



The City of Manassas Connection

October 2012

Welcome to the Manassas Connection!

On behalf of the Mayor, Council, and staff of the City of Manassas, welcome to the inaugural edition of the City of Manassas Connection. This edition marks the City's renewed communication efforts. Our goals are to educate our residents, guests, and community stakeholders about local government and the community, to promote the many initiatives, programs and amenities of the City and to engage our citizens in the local government process. We hope to do this by creating opportunities for our stakeholders to share ideas, information, and insight with the City of Manassas government. We hope to create trust and open dialogue with our stakeholders by being transparent in our operations and having information easily accessible and readily available.

This monthly newsletter is just one of the many new communication initiatives we are embarking on beginning this fall. We also have launched the official City of Manassas Facebook, Twitter, and Flickr pages. These web solutions allow us to provide instant updates and important announcements on a range of issues. Please "Like us" so you can be in the know about your City! We are also updating the City of Manassas website with current data and information in a more user-friendly format. We will be

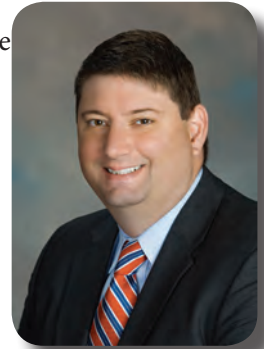
branding all of our information with the City of Manassas to distinguish our 10 square miles from the more than 90 square miles of the greater Manassas community.

As we hope you see, we are invested in engaging with all of our citizens and guests in various ways. As always we encourage your participation in person at any of the many City meetings and events. This fall there will be a number of engagement opportunities as we embark in a new strategic plan for the City, updating the Comprehensive Land Use Plan, and an exciting initiative with our valuable partners at the schools in reviewing our collective Capital Improvement needs for the next 20 years and beyond. Please feel welcome to participate in whatever way your time and interest allows.

These are just the beginning of some great things to come from your City! Our door is open – Come on in!

Sincerely,

John A. Budesky
City Manager



The City of Manassas Rehabilitates T.N. Elliot/ Lake Manassas Dam

The City of Manassas Department of Public Works and Utilities recently completed the Lake Manassas Dam rehabilitation project. The project was originally estimated at \$11.46 million with \$4.2 million coming as a grant from the state. The Service Authority, City of Manassas and City of Manassas Park pay proportionate shares. This project was slated to take two years to complete, but was completed in 14 months at a cost savings of more than \$2 million.

"The T. Nelson Elliot Dam is instrumental to our area's water supply and management," said Director of Public Works and Utilities Mike Moon. "We appreciate the funding received and our team has worked diligently to deliver under budget."

In other Public Works news, Homeland Security visited the City of Manassas Public Works Department to learn how the City kept things up and running during the derecho when all around us the lights went out. The City was recommended as a resource by the American Public Power Association.

The City has Gone Social

To get the latest City of Manassas news and events, like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter. Visit the City at www.manassascity.org.

 Facebook - www.manassascity.org/facebook

 Twitter - www.twitter.com/cityofmanassas

 Flickr - www.flickr.com/photos/cityofmanassas

Any of the photos on the City Flickr account can be downloaded for your use. And, if you would like to put your own photos of your favorite places in the City of Manassas on our Flickr - visit www.flickr.com/groups/mycityofmanassas.



City of Manassas Police Awards, Promotions and Newly Sworn

During the City of Manassas Police Department's promotion and swearing-in ceremony at the Monday, Sept. 10 City Council meeting, two City of Manassas Police Officers were awarded the Medal of Valor and one officer was awarded the Honorable Service Medal.

Officer A. Plourde and Officer C.J. Golick were awarded the Medal of Valor for noticing a fire in a residence, rescuing four residents and notifying Fire & Rescue personnel to the possibility of another resident in the house. This led to all residents being rescued successfully.

Officer D.T. Villanueva was awarded the Honorable Service Medal for saving the life of a 15-year-old boy. After being flagged down by a person in the street

and discovering an unconscious boy who was not breathing, Officer Villanueva began CPR and was able to ascertain valuable health information which is credited with saving this young man's life.

Along with these awards, the City of Manassas Police Department promoted the following officers: Sgt. S.A. Morbeto was promoted to Lieutenant, and Sr. Police Officer V.P. Hatcher, Master Police Officer G.P. Hawkins and Master Police Officer L.S.W. Nevill were all promoted to Sergeant.

Lt. Morbeto will be serving in Planning and Resource Management. Sgt. Hatcher will be serving in the Traffic Services Unit. Sgt. Hawkins will be serving on the night shift and is excited about



Officer Kent-Knapczyk, Officer Howell and Officer Clubb being sworn-in.

mentoring new members of the force. Sgt. Nevill will be serving as Community Services Supervisor.

Also at the City Council meeting, the following new personnel were sworn in as City of Manassas Police Officers: Officer R.M. Clubb, Officer G.B. Howell, Officer Y.P. Lewis and Officer M. Kent-Knapczyk.

