



Manassas Connection

August 2018

Manassas History Weekend - Aug. 24-26

Living close to our nation's capital means walking in the footsteps of American history. From the monuments to the museums, from the cemeteries to the government offices, this is where it all began. This area is steeped in history and tradition, and part of that tradition is our military. In August, the City of Manassas will host Manassas History Weekend. This year's event will look at military history from the past and present.

Manassas History Weekend will include Civil War history at Liberia House, as this was the historically significant time period for that area. Living historians will be set up on the lawn that was once occupied by the North and at a different time, the South. Lincoln, Lee, Grant and Jackson will share their stories along with many others. Liberia House will be open for tours and activities are scheduled throughout the day. On Saturday, Aug. 25, at 4 p.m. at Liberia Plantation, Confederate Generals will discuss what

to do now that they had won a victory at the First Battle of Bull Run/Manassas that happened July 21, 1861.

On the Manassas Museum lawn and inside the Museum during the weekend, enjoy displays and talks on World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam and the more recent conflicts. The Tank Farm will be displaying tanks and other equipment used in these conflicts. Also on Aug. 25 from 2 to 5 p.m., veterans from WWII through the present will be on hand to talk to folks about their experiences serving our country.

The weekend includes a Friday night dance through the ages and something for every age. Children's activities include camo face painting, games and codebreaker activities.

Mark your calendars now for August 24-26 for the very first Manassas History Weekend. For more information visit www.manassascity.org/historyweekend.



City of Manassas Receives 10 Public Space Recycling Bins to Improve Recycling

City of Manassas residents visiting the E.G. Smith Baseball Complex should expect to see a cleaner public park this spring thanks to a significant grant made possible by the Dr. Pepper Snapple Group (NYSE: DPS) in collaboration with the national nonprofit Keep America Beautiful.

This Grant Program provided funding to Keep Manassas Beautiful to encourage recycling and help keep the E.G. Smith Baseball Complex clean and beautiful all summer long.

Keep Manassas Beautiful Program Coordinator, Monica Boehringer sees the grant as an opportunity. "The City of Manassas is always looking for

ways to demonstrate that recycling is an important part of our community life. This grant will allow our younger residents and their families to recycle while enjoying their favorite game. Keeping Manassas beautiful is easy when you have the bins you need in the right places."

In 2018, the Dr. Pepper Snapple Group/Keep America Beautiful Park Recycling Bin Grant Program is funding 34 grants with a total distribution of 936 new recycling bins in public parks across the country, making recycling more accessible for enjoying the outdoors.

To help Keep Manassas Beautiful, or for more information, visit www.manassascity.org/kmb.



A Message from the City Manager



City Manager
W. Patrick Pate

For several weeks last month, when I arrived at my office early in the morning, I would get the chance to hear the unfamiliar sounds of high school students doing PT. This was a part of the summer camps organized by the Police and Fire and Rescue Departments. These camps give some of our local students the opportunity to learn about public safety careers and the men and women who are serving the community in these roles.

I also look forward to seeing so many residents come out for the National Night Out events which are traditionally held the first Tuesday each August. This year marked the sixth annual citywide event hosted by the City on the lawn of the Manassas Museum. This event featured demonstrations and displays by first responders and opportunities to meet the City staff and volunteers that help keep residents safe all year. These are

just a couple of examples of the many ways we try each year to help the community get to know your public safety staff and to help us get to know our neighbors.

Public Safety is a strategic priority of City Council. They want Manassas to be a city that provides a safe and secure environment for citizens, businesses and visitors through proactive safety measures and emergency response.

Did you know that in a recent citizen survey Manassas ranked significantly higher than the national average in feelings of safety in your neighborhood during the day (+10%); in city parks (+11%); in your neighborhood at night (+11%); on quality of police services (+12%); the overall feeling of safety (+13%); and feeling of safety in commercial/business areas of the City (+23%)? Our Police Department and Fire and Rescue Department each develop departmental strategic plans, track and measure performance, and work each day to deliver outstanding services to the community.

During the past year, the Police Department answered more than 50,000 calls for service and worked almost 32,000 officer-initiated calls. The department held over 150 community outreach events and responded to priority one calls an average of three minutes and 36 seconds. The Fire and Rescue Department responded to more than 6,800 emergency incidents and conducted over 1,100 fire inspections. The first unit arrival within four minutes

to any incident improved to 72% for Fire and Rescue but that is still below the goal of 90%. Improvement in this response rate is the primary reason that Council has authorized the construction of Fire and Rescue Station #21 along Dumfries Road in the southern part of the City. Plans are also underway for a new Public Safety Facility to be built next to the Grant Avenue Shopping Center to meet our increasing public safety demands and to retain our CALEA - Gold Standard with Excellence rating for our Police Department.

