

City of Manassas, Virginia  
9027 Center Street, Manassas, VA 20110

**For Immediate Release**  
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## **October Events at the Manassas Museum**

City of Manassas, VA . . . The Manassas Museum offers great free programs for residents and visitors. Below are these events.

**Museum at the Market; Through October; Saturdays from 9 a.m. till 1 p.m.; free; *Prince William and Main Streets***

Have you ever written with a quill pen? Have you ever broken a spy code? These are just some of the activities the Museum staff features at the Saturday Farmer's Market that are fun for the whole family. Visit the City of Manassas Farmer's Market Facebook page for each week's activity. Visit city staff at **City at the Market** on October 21 and 26 and share your voice about the city's future priorities.

**Free Book Talk: *Fire on the Water: The USS Kearsarge and the CSS Alabama* with Author James Gindlesperger; October 1; 1:30 p.m.; free**

Learn about the Civil War ships that met in an epic battle off the coast of France on June 19, 1864. Using the words of the participants, James Gindlesperger offers a rare look into life at sea during the American Civil War.

**Community Conversations: at First Baptist Church; October 2; 6:30 p.m.; 9258 Center Street**

Share your voice. Shape your city. Join the conversation about our city's future priorities. Visit the online conversation at [www.LetsTalkManassas.org](http://www.LetsTalkManassas.org) if you can't make this session.

**Byrd Park Ribbon Cutting; October 5; 5:30; 8528 Cavalry Lane; free**

See the upgrades in playground equipment, game surfaces, and picnic areas at Byrd Park, and enjoy light refreshments.

**Community Conversations: at Centerfuse; October 6; 12 Noon; 9071 Center Street**

Share your voice. Shape your city. Join the conversation about our City's future priorities in this session aimed at the business community. Visit the online conversation at [www.LetsTalkManassas.org](http://www.LetsTalkManassas.org).

**Architectural Tours of Historic Downtown; October 7 and November 4; 2 p.m.; \$5**

Learn about well-known local architect Albert Speiden, visit the homes and businesses he designed, and get a look at his original century-old sketches.

**Free Book Talk: *Richmond Shall Not Be Given Up* with Author Doug Crenshaw; October 8; 1:30 p.m.; free**

Learn about a Civil War battle so desperate that, ever after, soldiers would remember that week simply as The Seven Days.

**Community Conversations: at Bull Run Unitarian Church; October 12; 7 p.m.; 9350 Main Street**

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**Celebrating A Spirited Season with Special Tours:**

**Cemetery Tour; October 13; 8 p.m.; \$5**

**Spirits of Manassas Walking Tour; October 28; 7 p.m.; \$15/ \$7.50 ages 12 and under**

**Learn about important citizens who have influenced our area's history while touring the historic Manassas Cemetery on October 13. On October 28, listen to weird, funny and scary stories about ghosts, apparitions and other unexplained accounts while strolling through the streets of Historic Downtown Manassas by lantern light.**

**They Paved Paradise, a Manassas Museum Van Tour; October 21 and November 18; 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.; \$75 (\$50 if purchased by October 16)**

Journey back to Manassas and Prince William County before asphalt changed the landscape from farms to traffic jams, and visit Union Mills Ford, Blackburn's Ford, Signal Hill and Mayfield Earthwork Fort, sites all important to the Civil War defenses of Manassas. The tour will also feature the Benson-Rice Storytellers, who tell the story of how Manassas farmer Amos Benson and his wife nursed wounded Massachusetts Private John Rice back to health following the Battle of First Manassas. Years later, Rice raised funds to rebuild Sudley Church, where they worshipped. Transportation and lunch are provided.

**Free Book Talk: *The Wreck of the Old 97* with Author Larry Aaron; October 22; 1:30 p.m.; free**

Relive the events of September 27, 1903, at Danville, Virginia, when the Old 97 train plummeted off a forty-five-foot trestle into the ravine below, and learn about one of the most famous train wrecks in American history, as well as the controversy surrounding the accident.

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