



The City of Manassas Connection

April 2013

City of Manassas Winner of a 2013 Award for Excellence in Local Government



The City of Manassas' Joint CIP Process Between City and Schools was selected as a winner of the 2013 Award for Excellence in Local Government by the Alliance for Innovation in Government. The

award will be presented at the 2013

Transforming Local Government Conference in Atlanta, GA during an annual Awards Luncheon on April 10.

Innovation Awardees were chosen from more than 70 applications received by a Selection Committee consisting of City and County Managers from across the US and Canada, ASU Faculty and Alliance Executive Management. The Selection Committee looks for those local governments that have shown their dedication to stretching and improving the boundaries

of day-to-day government operations and practices, implementing creative business processes, and those who have improved the civic health of their community.

The Joint CIP Process Application detailed the process that the City of Manassas and Manassas City Public Schools created to jointly create a Capital Improvement Plan that would address the facility needs of both organizations for the next five years and beyond.

Georgetown South Early Head Start - First to Earn 5 Star Rating

The Virginia Star Quality Initiative (VSQI) was created to provide a consistent way to distinguish the level of quality in early education programs. The quality rating and improvement system (QRIS) for early childhood providers awards programs one through five star levels.

Of the 303 child care programs across Virginia that have been previously rated by VSQI, Georgetown South Early Head Start Child Development Center is the first center in Virginia to earn the VSQI's highest star rating of 5 stars.

The City of Manassas Department of Family Services, teaming with The Early Childhood Partnership has been working with VSQI for three years to manage the VSQI Star Grant in the City of Manassas.

Kristi Rophael, City of Manassas Child Care Social Worker with the Department of Family Services has been serving on the Early Childhood Partnership Board for a year. She contacted Isha Barrie, Director at Georgetown South Early Head Start, in May of 2012.

Rophael encouraged Barrie to attend the Early Childhood Partnership meetings and become part of the VSQI process. Barrie started attending the meetings in

June 2012 and was paired with a Mentor to begin the process of becoming a VSQI rated program.

Georgetown South Early Head Start went through an extensive review process that included documentation review and on-site classroom observations in four standard areas: teacher qualifications (scoring 28 of 40 points), interactions between teachers and students (scoring 60

out of 60), learning environment (scoring 30 out of 30) and instructional practices (scoring 40 out of 40).

On March 28, 2013 at the Georgetown South Head Start Child Development Center, there will be a ceremony to recognize and present a banner signifying Georgetown South Early Head Start's achievement as Virginia's first 5 Star quality rated center under the VSQI program.



A Message from the City Manager

I am sure by now you have heard of my departure from the City of Manassas at the beginning of June. This decision did not come lightly. In the year I have been here, I have found the City of Manassas a warm, wonderful city. This city is the definition of Community. Together we have accomplished some great things.

I am so proud of the combined efforts of City and school staff who put their efforts into the award winning Joint CIP program. Public Works and Utilities kept the lights on during the derecho and a hurricane when surrounding jurisdictions were left in the dark. Through our Neighborhood Services, Family Services and our community, we are creating neighborhoods that residents are proud to live in. Our streets are safer than they have ever been due to

our Police Department and we have a fully staffed Fire & Rescue Department. We've created a new website and have increased communication efforts with City residents and the region around us.

When everyone around the City had hour-long lines for the presidential election, we had none. Airport staff worked with many other agencies to create an exercise that will help all City staff learn and grow. The Airport also finished a 500 foot runway extension that was years in the making.

Together, we have created a balanced budget that supports all of City Council's priorities. How many communities can boast a museum with programming that supports the community and the largest general aviation airport in the state.

I am proud of the City of Manassas and look forward to seeing the City

move towards accomplishing City Council's goals of Education, Economic Development, Housing & Redevelopment, Community Enhancements, Good Government and Public Safety.



This is a great community and the future is bright. Over the next three months, I will continue to work with Council and residents on the Budget and Capital Improvement Plan. I look forward to your input on both of these programs at one of our work sessions. Visit www.manassascity.org/budget for a list of dates and times.

Water, Water Everywhere and Not a Drop to Drink...

We all depend on water everyday. We use water for drinking, food production, cleaning, recreation, transportation and in many other areas of our lives. Water travels from rain runoff, through streams and eventually to the Chesapeake Bay. How we treat our water here, affects others downstream and we need to keep it clean.

Pollutants get into water through stormwater runoff. This is the water from city streets, construction sites, lawns, roofs and farmland that flows into our stormwater drains and waterways.

How can you to show the planet you care and help keep our drinking water clean? Following are 10 ways you can be a good neighbor and steward of the planet:

1. Pick up litter.
2. Clean up after your animals.
3. Apply pesticides according to the instructions. More is not always better.
4. Watch for erosion around your home and direct gutters so they drain onto grassy areas.
5. Create a rain barrel to save rain water.
6. Recycle grass clippings.