Fire & Rescue Department Promotions and Newly Sworn



Mayor Harry J. Parrish II swears in promoted and new Fire & Rescue Department personnel. (L to R) Master Technicians Steve Schmid, Karl Sampson, Matt Fox, and Ray Daubenberger and Firefighter/Medic Jessica Merrill and Firefighter/EMT Adam Potter.

During the City of Manassas Fire & Rescue Department's promotion and swearing-in ceremony at the Monday, Sept. 17 City Council meeting, four Fire & Rescue members were promoted to Master Technicians and two new employees were sworn in to the department.

Fire & Rescue members Steve Schmid, Ray Daubenberger, Matt Fox and Karl Sampson were promoted to Master Technicians. They will become mentors to the younger firefighters in the department and serve as second in command for their shifts, assisting the Lieutenant in managing programs and activities.

Firefighter/Medic Jessica Merrill and Firefighter/EMT Adam Potter were hired on July 16 and completed a five-week orientation and training program in August. Both new hires have been placed into active service on the fire apparatus and medic units. During their one-year probationary period, these new Fire & Rescue personnel will undergo further mentoring and evaluation.

"With these promotions and our two new members, the City of Manassas Fire & Rescue Department is now fully staffed," said Chief Brett Bowman.

News from Around the City of Manassas

Your Voice. Your Community. Our Future.

On Oct. 16 at 6:30 p.m. join the City of Manassas and Manassas City Public Schools in a community conversation about school and city facility needs.

You will hear short presentations and see a list of needs from both school and city personnel, then break into groups to discuss additional ideas and priorities. The city and schools have joined forces to create a single list of projects that will ultimately go into the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

Protect Your Property

Homeowners and business owners can protect their property from flooding, comply with City regulations and reduce service rates. Disconnect spouts, drains or pumps that are illegally tied to the sewer system. This will help to prevent sanitary sewer overflow. To see this full article, visit www.manassascity.org/publicworks.



Don't Forget to Vote!

Some important information to remember this election season follows:

- The last day to apply for an absentee ballot by mail is Oct. 30.
- In person absentee voting is taking place now at 9025 Center Street Monday - Friday from 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. and on Saturday, Oct. 27 and Nov. 3 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- The General Election is Tuesday, Nov. 6. Polls are open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Visit www.manassascity.org/vote for more information.

Remember to Rake

The City of Manassas Public Works wants to remind you to rake your leaves to the curb the day before City crews come to collect them. Also, please rake your leaves away from storm drains. To find out when your leaf collection is, visit www.manassascity.org/leaves.

Dig with Care

Before you dig in your yard, dial 811. It's not only the law, but will help make your gardening or home improvement project safer while preventing utility outages. Remember to dig with CARE - Call 811, Allow time for marking, Respect the marks, and Excavate carefully.

Comprehensive Plan

The City is in the process of updating the Comprehensive Plan, which sets policy for future development and offers guidance across several topical areas from land use and transportation to community facilities and housing.

Currently, the update is with the Planning Commission, which is scheduling work sessions throughout the Fall.

To review the plan, offer comments and see the work session schedule, visit www.manassascity.org/compplan.

City of Manassas Teacher Receives Horace Mann Award



Kellie Blair Hardt, special education teacher at Metz Middle School, was the recipient of the National Education Association's Horace Mann Award for

Teaching Excellence. The award, along with a check for \$10,000, is given to five teachers from across the country each year. In the near future, one of the five teachers will receive the NEA Member Benefits Award for Teaching Excellence and \$25,000.

Kellie Blair Hardt has an incredible story along her teaching journey. In ninth grade, she was expelled and ordered to attend a Job Corps program. During the program, she completed her GED and went to work at K-mart in Manassas. A co-worker noticed her interest in art and took her to Northern Virginia Community College to enroll. At a meeting of the Virginia Education Association

that Kellie went to for the free pizza, she got the feeling that this is what she wanted to do with her life.

"I was so afraid of school because I'd had such a hard time with it," Hardt said. "I failed at school, so it wasn't for me. I found a connection and I started preaching on the value of education. . . I thought, *This is what I want to do.*"

Since that time, Kellie Blair Hardt has been in college. First, she attended Virginia Tech where she received her bachelor's degree. Then, she earned her master's degree at George Mason University (GMU). Today, she is enrolled in GMU's doctoral program for community college education.

While teaching at Metz Middle School and attending GMU, Kellie finds the time to serve as one of Virginia's representatives on the board of the NEA. This is an amazing feat from a woman who was abandoned by her mother when she was two years old and had been homeless in middle school, sleeping on a park bench not far from her school.

Congratulations on a well deserved award to an incredible teacher!

