org](http://www.visitmanassas.org)

Dec. 1, 6 - 9 p.m. - **Merry Old Town** - Greet Santa as he comes into the City by VRE. Stay for the annual lighting of the Christmas Tree. An enchanting night in Historic Downtown.

[www.visitmanassas.org](http://www.visitmanassas.org)

Dec. 2, 10 a.m. - **72nd Annual Greater Manassas Christmas Parade** - A Christmas Carole

<https://gmchristmasparade.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  
 Pamela J. Sebesky 571-358-9454  
 Mark D. Wolfe 703-257-1702

### 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

## Get Social!

Visit the City at [www.manassascity.org](http://www.manassascity.org).



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[www.twitter.com/cityofmanassas](http://www.twitter.com/cityofmanassas)



[www.flickr.com/photos/cityofmanassas](http://www.flickr.com/photos/cityofmanassas)

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

To contact the City of Manassas Connection newsletter, email [prrince@manassasva.gov](mailto:prrince@manassasva.gov)