

The City of Manassas Connection

November 2012

City and Schools Working Together

In August of this year the City and our School Partners adopted a joint resolution to review the infrastructure needs that will be facing the City for the next 20 years and beyond. This resolution was a clear recognition of the importance of identifying the mutual needs for both the City of Manassas and our Schools. The resolution directed staff from the City and Schools to work in partnership to deliver recommendations to the City Council and School Board by the end of this calendar year.

You may ask what the City Council and School Board hope to gain from these meetings and this joint taskforce. In the joint resolution, one line sums up what we hope to accomplish. We hope to “share resources, expertise, and planning assets to provide a sound foundation of reasoned thought and assessment of Capital Improvement needs.”

On Oct. 16, the City of Manassas and Manassas City Public Schools joined forces to hold a meeting with residents to develop feedback, perspectives, and

suggestions on needs for the future of the City of Manassas. It was wonderful to meet and hear from more than 250 people who gave their time and consideration to this effort. In addition, many residents also took the opportunity to follow up with suggestions through our website. The next meeting regarding this critical citizen engagement process will occur on Nov. 7 at Mayfield Intermediate School at 6:30 p.m. We hope to see you there.

In my short tenure as City Manager, I have come to know that City of Manassas residents are very involved, caring and helpful people. It is this involvement and caring that will position your government to develop plans that best meet your identified needs. Working under the guidance of the City Council, we hope to help create a City that many will continue to call home and others will wish to call home in the future. Not just for a few years, but for a lifetime.

I would like to thank all of the residents who attended the meetings,



took our online survey, or who will engage in upcoming opportunities. You are truly helping us shape the future of the City of Manassas. For more information on this venture, visit www.manassascity.org/future.

Sincerely,

John A. Budesky
City Manager

Two New Exhibits at the Manassas Museum

Two new exhibits on photography and currency at The Manassas Museum capture lesser known parts of life during the Civil War.

Currency in Conflict is an exhibit on loan from the American Numismatic Association Money Museum in Colorado Springs, Colorado. The display explores different types of emergency money, such as demand notes and “greenbacks,” encased postage stamps, fractional currency and Civil War tokens, plus the first U.S. coin to feature the motto “In God We Trust.” The exhibit runs from Nov. 1, 2012 to Feb. 3, 2013.

Between the States: Photographs of the American Civil War is an exhibit on loan from the George Eastman House in Rochester, New York. The exhibit includes a selection of rare historical photographs of Civil War sites and circumstances by celebrated photographers including George Barnard, Mathew Brady, and

Alexander Gardner. Museum staff have also added original objects from the nineteenth century to the exhibit which runs from Nov. 7, 2012 through Jan. 6, 2013.





Stay Safe This Holiday Season - A Message from Public Safety

From the Fire Department:

The holidays are full of fun, visits from friends and family and, of course, food. Be safe this holiday season. If you are planning to use a turkey fryer, here are some safety tips to consider:

- ✓ Always use a turkey fryer outside, never indoors, on a deck or in a garage.
- ✓ Make sure the fryer is on a flat surface to prevent accidental spills and burns.
- ✓ Never leave the fryer unattended. Accidents happen quickly.
- ✓ Make sure children or pets are never near the fryer.
- ✓ Make sure your turkey is well thawed. Oil and water don't mix and can cause spills, fire or even an oil explosion.
- ✓ Keep an extinguisher nearby.
- ✓ Call 9-1-1 if you get burned or a fire does occur.