7. Sweep your sidewalk or driveway instead of using water from a hose.
8. Take used motor oil to the Household Hazardous Waste drop off the first Saturday of the Month April through October. Remember, never drop oil or paint into a storm drain.
9. Use porous surfaces like flag stone, gravel, stone or pavers rather than smooth concrete or asphalt to slow down runoff.
10. Maintain home septic tanks properly by cleaning them every 3-5 years.

This Summer Enjoy Toddler Tyme at the Manassas Museum

The Toddler Tyme programs offer toddlers and their caregivers an opportunity to enjoy music, storytelling and crafts, and include a special take-home surprise. Held Mondays during the summer from 10 - 11 a.m. & 11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. - \$10/child; Ages 3-5 (registration recommended)

www.manassasmuseum.org



Get Social!

Visit the City at www.manassascity.org.



www.manassascity.org/facebook



www.twitter.com/cityofmanassas



www.flickr.com/photos/cityofmanassas

Put your own photos up at
www.flickr.com/groups/mycityofmanassas.

To contact the City of Manassas Connection newsletter, email pprince@ci.manassas.va.us.



Neighborhood Services' AmeriCorps Program Brings Business and Community Leaders into the Schools

Adult mentors are making a positive impact on student success in the City of Manassas, thanks to the Network Exchange, a new initiative by City of Manassas Neighborhood Services and Manassas City Public Schools.

Dr. Lukisha Barrera Gibbs, Supervisor of Non-Traditional Programs at the Johnson Learning Center, is implementing the program with the help of AmeriCorps member Kimberley Jenkins-Bailey. Jenkins-Bailey is prepping students while City of Manassas Neighborhood Services Manager Kisha Wilson-Sogunro recruits business leaders to meet with them in the schools.

“These managers and directors are taking their time to show teens why they need to care and how they can take ownership of the community they live in,” said Wilson-Sogunro.

Juan Garcia manages the Walgreens Store at the corner of Sudley Road and Route 28. Dede Rutherford is Human Resources Manager for US Foods. Mike Garcia owns Mike Garcia Construction and Marie Schuler is Director of Government Relations for Comcast.

These four volunteers met with students on March 8. After a meet-and-greet and facility tour, the students and their mentors shared a group question and answer time and one-on-one speed networking session.

“Community business leaders have a tremendous amount of work experience to share with our students – something that a textbook cannot teach,” said Dr. Catherine Magouyrk, Superintendent of Manassas City Public Schools. “This network is vital for students, because it provides access to role models and resources that will shape their post-secondary planning and support them when they enter the work force. Through collaboration with the business community, our students will be able to experience firsthand, practical, real-world successes and challenges presented by positive mentors from our community.”

At the first Network Exchange, participants addressed issues such as tardiness and absenteeism, the challenges of maintaining a schedule when you are a teenage parent, and the devastating effect of poor decision making in drug

use or accumulating a juvenile record can have on future employment and career opportunities.

Since the first session, several teens from Osbourn High School who are taking courses at the Johnson Learning Center have landed internships and jobs through the program. Dr. Gibbs, Jenkins-Bailey and Wilson-Sogunro will continue to connect business community leaders with students through the Network Exchange initiative with four follow-up sessions throughout the spring: March 22, April 12, April 19 and May 24.

Sharon Wood, manager of the Liberia Avenue Walmart and Carlos Castro, President and CEO of Todos Super Market, have signed on as Network Exchange mentors; Chef Robert Barolin of City Square Café and Jaz Mitchell of Jaz Cuts Hair Salon have been mentoring students at their business sites for more than a year.

For more information on how you can volunteer to be a business or community mentor in the Network Exchange Initiative, contact Kisha Wilson-Sogunro at 703-257-8240.

Drop off your Household Hazardous and E-Waste

From May through October, on the first Saturday of each month from 8 a.m. to noon, residents of the City of Manassas can drop off their household hazardous waste and e-waste at the Manassas Transfer Station, 8305 Quarry Road. Visit the City's website - www.manassascity.org/recycling - for a list of items that can be dropped off.



The City of Manassas Happenings

Here's what's happening in the City of Manassas during March and April.