Kids Corner

B	S	B	O	T	T	L	E	S	B	Y
M	O	N	R	E	P	A	P	O	Y	G
C	A	O	A	X	I	N	X	C	R	C
L	S	G	K	C	R	E	A	A	T	I
O	E	T	A	S	S	R	S	S	I	T
T	O	I	K	Z	D	S	O	N	R	S
H	H	R	N	B	I	G	S	Z	E	A
E	S	L	O	C	A	N	L	Y	S	L
S	I	A	A	G	N	Z	E	A	O	P
O	R	R	S	A	C	K	S	S	S	T
D	S	A	L	U	M	I	N	U	M	S

Find all of these words in the puzzle, get a t-shirt. Send your completed puzzle with your name, age and address, to: Sue Lhotka, Refuse & Recycle Coordinator, 8500 Public Works Drive, Manassas, VA 20110

Words to find:

Aluminum	Cars	Paper
Books	Clothes	Plastic
Bottles	Glass	Sacks
Boxes	Grass	Shoes
Cans	Magazines	Tires
Cardboard	Oil	Toys

The City of Manassas Happenings

The City of Manassas has a lot going on this October and November. The following are a few of the events you may want to go to this fall.

Oct. 6 - **The 30th Annual Fall Jubilee** in Old Town Manassas from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. More than 100 crafters will be in the City with live music, wine tastings, Kids' rides and activities. www.visitmanassas.org

Oct. 6 - **City Shred, Household Hazardous Waste and e-Waste Event** 8 a.m. to noon at the Manassas Transfer Station.

Oct. 13 - **Housing Event** at Osbourn High School from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This is a great opportunity to talk directly to your bank to learn about the various programs that can help you with concerns about your mortgage. www.manassascity.org/housingevent

Oct. 13 - **Public Utilities Day** at the Public Works Facility on Portner Avenue from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Come see how the City of Manassas Public Works and Utility Department keeps things running.



Oct. 16 - **Your Voice. Your Community. Our Future.** At 6:30 p.m. at Mayfield Intermediate School join residents, City and School staff as we engage in conversation about school and city facility needs for the future of the City of Manassas.

Oct. 20 - **Walk with Walgreens** wrap up event, 10 a.m. to noon. More than 730 people who live and/or work in the City of Manassas pledged in August to Walk with Walgreens for improved health. Celebrate with the City at the wrap up event.

Oct. 21 - **Book Talk** at the Manassas Museum at 2 p.m. Author Carl L. Sell, Jr. - *"Thank God He Survived Pickett's Charge."* www.manassasmuseum.org

Oct. 26 & 27 - **Spirits of Manassas Walking Tours** – Hear spirited stories that live on in Old Town. www.manassasmuseum.org

Oct. 27 - **Haunted Happenings** – Bring your children into Old Town Manassas from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. for fun, games and trick-or-treat activities. At 1:30 p.m. join a family friendly walking tour of the cemetery. www.visitmanassas.org

Oct. 27 - **The Boo Ball** at the Harris Pavilion from 7 to 11 p.m. will benefit the Un-Trim-a-Tree program. www.volunteerprincewilliam.org

Nov. 4 - **Book Talk** at the Manassas Museum at 2 p.m. Author Mary Miley Theobold, *"Death by Petticoat"* www.manassasmuseum.org

Nov. 4 - **Change your Clock, Change your Battery.** Don't forget to change the battery in your smoke detector when you fall back an hour.

Nov. 6 - **Election Day** - get out and Vote!

Nov. 10 - **4th Annual Veteran's Day Parade** at 11 a.m. in Old Town Manassas. The parade honors all veterans with a special appreciation for Cold War Veterans. Military displays will be set up at the Harris Pavilion and on the Museum Lawn. www.visitmanassas.org

Nov. 10 - **Community Shred Event** to benefit Osbourn High School Band at Osbourn High School from 9 a.m. to noon.

Nov. 17 - **Giving Back: Service in the City** -

City of Manassas Neighborhood Conference at the Manassas Boys & Girls Club, (behind Jennie Dean Elementary School), from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Join neighbors and City staff to learn, network and enjoy. For more information, call Neighborhood Services at 703-257-8315 or email czenich@ci.manassas.va.us. Attending the conference is FREE, but you do need to register at www.manassascity.org.



Nov. 22 - Thursday trash pick up will move to Saturday for the Thanksgiving holiday.

City of Manassas and Manassas Public Schools

City of Manassas Council

Mayor Harry J. Parrish II	703-257-8213
Vice Mayor Andrew L. Harrover	703-368-2453
Marc T. Aveni	703-795-9651
J. Steven Randolph	703-368-4732
Ian T. Lovejoy	703-828-7592
Jonathan L. Way	703-368-9174
Mark D. Wolfe	703-257-1702

City of Manassas School Board

Chairman Scott M. Albrecht	571-606-1129
Vice Chairman Arthur P. Bushnell	571-535-7510
Ilka V. Chavez	571-606-0285
Tim Demeria	703-895-4856
Ellen M. Purdy	571-606-0499
Pamela J. Sebesky	571-535-0652
Sanford S. Williams	571-535-6364