Maintaining a safe community is not only achieved through the efforts of police and fire and rescue personnel. Code enforcement and building inspections play a key role in having safe and desirable buildings and neighborhoods. Maintaining city streets, sidewalks and streetlights; providing parks, culture and recreational activities; and ensuring quality utility services also play a role in creating and maintaining a safe community.

It is heartbreaking to hear and read about public safety issues and discord that are facing many jurisdictions. As your City Manager, I can attest that you have a dedicated, diverse and professional public safety staff that is committed to building community relationships and providing outstanding customer service to our community. However, it takes diligence and respect from all of us to maintain a safe and secure environment for our families, neighbors and friends.

City Fire & Rescue Captain Completes International Professional Designation

Captain Matthew Fox from the City of Manassas Fire and Rescue Department has been conferred a designation that only 448 others have achieved worldwide. He has completed the process to become a Fire Officer or FO and was awarded the designation recently by the Commission on Professional Credentialing.

The designation program is voluntary and designed to recognize individuals who demonstrate their excellence in seven measured components including experience, education, professional development, professional contributions, association membership, community involvement and technical competence. In addition, all applicants are required to identify a future professional development plan.

Achieving this designation signifies Matthew Fox's commitment to his career in the fire and emergency services. Captain Fox is the first City of Manassas Fire and Rescue member to receive this designation.



City of Manassas Fire & Rescue Celebrates Ten Years of Service

July 1, 2018, marked the 10th Anniversary for the City of Manassas Fire and Rescue Department (CMFRD) providing emergency services to the citizens and visitors of the City of Manassas, as well as surrounding jurisdictions. Let's take a walk down memory lane. Prior to the formation of the department, Fire and Rescue services were managed by the Police Chief and the Fire Marshal services were handled by Public Works. The department consisted of 46 employees, staffing five pieces of apparatus during the day and three throughout the night for 5,500 incidents annually.

Fast forward ten years to present day, the Fire and Rescue Department has been filled with many successes. Some of these include recruit schools, new apparatus, summer camp and Operation Staying Alive. The department has conducted nine recruit schools growing the size to a total of 65 employees. This has given the department the opportunity to promote 25 staff members. CMFRD averages 17 calls for service a day, 27 unit responses, and approximately 6,700 calls annually. This has required us

to develop an apparatus replacement program, which has brought in eight new fire and EMS vehicles to enhance service delivery to the residents of Manassas and the greater Manassas area.

Community outreach has remained an important part of the organization. This summer will mark the sixth year for Fire and Rescue High School Summer Camp. CMFRD also hosted Operation Staying Alive, an event that taught more than 450 people to perform hands only CPR. Each year, department

personnel provide approximately 70 public education events and partners with local businesses to provide turkey dinners and Christmas presents to the citizens and children of the community.

This growth and development would not be possible without the support of our Mayor, City Council, and the Manassas community. The department will continue to improve services provided to the community. Stay tuned for more success in years to come!



News from Public Works

Recycling Saves Space

There has been a lot of misinformation in the news lately about the end of recycling as we know it. Don't believe it! Recent issues with recycling contamination or "wishful and dirty recycling" have led to an international recycling crisis. Here in the City of Manassas, we have a recycling rate of 47.2 percent, which is 13 percent higher than the national average. Our residents are pretty good at recycling!

The City of Manassas does not send residential recycling to the landfill. The average remaining capacity for landfills in Virginia is about 24 years. The idea of digging a bigger hole to resolve recycling issues is a non-starter. Consider this: the length of time it takes for an aluminum can to decompose in a landfill is 200 years. A recycled aluminum can be back on the shelf

in as little as 60 days. Recycling is the smartest thing we can do.

To recycle correctly, make sure that everything we recycle is clean and dry.

Here is a list of what we recycle in our curbside containers:

- Paper (newspaper, junk mail, copy paper, etc.)
- Cardboard and Paperboard (boxes for food and shipping)
- Metal Cans (soda cans and food cans)
- Plastics (water bottles, milk containers, soda containers)
- Glass (bottles and jars only)

If in doubt – leave it out! The City is working with American Disposal Services to create new stickers for the carts to help make it easier for residents to remember what goes in the can. If you have any questions regarding

recycling, visit: www.manassascity.org/trash or call (703) 257-8252.

Big Shred Success!

The City would like to thank the more than 220 residents who dropped their paper off for shredding as part of our Big Summer Shred on July 7. We collected 12,400 lbs. (6.2 tons) of paper in just four hours! Our next shred event is on Saturday, Nov. 3.

See Our New Videos

Check out the new videos explaining how shredding, electronic and household hazardous waste drop off works. Visit www.manassascity.org/trash to view these helpful videos.