From the Police Department:

Holiday shopping is popular in November and December. To stay safe while out and about this holiday season, follow these simple holiday shopping safety tips:

- ✓ Park only in safe, well lit locations and make a note of where you parked. Avoid parking where your own vehicle could become concealed by such things as larger vehicles, dumpsters, shrubbery or fences.
- ✓ Two trips are safer than one. Try not to overload your arms with bags or other items that may hamper your ability to escape or protect yourself.
- ✓ Walk briskly when you are out. This not only helps with the cold, but lets criminals know that you are less approachable. Walking with an air of confidence is also a good crime

- prevention technique.
- ✓ Maintain your personal space.
- ✓ Criminals expect shoppers to carry several credit cards on them in addition to recent purchases. Conceal all valuables and only carry what you need.
- ✓ If your daytime shopping turns into night time bargain hunting and you feel unsafe walking to your vehicle alone, do not hesitate to ask a store employee or security officer to escort you to your car.
- ✓ Carry your vehicle key or remote in-hand when approaching your vehicle in the parking lot.
- ✓ And don't forget to report all suspicious behavior to the Police.

Giving Back: Service in the City

Don't miss the 6th Annual Neighborhood Conference on Saturday, Nov. 17 from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Manassas Boys & Girls Club, 9501 Dean Park Lane, in Manassas (behind Jennie Dean Elementary School).

This year's conference will focus on two conversation tracts: the HOA Community Association Institute and Non-HOA Trending Neighborhood Topics. The day includes workshops, a youth cafe, raffles, lunch and more. It's free for the entire family. To register or find out more information, visit www.manassascity.org/neighconf or call 703-257-8315.



A Note from the Treasurer's Office

Be the first to know! Follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/cityofmanassas for a link to online forms and tax dates.

- 2013 VRE, Old Town business and residential parking permits will be available Nov. 27.
- 2013 Georgetown South parking decals are currently available and must be displayed on your car and motorcycle by Jan. 1, 2013. If you already have a 2013 decal, please display it now.
- Dec. 1 - Dog tags on sale for 2013
- Dec. 5 - First half of 2013 Real Estate taxes are due.



Merry Old Town is Coming!

Are you looking for a way to get in the Christmas Spirit? Then Merry Old Town is just what you need and begins Friday Nov. 30.

Merry Old Town, sponsored by Minnieland, spreads holiday cheer with a series of celebrations from Friday, Nov. 30 through Sunday, Dec. 2. Visitors can enjoy Christmas carolers, greet Santa, witness Santa light the Old Town Christmas tree at the Lighting Ceremony on the Museum lawn, visit the Manassas Museum, see the Greater Manassas Christmas Parade and window shop during the Merchants Open House. For more information visit www.visitmanassas.org.

Merry Old Town activities include:
Fri., Nov. 30 - from 5 to 8:30 p.m. - The Manassas Museum hosts their annual Holiday Open House with free admission and refreshments. At 6 p.m. - Santa arrives at the Manassas train depot via the VRE (Virginia Railway Express) train. At 6:30 p.m. - Santa lights the Old Town Manassas Christmas tree on the Manassas Museum lawn. From 7 to 9 p.m. there are free hayrides through Old Town Manassas, caroling, ice skating, and a visit by Santa at Harris Pavilion following the tree lighting ceremony.

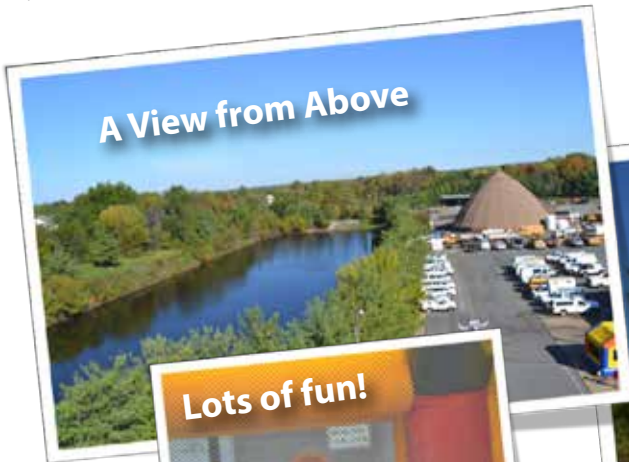
Sat., Dec. 1 - at 10 a.m. - The 67th Annual Greater Manassas Christmas Parade, sponsored by Northwest Federal

Credit Union, begins on Mathis Avenue and continues down Center Street in Old Town Manassas. The Manassas Christmas Parade has more than 2,000 participants and includes floats, high-flying balloons and marching bands.