April 6, 10 a.m. - 2p.m. - Free VIN Etching at Walmart (9401 Liberia Ave). www.manassascity.org/police

Now through April 25 - **Carol Lopatin & Rosemary Luckett Landscape: Two Parables** at the Center for the Arts www.center-for-the-arts.org

April 6, 20 & May 4, 18, 9-11 a.m. - **Bike Tour** - Civil War forts, cemeteries, markers, natural features and other areas of local interest. www.manassasmuseum.org

April 6, May 4, June 1, 8 a.m. to noon - **Household Hazardous Waste and eWaste drop off** at the Manassas Transfer Station, 8305 Quarry Road. www.manassascity.org

April 7, 2 p.m. - **A Tour Guide and History of Col. John S. Mosby's Combat Operations in Fairfax County, Virginia.** Free Book Talk at the Manassas Museum. www.manassasmuseum.org

April 9, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. & April 10, 7 a.m. - 3 p.m. - **Prince William Healthcare Auxiliary Electronics Sale** - 4th floor of the Medical Office Building, 8650 Sudley Road, Conference Rooms B&C. All proceeds benefit patient care.

Beginning Thursday, April 11, 7:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. - **Summer Farmer's Market** opens - Thursdays at Harris Pavilion and Saturdays in Parking Lot B in the City of Manassas. www.visitmanassas.org

April 13, 7:30 a.m. - **Manassas Runway 10k/5k Event** - at the Manassas Regional Airport www.bristowtriandswim.com

April 13, 27 & May 11, 25, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. - **Museum on the Lawn** - Stop by the Museum lawn and see what is going on. Are they playing games, creating a craft, cooking a meal, or breaking a secret code from the past?

www.manassasmuseum.org

April 13, 12 - 8 p.m. - **Arts Alive** at the Hylton Performing Arts Center.

www.pwcartsCouncil.org

April 19, at 10 a.m. - Arbor Day Event at Walter Delisle Park, 9103 Battle Street www.visitmanassas.org

April 20, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. - **6th Annual Spring Cleaning Day** at the Harris Pavilion. It's that time of year to let the fresh air in and clean out those closets! The day includes exhibitors from non-profit and civic organizations providing recycling and environmental information, free Pedicab rides, live entertainment, children's activities, a community yard sale, and free document shredding.

www.visitmanassas.org

April 20, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. - **Annual Merchants Sidewalk Sale** including *Echos, the Museum Store*

www.visitmanassas.org

April 20, 7 to 11 p.m. - **Hangar Dance** at the Manassas Regional Airport

www.freedommuseum.org

April 21, 2 p.m. - **First House: Two Centuries with Virginia's First Families** - Free Book Talk at the Manassas Museum.

www.manassasmuseum.org

April 22 through end of May - **Osborn Student Art Show** on display at City Hall.

April 23, 6 - 8 p.m. - Free **Refuse to Be a Victim® Seminar** - Register at www.manassascity.org/RTBAV

April 27, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. - **DEA's 6th National Drug Take Back Initiative Event** - Free at Prince William Hospital (8700 Sudley Rd)

www.manassascity.org/police

May 2 - June 13 - **Dare to Dance** - Where quilters gather, art quilts will happen at the Center for the Arts.

www.center-for-the-arts.org

May 3 - **The 7th Annual Spring Gallery Walk** in Old Town Manassas

www.visitmanassas.org

May 4, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. - **Open House and Airshow** at the Manassas Regional Airport

www.marbainc.com/2013airshow

May 4, 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. - **Big Day of Serving** in the Weems Community.

www.manassascity.org/givingback

May 4, 5, and 9 - 12 - Osbourn High School's **Mother's Day Gift Wrapping Booth** - in Manassas Mall

May 10 & 24, 8 p.m. - **Cemetery Tours** - Who is buried in the Manassas Cemetery? Is it only Confederate Veterans? Come and learn who has gone before us and what they have meant to our community. www.manassasmuseum.org

May 16, 2 - 8 p.m. - **Red Cross Blood Drive** at the Greater Manassas Volunteer Rescue Squad (9322 Center Street).

May 18, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Osbourn High School - **2013 Spring Housing Event** - Foreclosure prevention team will be available to help. Register at <http://www.manassascity.org/2013Spring-Event> or call 703-257-8297

May 19, 12 - 6 p.m. - **Lions Spring Vendor Fair & Wine Tasting** at the Harris Pavilion - www.harrisPavilion.com

May 19 - 25 - **Emergency Medical Services Week**

May 25, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. - **Greater Manassas Volunteer Rescue Squad Open House** at 9322 Center Street

City of Manassas and Manassas Public Schools	
City of Manassas Council	City of Manassas School Board
Mayor Harry J. Parrish II	Chairman Scott M. Albrecht
Vice Mayor	Vice Chairman
Andrew L. Harrover	Arthur P. Bushnell
Marc T. Aveni	Ilka V. Chavez
J. Steven Randolph	Tim Demeria
Ian T. Lovejoy	Ellen M. Purdy
Jonathan L. Way	Pamela J. Sebesky
Mark D. Wolfe	Sanford S. Williams