The City of Manassas Happenings

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

Through Sept. 16 - Exhibits @ Manassas Museum - **Expanding Boundaries - the Manassas Boys & Girls Club**; and **Living the American Dream: Robert Portner, Immigrant, Entrepreneur, Philanthropist** www.visitmanassas.org

Now - October - Free **Historic Downtown Walking Tours**, Saturdays at 3 p.m. www.visitmanassas.org

August - **Take Out Tuesday & Wednesday Lunch Concerts** at the Harris Pavilion www.visitmanassas.org

In August at 3 p.m. on Sunday - **Concert and Ice Cream Socials** www.visitmanassas.org

Now - October - **Museum at the Market** - Saturdays during the Farmer's Market www.manassasmuseum.org

Aug. 4, 6:30 p.m. - **Incendio featuring Bruno Nasta** - free Summer Sounds Concert www.visitmanassas.org

Aug. 4, 8 a.m. - noon - **Household Hazardous and eWaste Drop off** www.manassascity.org/trash

Aug. 4, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. - **Manassas African American Heritage Festival** at Metz Middle manassasafricanamericanheritagefestival.com

Aug. 5, 1:30 p.m. - Free Book Talk - **A Guide to Thomas Jefferson's Virginia** @Manassas Museum www.visitmanassas.org

Aug. 7, 6 - 9 p.m. - **National Night Out** - take a night out against crime. Join the Manassas City Police Department for fun, food, games & info. www.visitmanassas.org

Aug. 8, 3 p.m. - Stories of Preservation and Progress Speaker Series: **Local History** www.visitmanassas.org

Aug. 9, 7 - 9 p.m. - **Community Conversations - Infrastructure** @Public Works, 8500 Public Works Drive www.manassascity.org/planmanassas

Aug. 10, 8 p.m. - Adult Dance to **Southern Persuasion** www.visitmanassas.org

Aug. 11, 8 p.m. - Adult Dance - the **Fabulous Bel Airs** www.visitmanassas.org

Aug. 11, 8 p.m. - Movie by the Pool featuring **Cars 3** at Stonewall Pool. \$4 per person www.visitmanassas.org

Aug. 12, 1:30 p.m. - The Story Train Free Book Talk for Kids -**All Aboard for Manassas! A Dog's Tale of Adventure** with Author Kristen Henneke and illustrator Nancy Mitchell www.visitmanassas.org

Aug. 16, 7 p.m. - **U.S. Navy Commodores Band** www.visitmanassas.org

Aug. 17, 8:30 p.m. - Family Movie Night - **Nut Job 2 - Nutty by Nature** www.visitmanassas.org

Aug. 18, 6:30 p.m. - **La Unica** Free Summer Sounds Concert www.visitmanassas.org

Aug. 22, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. - Novant Auxiliary - Cape Woolami Mercantile - in the Main Lobby of Novant Prince William

Aug 24-26, Through the Ages: **A Manassas History Weekend** - free hands-on activities for all ages www.visitmanassas.org

Aug. 25, 8 p.m. - Adult Dance - **Sandbar** www.visitmanassas.org

Aug. 30, 7 p.m. - **U.S. Army Swamp Romp Band** Free Concert www.visitmanassas.org

Sept. 1, 8 a.m. - noon - **Household Hazardous and eWaste Drop off** www.manassascity.org/trash

Sept. 1, 6:30 p.m. - Summer Sounds Concert - **Bad Influence** - free @Harris Pavilion www.visitmanassas.org

Sept. 2, 1:30 p.m. - Free Book Talk - **September Mourn** www.visitmanassas.org

Sept. 4, 7 - 9 p.m. - **Community Conversations - Culture & Historic Resources** @Manassas Museum, 9101 Prince William Street www.manassascity.org/planmanassas

Sept. 8, 12 - 6 p.m. - **Bands, Brews & BBQ** www.visitmanassas.org

Sept. 8, 7 p.m. - **Manassas Ballet Theatre's 2018/19 Season Kickoff**. Contact Christina@manassasballet.org for information. www.visitmanassas.org

Sept. 9, 2 - 4 p.m. - **Out of the Darkness Walk** www.visitmanassas.org

Sept. 12, 3 p.m. - Stories of Preservation and Progress Speaker Series: **Potpourri** www.visitmanassas.org

Sept. 14-16, 4 - 9 p.m. - **15th Annual International Food Festival** www.visitmanassas.org

Sept. 15, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. - **43rd Annual Edgar Rohr Car Meet** www.visitmanassas.org

Sept. 17, 7 p.m. - **Community Conversation Town Hall** hosted by the Manassas City Council www.manassascity.org/planmanassas

Sept. 21 - **Absentee Voting** for November General begins. www.manassascity.org/vote

Sept. 22, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. - **Cystic Fibrosis Great Stride Walk** www.visitmanassas.org

Sept. 23, 12 - 5:30 p.m. - **Annual Latino Festival** www.visitmanassas.org

Sept. 29, 12 - 5 p.m. - **Manassas Steins, Wines & Spirits Festival** www.visitmanassas.org

Sept. 29 - National Public Lands Day at Liberia Plantation - www.manassascity.org/Leisure

Oct. 6, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. - **36th Annual Fall Jubilee** www.visitmanassas.org

City of Manassas and Manassas Public Schools

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