Sun., Dec. 2 - from 12 to 5 p.m. - Come to the Annual Merchants Open House - enjoy holiday shopping and vote for your favorite gingerbread house on display in the shop windows as part of the Annual Gingerbread House Contest. Votes are accepted in the store or on-line at www.visitmanassas.org. From 1:30 to 4 p.m. there are free horse-drawn carriage rides. Free horse-drawn carriage rides will also be available on Dec. 9 and 16.

Public Works & Utilities Open House

If you didn't make it to the Public Works & Utilities Open House in October, here's what you missed.



A View from Above



Lots of fun!



A ride in the bucket truck!



Cool Trucks!

The City of Manassas Happenings

Here's what's happening in the City of Manassas during November and December.

The 3rd Annual Thanksgiving Canned Food Drive runs through Nov. 14. Drop off your canned goods at any City of Manassas building before Nov. 14.

Nov. 4 - **Book Talk** at the Manassas Museum at 2 p.m. Author Mary Miley Theobald, "*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 Sunday morning when you change your clock.

Nov. 6 - **Election Day** - Get out and vote!

Nov. 7 - **RAD Self Defense Class for Seniors** begins. For future classes, visit www.manassascity.org/police.

Nov. 10 - **4th Annual Veterans Day Parade** at 11 a.m. in Old Town Manassas. The parade honors all veterans with a special appreciation this year 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** - The 6th Annual City of Manassas Neighborhood Conference at the

Manassas Boys & Girls Club, (behind Jennie Dean Elementary School), from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

www.manassascity.org/neighconf

Nov. 17 & 18 - **Little Mermaid Jr.** - Center for the Arts Pied Piper Theatre production at Metz Middle School.

www.center-for-the-arts.org/piedpiper

Ice Skating - Get ready to ice skate! We don't know the exact date, because we are waiting on Mother Nature. Watch the Harris Pavilion website to be the first person on the ice.

www.harrispavilion.com

Nov. 22 - Thursday trash pick up will move to Saturday, Nov. 24, due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

Nov. 27 - VRE, Old Town Business and Residential **Parking Permits** available. Watch the City's twitter for a link to the online forms.

www.twitter.com/cityofmanassas

Nov. 30 - Dec. 2 - **Merry Old Town** - Shopping, entertainment, Santa and refreshments. Carriage Rides will leave from the train depot.

Nov. 30 - **Manassas Museum open FREE** as part of Merry Old Town.

Dec. 1 - **Dog Licenses** are on sale for 2013.

Dec. 1 - **67th Annual Christmas Parade** at 10 a.m. in Old Town Manassas.
www.gmchristmasparade.org

Dec. 2 - **Old Town Merchant Open House**

Dec. 2, 9 & 16 - **Horse drawn carriage rides** around Old Town Manassas leaving from the train depot.

www.visitmanassas.org

Dec. 3 - **Basic Physical Defense Class for Women.** Register today! 703-257-8064.

www.manassascity.org/police

Dec. 5 - **Real Estate Taxes due**

www.manassascity.org/taxes

Dec. 14 - **The Nutcracker** will be performed by the Manassas Ballet at the Hylton Performing Arts Center on Dec. 14, 15, 22 & 23. This will surely get you in the spirit of the season! For more information call (703)257-1811.

www.hyltoncenter.org

Dec. 15 & 16 - **A New Birth of Freedom** at Liberia Plantation. A very special holiday celebration on Saturday, Dec. 15 at 5, 6 and 7 p.m. and on Sunday, Dec. 16 at 2, 3 and 4 p.m. Tickets are available at *Echoes*, the Manassas Museum Store, by calling 703-257-8453 or by visiting the store online at www.manassasmuseum.org.



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

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